

PRICE

m a g a z i n e

Spring 2008

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Walton Legacy to Live On

The Weddle Family of Giving

All American Aaron Ivey

The University of Oklahoma



Price College of Business

Letter from the Dean

Dear Alumni and Friends,

One of the most rewarding aspects of serving as dean of Price College is having the opportunity to visit with alumni and friends. It is always a pleasure to share information about the outstanding quality of our academic community and the exciting initiatives we have under way. Having just completed my first year, I have had the privilege of visiting with many of you in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Norman, Santa Ynez, Texas City, Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, Houston, Denver, Phoenix, and New York City – to name just a few. I am looking forward to the opportunity to visit with more of you in the future.

In an effort to bring to the university accomplished corporate leaders to speak to our students, faculty, alumni and the collegiate community as a whole, we introduced the Distinguished Speaker Series in September 2007. The college's namesake, Michael F. Price, was the obvious choice to inaugurate the series. In February 2008 we hosted Randall L. Stephenson, chairman and CEO of AT&T and a Price College of Business graduate. Both events were extremely well attended and the response has been very positive.



Robby Riggs, SBA president; Dean Evans; and Lynn Sterk, director of special events and alumni relations, give away door prizes at the first Price College Tailgate.

Another new initiative that has been well received is the Executive-in-Residence program, commencing with a three-day visit from David Moffett, an outstanding and generous alumnus who is the retired vice chairman and chief financial officer of U.S. Bancorp and is now a senior adviser to the Carlyle Group. Each visiting executive has a full schedule of speaking to several classes along with visiting faculty and interacting with our students in a variety of settings and events.

There are many other recent noteworthy accomplishments, including the highly successful introduction of the Price College Business Plan Competition, the 15th-place ranking in the nation for the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies undergraduate program, and one of the most successful and highly attended alumni events in Price College history, the first Price College Sooner Football Tailgate.



President Boren and Dean Evans present Randall Stephenson, chairman and CEO of AT&T, with a framed arrangement of historic OU photographs after his speech on Feb. 19.

The new and improved Study Abroad Program has been well received by our students, and I am delighted to report that we have a full subscription of our new programs in Vichy, France, and Alcalá de Henares, Spain. The May 15 through June 15 program allows students a more affordable option to earn six credit hours of core business courses, while accommodating students who have other summer classes and/or internships. Besides coursework, students will have the opportunity to tour local companies, travel to other areas of the country, visit historical attractions, and be introduced to cultural traditions. In doing so, they learn about economic environments, interact with foreign students and faculty, and observe, first hand, global business operations, with OU faculty guiding the way.

As we celebrate the 10th anniversary of *Price Magazine*, this issue highlights the initial effort to create an alumni magazine that covers the human-interest side of business. I believe you will enjoy reading features about a few of our outstanding alumni, a highly decorated current student and friends of Price College.

One of our notable graduates and a generous donor, Helen Robson Walton, passed away in April 2007. Mrs. Walton touched many lives with her warmth and dedication to philanthropy and education. It is a pleasure for us to feature her in *Price Magazine*. We hope that you will join the Walton family and those associated with the Price College in celebrating her life and the friendship she shared with our current and previous faculty and administration.

It is certainly an incredible time to be affiliated with the Price College of Business, and I want to sincerely thank each of you who has contributed or volunteered in some way to the success we have achieved over our outstanding history. More importantly, I urge you to join me and our current students, faculty and staff in looking toward the future and what we can all accomplish together.

Sincerely,

Kenneth R. Evans
Dean and Fred E. Brown Chair

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PRICE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

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Throughout this issue of *Price Magazine*, the artwork on the exterior of Adams Hall is featured. It was sculpted by faculty artist Joseph Richard Taylor (1907-1999) in 1936 when Adams Hall was built. The stonework embodies the ideals of business and industry.

Above the south entrance are the famous coins of history, representing the nature of money as a medium of exchange. On each side of the entrance, two 7-foot-tall sculptures portray industry and commerce. The wheel symbolizes progress and the airplane propeller signifies global enterprise. OU graduate Julius Struppeck designed these figures.

The Seed Sower representing David Ross Boyd, the university's first president, was designed by OU's first instructor of economics, George Bucklin.

Above the east and west entrances of Adams Hall, the four main industries of Oklahoma are represented. Over the west entrance, petroleum and mining are depicted. Agriculture and commerce are shown above the east door.

This historic artwork on Adams Hall now has been joined with the newly built Price Hall. The Dodson Courtyard formed between the two buildings to the south, and the Bruzzy Westheimer Garden and fountain area leads to the front doors of Price Hall. As we continue to grow and expand within Price College in the coming years, we also want to remember our heritage.

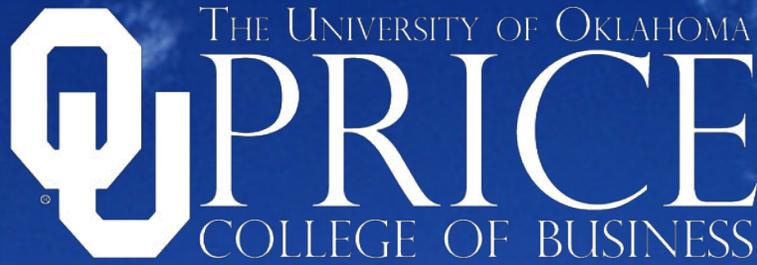
On the cover: Sam Hinkie, Price College of Business Class of 2000, at a Houston Rockets NBA game. He is vice president of basketball operations for the Rockets and the youngest vice president in the NBA.



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The 26th Annual
**Archie Dunham
Golf Invitational**

Thursday, June 12, 2008

8 a.m. Registration

9:30 a.m. Shotgun Start

Box Lunch on Course

1:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and Awards

Limited to the first 144 players. For more information or to register, please contact Lynann Sterk at lsterk@ou.edu or 405-325-4687.

Sponsored by


ConocoPhillips



Biking for Hunger

Stuart Keating, an International Business senior, organized the Bike Against Hunger Bike Race on Nov. 18. The race began in downtown Oklahoma City with 56 racers competing in the 11-mile race. The event was an “Alleycat” race, similar to ones in larger cities in which the participants must perform wild and crazy tasks at each of the seven checkpoints. At the grocery store checkpoints, the bikers bought groceries and carried them to the finish line at Salt’s Pizzeria. The winner was the owner of Sclegel Bicycles, who finished the race in 43 minutes. The event raised 1,179 meals, 336 pounds of food and \$131.

Executive-in-Residence Program

David M. Moffett, former vice chairman and chief financial officer of U.S. Bancorp, was at OU Sept. 12 to 14 as the first Executive-in-Residence at Price College of Business. He earned his bachelor’s degree in economics from OU and is on the board of advisors for Price College of Business. During his visit, Moffett met with faculty and administrators at OU. The former CFO also spoke to the OU Student Finance Association and



David Moffett speaks to students during a class as part of the Executive-in-Residence program. He was the first speaker in this new initiative at Price College.

various finance classes on several topics, including mergers and acquisitions in the banking industry, how banks use derivatives, how to value a bank, current issues in banking and careers in finance.

The new Executive-in-Residence program brings executive-level leaders from different industries to Price College of Business. It allows students and faculty to interact, one-to-one, with the executive while that person learns more about the university.

First Price College Tailgate

Dean Evans and the Price College of Business hosted a tailgate for alumni and friends before the OU vs. Texas A&M football game on Nov. 3. The event was held in the Jim and Jeannie



Barbecue from J.R.’s was a favorite during the First Price College Tailgate.



First Fidelity Integrated Business Core students sold their products during the tailgate. Blankets, color-changing cups, OU mosaic posters and pens were the in-demand items for sale this year, with all proceeds going to charity.

Mark Your Calendar!
2nd Annual Price College Tailgate



November 1, 2008 - OU vs. Nebraska
Time To Be Announced
Send in Your Email to pricecollege@ou.edu

Dodson Courtyard between Price and Adams halls. Food and drinks were provided by J.R.’s Family Bar-B-Q, and there were prizes and giveaways. Guests enjoyed reminiscing with old classmates before the game while First Fidelity Integrated Business Core students sold their products, including blankets, posters, cups and pens. The event was a huge success, and because of this, Price College plans to make the tailgate an annual tradition.

T.R.E.E. Conference

The Tomas Rivera Education Empowerment (T.R.E.E.) Conference was held at OU on Nov. 9. More than



José Dela Cruz, academic counselor with Price College’s undergraduate advising office, tells visiting Hispanic students about Price College of Business and the programs offered.

300 of the top Hispanic high school juniors and seniors from the Oklahoma City metro area were invited to the conference. University departments presented to the students valuable programs and resources that they offer. The purpose of the conference is to serve as a guide for the students so they can pursue a college education. Price College of Business was in attendance and assisted the students with any questions they had regarding a business degree.

IT Director Speaks to MBA class

Rajiv Vora, director of information technology with Johnson Controls, a Fortune 100 company, spoke to Professor Rajeev Sharma's MBA IT management class Nov. 29 at the Nichols Centre in Oklahoma City.

The topic was service-oriented architecture, an emerging technology that allows organizations to create IT-enabled business processes with much greater flexibility, data exchange and interoperability than has been possible in the past.



Rajiv Vora, director of information technology with Johnson Controls, speaks to MBA students about service-oriented architecture. (Photo used with permission of Jessica Cox)

Archie Dunham Golf Invitational

The 2007 Price College of Business Golf Invitational was one of the largest tournaments in recent history. The proceeds went toward the

Partners in Learning program that pairs a student and faculty member to work together on a project for one year. The tournament provides a wonderful opportunity for alumni to interact with other OU alumni as well as Price College faculty and staff. The tournament is named after Archie Dunham and ConocoPhillips is the presenting sponsor. This year's tournament will be held at the Jimmie Austin OU Golf Club on Thursday, June 12.

Management Toy Project

Along with tests, quizzes and lectures, Professor Michael Buckley, director of the management department, utilizes creativity in his principles of management course. Each semester, Buckley divides his class into groups of seven to nine students and gives them the task of creating a toy, small enough to fit on a desk, that teaches a management lesson. The inspiration comes from Newton's Cradle, an apparatus with five steel balls demonstrating the conservation of momentum and energy and teaching that every action has an equal and opposite reaction. Each team constructs



Some of the best management toys from the fall semester's principles of management course taught by Management Division Director Mike Buckley are shown here.

an original toy and writes a paper explaining its management lessons. The projects are graded on creativity, innovation, novelty, playability and quality of the management lesson.

Dallas/Fort Worth Reception

Dean Evans and the Price College MBA Alumni and Friends of the Dallas/Fort Worth area held a reception Nov. 29 at Kenichi Restaurant in Dallas. Gabbard and Co. and the Price College of Business MBA program sponsored the event. The more than 40 guests in attendance enjoyed socializing, sushi, beverages and brief addresses from a few alumni, friends, and OU faculty and staff. Special thanks go to the drivers behind the event, Heather Want of Gabbard and Co. and Jesse Belville of UBS. Both Heather and Jesse are 2007 Price College of Business MBA graduates.

MBA International Food Night

The International Food Night is a tradition began by international OU MBA students and features authentic cuisine from a variety of countries. The event allows international students to showcase favorite meals from their respective countries and bring together faculty, staff, family and friends of the MBA program for an evening of cultural exchange. Hosted by the Graduate Business Association, the 2007 International Food Night included student-prepared fare from countries in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. The food was terrific and more than 100 people were in attendance.

2008 Outstanding Student

Sarah Israel Flowers, senior accounting major, was named as the 2008 Outstanding Senior of Price College of Business. She is an OU Regents Scholar and has won multiple honors and scholarships, including the President's Honor Roll and the prize for Outstanding Freshman. Sarah is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma Honors Business Fraternity, served as an Honors College Peer Mentor and interned for KPMG LLP. She is from Irving, Texas, and is married to Heath Flowers, senior energy management and MIS major. Sarah plans to begin a doctoral program in accounting in the fall.



President Boren presents Sarah Israel Flowers with the Outstanding Senior Award with Susan Chandler, president of the OU Parents' Association, and Associate Dean Jack Kasulis.

Center for Financial Studies Speakers

The Price College of Business and the Center for Financial Studies were pleased to welcome two special speaker presentations last fall. Oklahoma State Treasurer Scott Meacham and NYSE chief economist and senior vice president Paul Bennett spoke to students about their careers and then held a question-and-answer session.

Meacham, the 17th state treasurer of Oklahoma, spoke about "Paths to Oklahoma's Future" Oct. 25 in



Before speaking to an audience of 200, Oklahoma State Treasurer Scott Meacham poses for a picture with Dr. Chitru Fernando, director for the Center for Financial Studies.

Oklahoma Memorial Union. He also sits on the governor's cabinet as secretary for finance and revenue. Prior to becoming state treasurer, he served as director of state finance and was the chief executive officer of First National Bank & Trust of Elk City. Meacham is an OU graduate, holding a degree in finance, a master's of business administration and a law degree.

Bennett spoke about "Tomorrow's Stock Markets" on Nov. 1 in Oklahoma Memorial Union. Before joining the NYSE in 2001, he worked for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. He received a degree in economics from the University of Chicago and his



Paul Bennett addresses students, alumni, faculty and staff in Meacham Auditorium as part of the Center for Financial Studies' Speaker Series.

doctorate in economics from Princeton University. Bennett has published many papers on economics, finance and securities markets.

Fifth Annual Bruzzy Westheimer Presentation Competition

Seventeen teams of business students showed that they could stand and deliver as they competed against each other in the Fifth Annual Bruzzy Westheimer Presentation Competition Oct. 27 in Price Hall.

Students signed up for the competition in teams of three and were allowed to submit their own topics. These topics spanned a wide range, from critical analyses of current businesses to what it's like to be an OU business student. Undergraduate and graduate business students alike competed in the event, and all teams were scored on their presentation delivery skills.

Westheimer, president of Valbel West Corp. and longtime Price College board member, sponsored the event and served as one of the judges, along with fellow board members Jim Barnes and Carl Gibson, David Williams, director of the Business Communication Center,



1st place students and judges at the Bruzzy Westheimer Presentation Competition in Oct. 2007 include from left: Dean Kenneth Evans, Eric Butler, Bruzzy Westheimer, Shannon Williams, Carl Gibson, Beau Scroggins and Jim Barnes.

coordinated the event. The presentation competition gives students an upper hand during job interviews. Eric Butler, Shannon Williams and Beau Scroggins walked away with the first-place prize of \$4,200.

MBA Prelude Week

Teamwork begins from day one in the Price College of Business MBA program. Aug. 13 through 17 was Prelude Week for 43 of the first-year MBA students, a five-day orientation period that set the tone for their Price College graduate education. Students broke into teams that worked together throughout the first semester. They hit the ground running with an etiquette luncheon, résumé building, ropes course and campus tours, and topped it off with the MBA regatta. Students heard professional speakers on teamwork and teambuilding, time



Erin Young, MBA finance student, climbs a wall during the ropes course as part of MBA Prelude Week.

management and conflict resolution. One of the highlights of the week was an insightful address on leadership from Sherri Coale, OU head women's basketball coach.

Price Scholar Program

Seven MBA students spent the past summer in New York City attending the Stern School of Business and working at full-time internships in the financial district or a world corporate headquarters location. As a Price Scholar, students enroll in six hours of graduate course work at Stern and



The 2008 Price Scholars in New York City, from left: Robert Hudson, Steve Sinos, Jonathan House, Ikechukwu Waldhaus, Alyson Young, Candace Cauley-Okure, Payal Mittal, Nasko Chobanov, and Max Dean.

also participate in a two-day "value investing" seminar at the Columbia Business School.

This summer, students served internships at internationally respected firms including KPMG, Jefferies and Co., Auerback Grayson, Liquidnet and Steel Partners. This real-world professional work experience provides Price College of Business MBA students with a remarkable advantage as they seek full-time employment and prepare for the rigor of a major financial center. Four of the Price Scholars plan to return to New York after graduation.

The Price Scholar selection is competitive. Candidates are selected on criteria including academics, team participation, field of study and the ability to be a strong ambassador for Price College of Business, the university, and the state of Oklahoma.

Price College Distinguished Speaker Series

The Distinguished Speaker Series brings to the OU campus and Price College of Business top-level business executives from a broad range of backgrounds, industries and geographies. Designed to promote face-to-face interaction with global leaders, the Oklahoma business community and students, the



After his speech in September, Michael F. Price poses with students in Oklahoma Memorial Union.

Distinguished Speaker Series will focus on guests from the chairman and CEO levels of leadership.

The inaugural speaker event featured Michael F. Price, world-renowned money manager



As part of the Distinguished Speaker Series, Randall L. Stephenson shows one of the ways people stay in contact with others through the use of cellular phones during his talk at OU in February.



in New York and generous OU benefactor. More than 500 alumni and friends, students and faculty gathered at Oklahoma Memorial Union to welcome Price. He returned to his alma mater in September and delivered the inaugural address for the series.

Randall L. Stephenson, chairman and CEO of AT&T Inc., spoke Feb. 19 as the next Distinguished Speaker. He holds a bachelor of science degree in accounting from the University of Central Oklahoma and a master of accountancy degree from OU. Stephenson spoke on “Commercial Velocity and Connectivity: The Keys to Prosperity and Growth” to an audience of close to 400.

New 16-Month MBA Program

The 16-month program is modular, utilizing eight-week courses incorporating teamwork, internships and academic excellence. This allows students to enter the job market a full six months before many of their peers. The new program offers shorter-length, modular structure, specialized MBA concentrations, two-hour courses and expanded curriculum. For more information on this new format, please contact Lauren Park at laurenpark@ou.edu or (405) 325-5815.



2008 Marks Golden Anniversary for Energy Management Program

2008 marks the 50th anniversary of OU's Energy Management Program, formerly petroleum land management. The first of its kind, the program is the largest and most recognized in the world. In 2000, the Southwestern Business Deans Association honored the program with the Innovative Achievement Award.

The story of the petroleum land management program, from its beginning in 1958 as the nation's first effort in this field to its ascendancy, decline and rebirth as the energy management program, is told in Chapters Four and Eight of *Collegiate Education for Business Administration at the University of Oklahoma: A History* by Daniel A. Wren.

On April 18, Price College of Business hosted the golden anniversary celebration at Oklahoma Memorial Union.

56 New Leadership Associates Accepted to JCPenney Leadership Program

Orientation for the new JCPenney Leadership associates is a networking opportunity designed to inform new members about the benefits of the program. The information provides a foundation and gives the new associates a perspective regarding the goals, events, history and tradition of the program. However, this orientation goes beyond mere facts; it touches the heart and inspires new associates to be their best. This year, the program welcomed 56 new associates.

The Leadership Program was established in November 1988 to help undergraduate business students increase

their leadership potential. Through the JCPenney Leadership program's hands-on, real-world style, Price College of Business students develop business and life skills. The program is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year.

Wells Fargo MBA Case Competition

In February, OU's MBA team won first place in the Wells Fargo Finance Case Competition at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Each team was judged on a 15-to-20-minute presentation, followed by a 10-minute session of questions. Benefits of the competition include internship offers and prize money. Price MBA students Sean Warshell, Atanas "Nasko" Chobanov, Sean Boardman and Adam Fraley participated on the winning team, each taking home \$1,000.

Back to Business Week

Price College celebrated Back to Business Week Sept. 10 to 13. Students



Duong Thanh Liem and Na Le "Lena" Phan, accounting majors, show off their "The Price is Right" shirts at the Back to Business Week Carnival.

received free T-shirts, prizes and a special treat each day. On Monday afternoon, cake was distributed, on Tuesday everyone enjoyed free pizza and on Wednesday, students cooled off with ice cream. Thursday's carnival in the Jim and Jeannie Dodson courtyard was the highlight of the week. Activities included a dunk tank, mechanic bull, bungee run, climbing wall, snow cones, and a cook-out. Special thanks to undergraduate programs for organizing this fun week!

Homecoming Royalty Court

Five students from Price College were selected to be on the 2007 Homecoming Royalty Court. There were four international business majors: Jordan Carlton, Eddie Coates, Elsie Urueta and Lindyn Lamb, and one energy management student, Michael Bishop. Each student organization is allowed to nominate one person for the court. After an application and



From left, Jordan Carlton, energy management major, President Boren, and Michael Bishop, international business major, pose at the 2007 Homecoming football game.

interview process, 10 individuals, five male and five female, are chosen for the royalty court. The Homecoming King and Queen are elected through a student vote during Homecoming Week. Congratulations to our five students on the court!

Inaugural Business Plan Competition

On Dec. 8, Price College held the inaugural Business Plan Competition, which was developed to allow students to present and defend their new business concept before venture capitalists and other practitioners. The competition also created a stage for interaction with these professionals, which helped the students shape their business plans to make them more viable.

Program director Lowell Busenitz, who created the competition, believes it was a great success with 25 students participating individually or in groups presenting nine business plans. Each business plan was awarded points in such areas as quality of the written plan; market opportunity and distinctive competence; industry analysis; and management capability, risk factors and structure. Cash prizes were given to first and second places for both undergraduate and graduate competitors. Ricky DeRennaux, third-place finalist on "The American Inventor" television show, was the featured guest.

Center for Entrepreneurial Studies Ranks 15th in the Nation

According to *The Princeton Review* and *Entrepreneur Magazine*, the undergraduate entrepreneurship program at Price College of Business ranks 15th in the nation. The assessment



Jim Wheeler, executive director of the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, works with students during an entrepreneurship undergraduate class.

was based on factors that included the number of courses, enrolled students, faculty, entrepreneurship clubs and mentoring programs.

In four years, the center experienced rapid growth. 14 graduate and undergraduate courses were added, along with three faculty members and eight adjunct professors. A graduate MBA emphasis was created as well as four additional undergraduate programs, including an undergraduate business major, a minor for engineers, a minor for non-business students and a two-class sequence that emphasizes the fundamentals of starting and growing a business.





Glen McLaughlin Prize for Research in Accounting Ethics *10th Anniversary Commemorating Conference to Be Held May 30 at OU*

Each year, the Steed School of Accounting at Price College of Business awards the Glen McLaughlin Prize for the best unpublished research paper in accounting ethics. Since the award's inception in 1997 with an endowment from McLaughlin, it has grown considerably in national stature, attracting some of the best scholars working in the areas of accounting and ethics. Very often, the manuscripts selected for the prize are subsequently published in premier academic journals. The one-day conference being organized on accounting and ethics will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the McLaughlin Prize.

The conference will feature a research session in which selected papers will be presented by prominent academicians and a session on industry perspective about ethics and accounting. The speakers at this session will include Tim Griffy, Ernst & Young's Americas vice chair of quality and risk management and co-chairman of the Americas Ethics Oversight Board, and Cynthia Cooper, the person responsible for uncovering fraud at WorldCom and one of Time Magazine's 2002 Persons of the Year. If you have any questions, please contact Dipankar Ghosh at dghosh@ou.edu or (405) 325-5777.

Carol and Chris Knapp Visit Malaysia

This past November, Carol and Chris Knapp, faculty members of the Steed School of Accounting, attended the 19th Annual Asian-Pacific Conference on International Accounting Issues. Accounting scholars from around the globe attended this conference, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. During the conference, the Knapps presented a paper titled "The Big Four vs. the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India: An Instructional Case Focusing on the Evolving Global Accounting Profession." This case examines recent developments within India's rapidly changing accounting profession and the implications those developments have for the global accounting profession. This case will be included in the upcoming seventh edition of *Contemporary Auditing, Real Cases and Issues*, a popular graduate auditing text authored by Chris Knapp. Carol Knapp, an assistant



professor, teaches upper-division financial accounting courses, serves as the coordinator of the sophomore-level managerial accounting course and is the faculty sponsor of Beta Alpha Psi. Chris Knapp, a professor and the Glen McLaughlin Chair in Business Ethics, teaches the graduate seminar in auditing, the MBA financial accounting course and the sophomore-level financial accounting course.

Patricia Daugherty, division director and Siegfried Chair in Marketing and Supply Chain Management, served as the general conference chair for the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals' Annual Global Conference, held in Philadelphia Oct. 21 to 24. More than 34,000 people attended the conference and participated in educational and networking opportunities. More than 250 educational sessions were presented during the three and a half days on topics ranging from Collaboration and Business Process Outsourcing to Supply Chain Innovation and Strategic Planning for the Supply Chain. Additionally, keynote/general sessions were presented with speakers including Carly Fiorina, former Hewlett-Packard CEO; Joseph Coughlin, director of the MIT AgeLab; and Stanley Bing, *Fortune* columnist and author.



Soonhong Min, assistant professor of marketing and supply chain management, recently was quoted in *The Wall Street Journal* on the front page of the Market Place section. The Jan. 3 article, titled "Toys Recalled in the U.S. Are Still for Sale in China," asked Min to comment on how the often-affected people of China's public-health and safety lapses are the Chinese themselves. Min stated, "For low-value goods, such as many of the toys involved in recent recalls, a foreign toy company may have little incentive to monitor production on site. After a recall, the [factory that made the toy for the foreign company will] try its best to recover money by distributing the defective products in the local market. That is nothing new."



David Ralston, Price Chair in International Business and professor of management, and his colleagues were the recipients of the 2007 Academy of International Business Decade Award. This honor is awarded to the paper published 10 years ago (1997) that is deemed to have made the most

significant contribution to international business literature during the past decade. The paper, titled “The Impact of National Culture and Economic Ideology on Managerial Work Values: A Study of the United States, Russia, Japan, and China,” was republished in the 2008 first issue of the *Journal of International Business Studies*, along with another article written by Ralston based on his acceptance speech.



Jeffrey Schmidt, associate professor of marketing and supply chain management, recently was appointed as the abstracts editor for the *Journal of Product Innovation Management*.



Vahap Uysal, assistant professor of finance, along with Simi Kedia and Venkatesh Panchapagesan, had an article titled “Geography and Acquirer Returns” accepted for publication in the *Journal of Financial Intermediation*. In the article, they showed that geographical proximity plays an important role in facilitating valuable information to corporate managers when they acquire nearby firms. Despite progress in information technology and the Internet

in recent years, this article suggests soft information that cannot be coded in financial documents still has a role to play in important corporate decisions.

Terry Crain, Dale Looper Chair in Accounting and associate professor of accounting, held an eight-hour workshop for accounting majors on Jan. 18. The workshop covered accounting issues for oil and gas exploration and production companies. Twenty-two students attended the workshop, which featured a lecture/questions-and-answer session on a specific topic (such as revenue accounting) followed by a team project. They then finished with possible solutions to the problem.



Ana Bolino, the new coordinator for international programs in the Price College of Business, has arranged two study-abroad programs for this summer. Students can choose to study business in Vichy, France, or Alcalá de Henares, Spain. All courses are taught in English and, along with six hours of credit, the program includes business tours, overnight trips to other cities, visits to museums and an introduction to the local culture and cuisine. Price College students will be able to choose to stay at a campus hotel or with a host family.

Rajiv P. Dant

is the new Helen Robson Walton Centennial Chair in Marketing Strategy at the Price College of Business.

Dr. Dant received his undergraduate degree in economics and statistics and his MBA at the University of Bombay in India. After working for Smith Kline & Beecham Group's India operations in product and sales management for several years, he pursued his PhD in marketing at Virginia Polytechnic & State University.



Rajiv P. Dant

As an associate professor, he has taught marketing at multiple universities including the University of South Florida, Boston University, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). His most recent position was Frank Harvey Distinguished Professor of Marketing at the University of South Florida. His research interests include supply chains, distribution channels, franchising, hybrid systems, and methodological issues. He is a member of the American Marketing Association, Academy of Marketing Science, International Society of Franchising, and Beta Gamma Sigma. Dant's work is widely published, having written over 40 journal articles, six book chapters, a book and a translation. Dant was drawn to Price College of Business because of its renowned work in supply chain management and the opportunity to work with high-quality doctoral students.

Dr. Dant is married to his college sweetheart, Neelam, and has a daughter, Trisha, who is a freshman at Carnegie Mellon. He believes that OU is a well-kept secret to those who live outside this region, and he hopes to play a role in organizing high-profile national events at OU so that others can experience it for themselves.



ROCKETING TO THE TOP OF THE NBA

By Berry Tramel

Sam Hinkie sat courtside at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City, scouting the OU-Gonzaga basketball game in December's All-College Classic. Just what you'd expect from a vice president of basketball operations for an NBA franchise.

But eyeballing a college player's agility and attitude and court awareness, taking notes on how well a prospect gets back on defense or attacks the backboard when a shot is launched or receives instruction from his coach is only part of how Hinkie and the Houston Rockets evaluate the players that could, or do, make up their roster.

Hinkie, a 2000 graduate of the Price College of Business, is part of a new wave of basketball scout that relies on more than observation. Hinkie and the Rockets, along with some other NBA franchises, have embraced data study as a viable measure of a player's worth.

Hinkie says he wants no boy-wonder tags. Wants no one to think he's reinventing the art of basketball evaluation. Wants everyone to know he still sits courtside and studies players live. But he wants all possible information to be processed, especially considering the amount of money involved with NBA contracts these days.

His example: "If you fly to Houston to watch a Rockets game, do you want the pilot to fly off the instruments or experience?" Hinkie asks. "I want both."

No longer are standard basketball statistics sufficient to rate the value of a player. Rebounding average, points per game and turnovers are raw numbers that are not produced in a vacuum. Hinkie and other NBA data analysts want to go deeper. Statistics that don't historically resonate with basketball fans. Points per minute in the context of a team's total number of possessions. Rebound percentage while a player is on the floor.

Just the kind of statistics you get when you cross a basketball junkie with a business major who graduates summa cum laude and goes on to get his MBA from Stanford.

Hinkie grew up in Marlow, about 60 miles southwest of Norman, reading the sports page on his back porch and laying himself on the line for the Marlow Outlaws in most every sport available.

"Not very talented but one of the hardest-working players I've ever had," Marlow basketball coach Kirk Harris said of Hinkie. "Very average athletically, but got a whole lot out of it. Definitely understood his role. He was going to do whatever it took for us to be successful. You always knew what you were going to get from him."

During pre-game warm-ups prior to the Rockets vs. the Cleveland Cavaliers basketball game, Hinkie consults with other staff on the court of the Toyota Center.



“I didn’t watch every game in the country last year. I let the computers watch every game. I try to use data to ask the right questions.”



Hinkie does not take the athletic slights personally. He agrees with the assessment. “From a talent standpoint, I’ll get you beat,” Hinkie said.

Hinkie could have gone to one of Oklahoma’s regional universities — Cameron, or Sciences and Arts of Oklahoma, or Southwestern State — and probably played on the basketball team. Or he conceivably could have walked on, sans scholarship, to OU’s basketball team. “I would have been the 11th or 12th player on the team,” Hinkie said. “The fans would have loved me, but I wouldn’t have made any difference.”

Instead, Hinkie decided to throw himself into school. He became a campus leader and one of the most decorated OU students in recent history. Take a breath halfway through the list of Hinkie’s major accomplishments on the Norman campus. You’ll need it:

- 4.0 grade-point average and named one of America’s top 60 undergraduates by *USA Today*
- President of the Student Business Association and the Management and Marketing Club
- Awarded Big Man on Campus distinction
- Chair of the Student Advisory Board of the JCPenney Leadership Program
- Named Outstanding Senior in the Price College of Business

and the Outstanding Finance student

- Student Congress representative
- Received the Letzeiser Award as one of the top two seniors on campus, after receiving Top 10 Freshmen and Top 10 Juniors awards
- Chair of the Price College of Business President’s Roundtable
- Scholarships and honor rolls galore

Hinkie quickly recalls two business college programs that impacted him. First, the JCPenney Leadership Program, run at the time by Tim Rasnic. “A benchmark program for Price College, the group was billed as the cream of the crop in the business school,” Hinkie said. “Hands-on leadership. That was pretty influential for me. I got the chance to interact with companies, see how the larger business world worked. That was really useful.”

Rasnic, now the college’s director of development, describes Hinkie as “one of the most highly motivated and accomplished students I have ever had the opportunity to know. Sam led by outstanding example and by truly connecting with his peers and with faculty and administration. People were drawn to Sam and whatever project they were involved in with him, they worked hard and had a great time!”

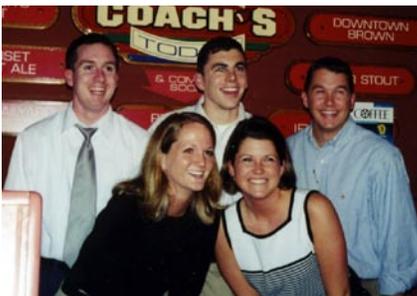




Hinkie surveys games in the video room at the Houston Rockets offices located at the Toyota Center.



In 2000, Hinkie received Top Senior honors at a home football game.



Members of the JCPenney Leadership Program in 2000. Front Row: Alison Burness (now Alison Hinkie, Sam's wife) and Kristi Lukeman Owens; Back Row: Sam Hinkie, Steve J. Coleman and Dustin Osgood. Hinkie met his wife, Ali, in the leadership program.

Next, the First Fidelity Integrated Business Core, a real-world experience. Hinkie was guided by Larry Michaelsen, who has since gone on to Central Missouri State University. Michaelsen remembers Hinkie as “thoughtful, excited, energetic and showed excellent wisdom. He was able to influence other students about selling his product and doing community service work.”

Hinkie describes IBC as 120 students divided into three groups for a semester-long program that comprises the bulk of their academic load. Each group forms a company, decides what product to make and how to market and sell it, all with very little direction from faculty.

“Class is tomorrow; good luck,” Hinkie said they were told after being introduced to the program. He likened it to *Lord of the Flies*, the novel in which schoolboys are stuck on a deserted island and attempt to govern themselves.

“OK, how do we get organized? What do we want to sell? Who’s going to lead us?” Hinkie says they asked. “It’s a good learning environment to get a sense of what it’s like in the real world. It’s not exact, but it beats the heck out of a textbook.”

Hinkie’s group sold T-shirts with an Old School theme. He was chosen CEO of his company, and the project actually brought

in \$60,000, with a profit of \$25,000 (a record at the time).

“I learned what it was like to have conflicts with employees,” Hinkie said. “What it was like to take risks and make decisions without perfect information.”

At OU, Hinkie also learned something else that would shape his career. He wanted to work in sports.

“I decided a long time ago I wanted to be in professional sports,” Hinkie said, and what’s more, “when I set out in sports, I didn’t set out to be a part. It was to lead.”

Hinkie says he’s been lucky in his career, starting with being recruited out of OU by Bain and Company, a global strategy consulting firm that typically seeks its young employees from places like Stanford, Rice, Yale and Brown universities. “To talk to a kid from Oklahoma was incredibly lucky,” Hinkie said.

Hinkie later switched to Australian Pacific Equity Partners, a division of Bain Capital. He basically did the same thing, helping companies solve

complicated problems, except then his employer had a financial stake in the troubleshooting.

“All of which is not so terribly different from major-league franchises,” Hinkie said. “That’s what front-office personnel essentially do in all the sports. Try to figure out how to spend money most efficiently.”

After a few years, Hinkie decided he wanted an MBA and applied to Stanford and Harvard. He was accepted into both and chose Stanford. “It’s difficult to tell your parents you’re not going to Harvard,” he deadpanned.

But Stanford offered Hinkie a chance to study in the sports field, and Hinkie eventually worked with both the NFL’s San Francisco 49ers and Houston Texans. With the Texans, Hinkie worked on new draft policies, as it pertained to the pricing of players, and eventually he was offered a job by the NBA Rockets. Hinkie would fly to Houston on Tuesday evening, work with the Rockets on Wednesday, then fly back to the Bay Area. So he attended Stanford classes on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, with a mid-week work appointment with the Rockets. Oh, and he graduated with Stanford’s top academic distinction by finishing in the top 10 percent of his class.



“We’re just trying to create a competitive edge.” The NBA has 30 teams. “We’re all trying to use the best information we can.”

The use of more extensive data has become prevalent in baseball over the past 25 years. Now that trend has reached basketball.

“For years, people have tried to use data better,” Hinkie said. “The success in baseball (data study) has pushed people. It’s the sort of thing every industry goes through.”

Hinkie offers up a classic example, straight out of his OU education. The credit card industry once offered a standard interest on most credit cards. For instance, 20 percent. Take it or leave it, no matter who you were or your background. Then Capital One realized different customers could be charged different interest rates, based on their reliability. Same with airline seat ticketing. Seems so elementary now, but at one time, it was revolutionary to charge different prices for the same flight, based on when the ticket is purchased or how often you fly or any number of factors. It’s all about seeing things in a new light.

Hinkie says his mission is simple. He and fellow personnel employees are stewards of an owner’s payroll that can range from \$70 million to \$80 million or more. Their decisions can have long-lasting impact. “With guaranteed contracts, if you make bad decisions, it hangs over you for many years,” Hinkie said.

So he embraces the the use of data espoused by few NBA executives, including his boss, Rockets general manager Daryl Morey.

Hinkie harkens to his Bain days. “I would work with CEOs, with all these decisions,” Hinkie said. “Close this plant. Enter this market. They needed a way to make decisions based on more than just the opinions of their best employees.

Those same skills I used back then apply to our business now.”

In the NBA, “the skill set is different. But the decisions you make are similar.” Hinkie said such thinking really goes back to coaching icons Dean Smith and Henry Iba. “How do we measure the things we do well?” he asked.

For basketball fans, here are some examples of what Hinkie talks about.

The relationship between offensive rebounds and transition defense—is it worth the risk of allowing more baskets to send more players in search of offensive rebounds? That might be an answerable question, using data.

“There’s a community out there that thinks about this all the time,” he said. “I didn’t watch every game in the country last year. I let the computers watch every game. I try to use data to ask the right questions.”

An example of how more in-depth statistics can tell you more about a player. “Stacey King’s points per minute in Billy Tubbs’ system is different than Ryan Minor’s points per minute in Kelvin Sampson’s system,” Hinkie said. “Players under Tubbs got more shots and more possessions and the Sooners scored more points. Does that mean Tubbs’ players were better scorers? Not necessarily. It means they had more opportunity, and making those adjustments can help an NBA team more closely analyze a player.”

Rebounding is another example. “Who cares if he got 15 rebounds per game or eight rebounds per game?” Hinkie asked. “How many chances did he have? When he was on the floor, how many shots were taken; how many shots were missed?” Those are the answers expanded data provides.



President Boren congratulates Hinkie when he was named Outstanding Senior in the Price College of Business.



Hinkie’s office at the Houston Rockets corporate offices – even his walls are workspace.

Again, Hinkie doesn’t claim he’s found the secret to success. “Any talk of special sauce makes me nervous,” he said. “We’re just being as diligent as we can about the decisions we make.”

It’s called thinking outside the box, and it provides a leg up in the business world and the sports world.

“It’s wild in some ways,” Hinkie said of his post. “The story of my life, I’ve been very lucky along the way and I also worked hard to try to make my own luck.

“We’re just trying to create a competitive edge.” The NBA has 30 teams. “We’re all trying to use the best information we can.”

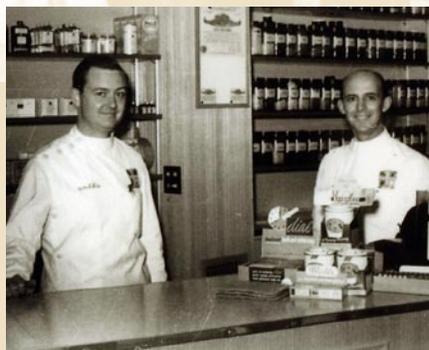
THE WEDDLE FAMILY'S GIVING NATURE

By Tony Pennington

Gentle laughter accompanied the memories when Margaret Weddle reminisced about her family's long-term association with the University of Oklahoma. She recently spoke of the numerous outings to athletics events and of the multiple family members who earned degrees. It seemed through the course of the conversation as if the OU campus was the Weddles' second home.

"I have a photograph of my brother when he was a little boy," Margaret explains. "He was wearing an OU sweater with his graduation date stitched on it." It was not an accident that Charles Weddle Jr. adored the Crimson and Cream. His father, Charles Sr., wore those same colors with pride. "While he was a student at OU, my father played in the band, and my mother's favorite color, of course, was red," Margaret said.

Beyond the academics, season tickets and a predilection for a certain color scheme, the Weddles' true commitment and contribution to the university largely went unnoticed. "My parents never spoke



Charles Weddle, left, at his first job as a pharmacist at Connie's Rx Shop in Oklahoma City after graduating from OU.

about their gifts to OU," Margaret said of her parents' significant donations to the university. "They never told anyone. It was just with OU officials. My parents firmly believed in OU."

Charles Sr. began his post-secondary career at Phillips University on a music scholarship. Following a stint in the U.S. Marine Corps, he arrived in Norman and earned a pharmacy degree in 1944. Virginia Weddle also attended OU in the early 1940s as a business administration

student. Her coursework was interrupted by World War II, and the Weddles were married in 1943. Shortly after, Virginia took a position with the Department of Physics.

The couple served as an example for their three children, Charles Jr., Margaret and Linda, who all attended and earned degrees from OU. "They were both strong supporters of academics," Margaret said. "They knew how important education was."

Charles Jr. agreed with his sister and said their parents encouraged and advised them to pursue academic opportunities. "My family believed that knowledge was the key to success," the Edmond-based anesthesiologist said. "In order to obtain knowledge, a quality education was necessary, and the University of Oklahoma provided that resource."

The Weddles' belief in the university transformed into a passion after a 1976 car accident claimed the life of their daughter Linda. In 1978, the Linda





At the 2007 Steed School of Accounting Banquet from left: Fran Ayres, Charles Weddle Jr., scholarship recipients Paige Arthur, Nicole Robinson and Mallory Murphy, Margaret Weddle, and Dean Kenneth Evans.

Weddle Memorial Scholarship was established in the Price College of Business. The award is given to a female student pursuing an accounting degree and serves as a fitting tribute to Linda. "Education was a driving force with what they did with the university," Margaret points out. "They just wanted to do something to honor Linda and something for the women in the accounting division."

Fran Ayres, division director of the Steed School of Accounting, has fond memories of the Weddles and their assistance to the division. "Charles and Virginia Weddle were great friends of the School of Accounting for many years," Ayres said. "Each year they awarded three scholarships to students in honor of their daughter, Linda, an accounting graduate who was tragically killed in a car accident not long after she began working in Tulsa. A highlight of the year was a lunch with Charles and Virginia and the current year's scholarship recipients."

Twenty years later, the humble couple from Enid would cement their legacy as true patrons of OU and secure funding

for countless other students in a variety of educational pursuits.

In 1998, Charles and Virginia presented OU with a gift of common stock options. The healthy stock portfolio, thanks to a very proactive purchasing strategy, was the culmination of Charles' 30 years with Abbott Laboratories and Virginia's service to the university. The stock was gifted to the OU Foundation, which, in turn, liquidated the stock and established the Charles C. and Virginia Ann Weddle Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust.

The trust provided OU with discretionary dollars for the Price College of Business and the School of Accounting as well as the colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy and allocated Charles and Virginia with a substantial immediate and future tax saving and income for life. Funds also were used to create the Charles C. and Virginia Weddle Professorship in Accounting. The wording of the transaction also safeguarded the donation so it would benefit the OU in perpetuity.

Margaret described the transaction as a

wonderful arrangement for her parents as it provided a source of income for Charles and Virginia and discretionary funds for OU. "They realized the university could use a large donation, and they could earn an income from the money. They were looking at it as a financial win-win and also as a way to honor Linda in a meaningful way that would impact Price College of Business students from this point forward. People



From left, Margaret, Charles Sr., Virginia, and Charles Weddle, Jr. at their 60th wedding anniversary celebration on June 5, 2003.



Margaret calls this day, “Our parents’ proudest moment,” May 11, 1975, when all three children graduated from OU. From left, Margaret receiving her master of education in reading, Charles Jr. obtaining his doctorate in biochemistry, and Linda Jo Weddle getting her bachelor’s degree in accounting.

don’t know things like this are out there unless they have investment advisors.”

Charles and Virginia were well taken care of until their recent deaths, Charles in 2006 and Virginia in 2007. Their philanthropic gestures toward OU and the Price College of Business left a lasting impression. Last September, Price College Dean Kenneth R. Evans and the School of Accounting honored the family at a banquet and presented them with a Seed Sower. The sculpture is a symbol of the OU Seed Sower Society and serves to recognize donors who have given the university gifts of \$1 million or more.

“The Seed Sower statue is a wonderful tribute to my parents and others who have so unselfishly given to further the education of others,” Charles Jr. said. “I regret that my parents were not alive to receive the statue. However, my sister Margaret and I were most proud to accept it. My parents lived their dream and never once second-guessed their generosity.”

It seems the Weddles’ quiet, giving nature is alive in their children. Ameil

Shadid, assistant director of development of the Price College of Business, found Charles Jr. and Margaret willing to provide the leadership for their family legacy. “I have worked with the Weddle family and helped arrange for them to be presented a Seed Sower in honor of their parents’ gifts to OU,” Shadid said. “I never met their parents, but have greatly enjoyed working with their children. They are very kind people, who appreciate their parents’ investment in OU.”

Shadid also said families like the Weddles are valuable assets to OU, especially when the gifts are dispersed throughout different departments. “The Weddles supported several different areas within OU,” he said. “They understood the value of scholarships and professorships as well as unrestricted support for a program or college.”

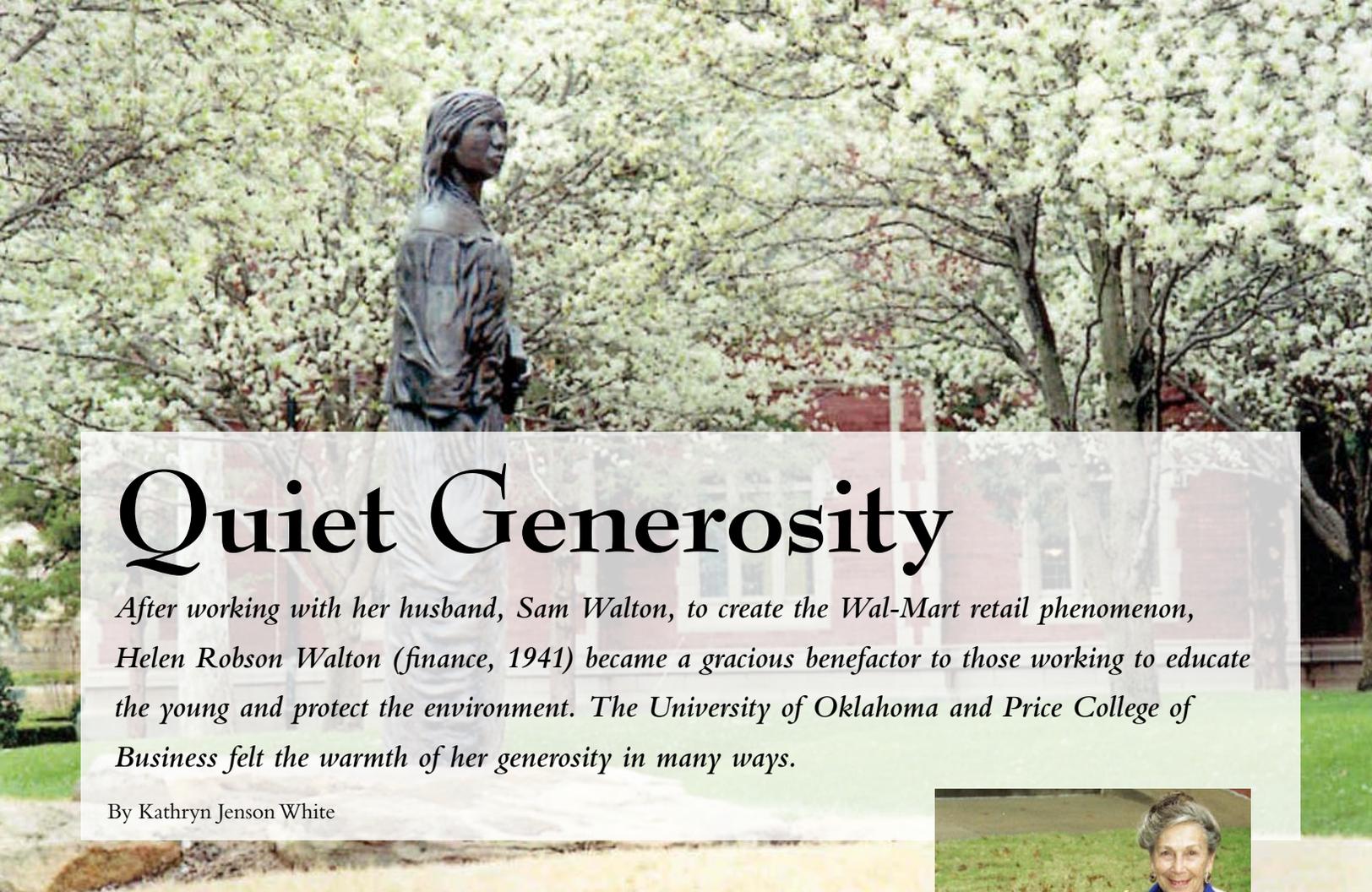
Evans also praised the family for their decades-long patronage of the university. “The Weddle family is a fine example of true champions of higher education,” he said. “We are fortunate indeed to be the recipients of their commitment. The legacy that began with Mr. and Mrs.

Weddle, and is now being carried on through their children, is evidence of the deep conviction in this family.”

A retired school teacher, Margaret has had a short time to get her feet wet carrying on her family’s work. But she said it is important work, given her parents views on education. “I had a real quick education of what was going on after my father passed,” she said. “I had to learn what I had to do to keep the trust going.”

It is not just students the Weddle children hope will take advantage of their parents’ example. Margaret said the trust could help other retired couples in a similar situation. “It’s kind of a neat deal,” Margaret said of the family trust and how it will carry on her family name well into the future. “It would be so helpful to the Price College of Business and the university if alumni and friends were able to look into these types of gifts more often.”





Quiet Generosity

After working with her husband, Sam Walton, to create the Wal-Mart retail phenomenon, Helen Robson Walton (finance, 1941) became a gracious benefactor to those working to educate the young and protect the environment. The University of Oklahoma and Price College of Business felt the warmth of her generosity in many ways.

By Kathryn Jenson White

Some make an impact by their words, others by their deeds. Some step out boldly into the limelight and lead by the power of their personalities, others in more subtle ways. Some wear their financial power as public persona, some as a more private robe. Helen Robson Walton — whom Forbes magazine listed as the 29th richest person in the world, with personal wealth of \$16.4 billion the month before she died in April 2007 — seems to fall squarely into the latter group in each instance.

Among many of what OU's development office calls "significant gifts made anonymously to the university," the wife of Sam Walton, internationally known founder of the Wal-Mart empire, endowed the Price College's Helen Robson Walton Chair of Marketing in 1989. Its first recipient was Robert Lusch, dean of the college from 1987 to 1992. While dean, he had asked Walton to serve on the college's advisory board — which she did for several years.

"The first time I met her in person was in 1987, and my first impression was of how humble she was," recalls Lusch, currently head of the marketing department in the Eller College of Management at the University of Arizona. "I had

met her son, Jim, when the family purchased what was then Security National Bank in Norman. I was on the board. She flew to Norman with Jim for a bank board meeting. After the meeting, I went back to campus. She wanted to come over later, so I said I would send someone to bring her. She said, 'Bob, I was a student here. I know Norman. I'll just walk from the bank to campus.' And she did."

Lusch remembers with laughter calling Helen with some trepidation about accepting the chair after she had suggested him as a candidate to then-OU President Richard Van Horn.



Helen Walton sits on her bench on the east side of the Honors College. The bench has a plaque that reads, "In Honor of Helen Robson Walton, Bentonville, Arkansas, Graduate and Friend of the University of Oklahoma."

Above: MY-HA-YV— (A person who teaches) Given in honor of Helen Robson Walton in appreciation for her support of those who teach by Robert Lusch, former professor and dean of Price College of Business, and his wife, Virginia. It was sculpted by William W. Haney Jr. and sits near Evans Hall on the northwest corner of Bizzell Memorial Library.

“I told her, ‘Helen, I’m going to Mexico to teach small retailers how to compete with Wal-Mart because they need to know how to do that to survive,’” he says. “She said, ‘That’s the greatest thing ever.’ I said, ‘I thought you might be upset.’ ‘No,’ she said, ‘I shop at little stores in downtown Bentonville. There’s nothing wrong with that. And besides, it’s not the Wal-Mart Chair; it’s the Walton Chair. You do what you think is right.’ Then she put me in contact with families in Mexico who owned department stores.”



President Emeritus George L. Cross and Sam and Helen Walton at the 1991 Commencement banquet in celebration of her receiving one of OU’s first honorary degrees.

Both Walton and her husband were Oklahomans. She was born in Claremore in 1919 and he in Kingfisher in 1919. Walton spent her first two university years studying at the Christian College for Women in Columbia, Mo., but graduated from OU’s College of Business in 1941 with a degree in finance. She told a writer for *Sooner Magazine* in 1993 that when she graduated, she wanted to go to New York to work in international banking. However, her father — L.S. Robson, who was a lawyer, rancher and banker — asked her to work for him. She became a secretary in his law office, telling him she would work for only one year before pursuing her career. Meeting Sam Walton in 1942 obviously changed those plans.

While she figures prominently, of course, in her husband’s autobiography, *Sam Walton: Made in America*, Helen Walton has no book-length story of her own.

“She didn’t need the media; she didn’t thrive on that kind of attention,” says Robin Siegfried, former chairman of the OU Board of Regents and longtime supporter of the Price College of Business. “Bob Lusch and I were shocked when we found she was a graduate, not because of her wealth and fame, but because very few women majored in finance at that time. She had a dry sense of humor, but she was more a listener than a talker. When she did speak out about something, people listened.”

Walton spoke out consistently on education, especially at the primary level. The Walton Family Foundation focuses, among other areas, on K-12 education reform. In 2006, the foundation gave almost \$189 million in support of education, economic development and marine/freshwater conservation.

In 1992, several individuals nominated Walton to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. Paul Lambert, then executive director of the Oklahoma Heritage Association, says she was the ideal inductee given the criteria of “outstanding service to humanity, the state of Oklahoma and the United States and public service throughout the state.”

“Sam always viewed the two of them as a team,” Lambert says. “He relied on her to run almost all aspects of their lives. She was active as a volunteer in a wide range of areas and was instrumental in their philanthropic activities. Given their wealth, she could have sat at home to enjoy life, but she determined to make a difference. She took her wealth as a responsibility. She attended the induction ceremony and was gracious in every way. She never lost sight of her Oklahoma heritage.”

She never lost sight of her connection to the Price College of Business, either. As half of the team responsible for building a small Arkansas department store into the world’s largest retail operation and as an active force in the family foundation, Walton clearly had to understand business complexities. Her Price College of Business education stood her in good stead.

“Price College of Business is extremely grateful for Helen Walton’s generosity, and we are proud of what role her education here played in helping prepare her for her roles as businesswoman and strong supporter of education,” Dean Kenneth Evans says. “By all indications, she took great pride in her Oklahoma roots and her OU finance degree. She continues to be an inspiration to our students and alumni, and her life’s work will surely motivate future business leaders from Price College to follow her example.”



Helen and her youngest son, Jim, in 1993 when they were in Norman for a visit to the university and Security National Bank, where Jim attended a meeting of bank directors. Jim is now the chairman for Arvest Bank.

To celebrate that life’s work, Lusch and his wife, Virginia, gave to the university in 1999 a William W. Haney Jr. sculpture titled, in Seminole, MV-HA-YV and pronounced ma-high-ya. The piece depicts a Native American woman with a book in her hand, and the title means “person who teaches.” The plaque affixed to the piece reads, “In honor of Helen Robson Walton for her support of those who teach.”

It’s fitting, ultimately, that the statue honoring Walton doesn’t depict her. She really didn’t thrive on that kind of attention.





Price College Proud of Academic ALL-AMERICAN

By Emily Crowder

Few are fortunate enough to meet the love of their life in their high school classroom. Then again, just a select number can graduate from college with a near-perfect GPA. And only one can be awarded All-American of the Year for baseball by *ESPN the Magazine*. But for energy management senior Aaron Ivey, all of the above apply.

“I haven’t seen someone be able to handle the pressures of being married, being dedicated to his wife and family, to school, to his job and then being dedicated on the baseball field,” says Shelly Grunsted, legal studies lecturer and First Fidelity Integrated Business Core director. “I haven’t seen anyone yet to be able to manage it as simply as Aaron makes it look.”

Growing up in multiple states as a result of his dad’s ministerial duties, Aaron, with his older brother, younger sister and parents, settled permanently in Oklahoma City during his fourth-grade year. Beginning his baseball career on a T-ball team in Florida, Aaron says his athletic career took a turn when he began playing competitively on a traveling baseball team in seventh grade.

As he began to date his future wife, Kate, in the ninth grade, high school brought new athletic opportunities for Aaron; he began integrating a new sport into his baseball background: football.

“I probably felt like I was better at football and that it came more naturally to me, but because of my size and some other limitations that God gave me, I felt like my future was in baseball,” says Aaron. Those “limitations” led Aaron to



Aaron works on a project in the Energy Management office with fellow EM students, Katie Travis and Trent Tarp.

OU’s baseball team, where he received many awards. He ended his baseball career as co-captain of the team in 2007, winning the single highest honor to a college athlete: the Academic All-American of the Year award by *ESPN the Magazine* and the College Sports Information Directors of America. Sought out from a nation of candidates, Aaron’s ability to balance academic excellence and athletic superiority made him the first in OU’s baseball program history to receive such an award as well as the first Sooner to win the award since 2002 in women’s basketball.

Strength coach Tim Overman says Aaron is a great example for his team, not only in his leadership but also in his lifestyle. “For his teammates to see all that he does and how he manages his time ... it goes to show that he can inspire them.”

College also opened other opportunities for Aaron within the Price College of

Business, where he excelled in the study of finance with a perfect 4.0 GPA. At the beginning of his fourth year, however, Aaron discovered new opportunities and challenges by switching his major to energy management.

“What I liked about it was the fact that I could grasp the concept of oil and gas — something physical and concrete,” says Aaron. “Academically, that was probably one of the best decisions that I’ve ever made.”

Despite his wide range of achievements, Aaron’s professors say the 23-year-old’s character remains consistent in class.

“He has the integrity of an old veteran,” says Nim Razook, David Ross Boyd Professor of Legal Studies and Robert M. Zinke Chair in Energy Management. “He is intense, he’s tough and he is a person who just won’t settle for not giving it everything he has. I’ve been here 30 years, and I’ve just never had anyone like him.”

Grunsted says she believes that everyone would agree that success has not spoiled Aaron. “We almost make him out to be this perfect person — in every way — but Aaron is also the most humble, down-to-earth person you’d want to meet ... the kind of young man you hope your kids grow up to be like.”

Aaron says a lot of his drive comes from the constant encouragement he heard from his parents growing up, including the Biblical values they taught him. Though his priorities may seem obvious, Aaron says there are a couple of things he puts before anything else.



“God and my faith are most important, my wife falls right below that, and then family and friends are very important to me, too.”

Aaron married his high-school sweetheart, Kate, in January 2007, and they are building a house together in western Oklahoma City. From his beach proposal in Hawaii to their honeymoon in Europe, Kate says their journey has been like a fairy tale.

But they both say not everything has been easy. While working in Dallas during the first summer of their marriage, Aaron was offered a full-time opportunity with a leading energy company after the end of his successful internship. Aaron says that although it was a wonderful offer, he knew that the distance away from his and his wife’s family would have been too hard.

“When he told me he was going to turn it down, I said, ‘This is crazy; we have to accept it!’” says Kate. “It was an amazing offer. But then driving home I got the feeling that I’m never excited to go to Dallas; I’m always excited to go home. And I think we both felt that.”

Steve Long, energy management director, says the opportunity Aaron declined would have been an amazing start to his career. But his decision to return to Oklahoma to be with his family spoke large and impressive volumes for Aaron’s character.

Aaron since has accepted a similar position at SandRidge Energy in Oklahoma City, where he is currently interning and will continue full time after his May graduation. He says he is excited to be able to see the company change and grow during the coming years and looks forward to the new challenges ahead.

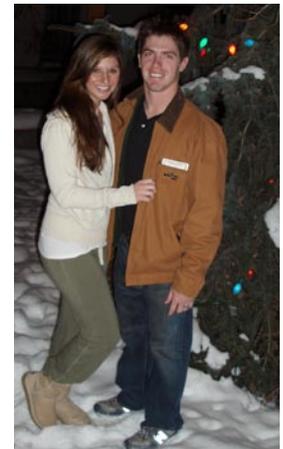
Regarding his future, Aaron’s professors say they have great expectations for him, from attending law school to becoming president of a company. But the Iveys say they are looking forward to someday having a family — two to four children and at least two dogs.

“I know that God has a good plan for us 10 years down the road and I’m anxious to see where it’s going to be,” says Aaron.

Whatever the future holds, Aaron Ivey will graduate from OU and the Price College of Business with a unique supply of determination, integrity and inspiration that will light his path for years to come.



Aaron currently interns at SandRidge Energy and will work there full time upon graduation. He is pictured at the company with, from left, Steve Long, director of energy management at Price College, Larry Coshow, (BBA 1981) executive vice president – land, and Tom Ward (BBA 1981), chairman and CEO.



Kate and Aaron in Pagosa Springs, CO on vacation in December 2007.





FACULTY profile

R. Leon Price has served the Price College of Business in many ways during the past three decades. Starting out as a student, he pursued advanced degrees and stayed as a professor over a span of 30 years and more than 27,000 students. Many of you reading this magazine have had Price in an MIS class or know someone who did.

Born in Electra, Texas, Raymond Leon Price grew up all over Oklahoma with his father working in the oil field business. He graduated from Pauls Valley High School and joined the Navy in 1956. After he was honorably discharged from the Navy, he attended OU while working his way through school at the Federal Aviation Administration. He received his bachelor's of business administration degree in 1965.

While working in Tulsa after his graduation from OU, he began teaching a class at the University of Tulsa. After he began as an instructor, it was realized that he did not have his MBA. To teach at TU, an instructor has to have at least an MBA. So Price earned his MBA while continuing to teach and work for the Department of Interior.

After he received his MBA, he was encouraged to come back to OU and work on his doctorate while working for the U.S. Postal Service. He served as a part-time instructor for the College of Business during this time and also was the budget officer for the U.S. Postal Training Center in Norman. He finished his doctorate in business administration in 1978.

During the past 30 years, Price became a full professor of MIS and received 28 awards for teaching excellence from various groups and associations.

His research resulted in more than two dozen papers and articles, including the 1986 article that the Academy of Management Journal named as one of the seven outstanding articles of the year.

Price has a long record of serving on such boards as the University Club Board of Directors, the Omniplex Science Museum Board of Directors, the Education and Training Partnership Executive Committee at Tinker Air Force Base and Robotics Inc.

30 Years of Accomplishments and Service to Price College



Price and students use the first computer at Price College in the 1980s.

He also has been a member of over 40 committees involved in different aspects of OU, Price College of Business and the MIS division and is a member of six national associations.

The Center for MIS Studies, www.cmiss.net, was co-founded by Price and Richard Van Horn. An interdisciplinary research center, it provides a partnership between academia and business at Price College of Business. A noted author, too, his book titled *Information Systems Solutions: A Project Approach with Richard Van Horn and Al Schwarzkopf*, was published in 2006.

He believes his biggest accomplishment while at Price College is the creation of the Management Information Systems Program in 1981. By the mid 1990s, the program had grown to the largest in the country with 1,200 students. At that time, the MIS division was

formed.

In May, Price is retiring. He thought he would take it easy his last semester, but two faculty members being away from campus changed those plans as he handles both of their administrative duties. He also is trying to imagine a retirement that involves golfing, reading, volunteering in Rotary and his church, and enjoying his family.

The highlight of his career was to hand his daughter, Gaitha Milligan, her diploma when she graduated with a degree in MIS from OU in 1991. He has three daughters, six grandchildren and one great granddaughter. He and his wife, Carole, look forward to spending more time with them.

When asked what he will miss the most, he said, "The students, of course!"



R. Leon Price, Ph.D., ConocoPhillips Teaching Fellow Professor, Management Information Systems





ACADEMIC DIVISION HIGHLIGHT

In each issue, one area of study at Price College will be highlighted.

MIS

The Management Information Systems Division of the Michael F Price College of Business offers undergraduate, masters and doctoral programs, operates a Center for MIS Studies and conducts an active program of scholarly research in the organizational aspects of information technology.

Highlights:

- The MIS program has been ranked in the Top 20 programs in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report* for three years in a row (2006 - 2008).
- An online ranking of research productivity (based on the *Financial Times* journal list, hosted by the University of Texas at Dallas and available at <http://citm.utdallas.edu/utdrankings>) for the years 2000-2007, lists the MIS Division among the Top 10 in the nation.
- The MIS Division, through its Center for MIS Studies (www.cmiss.net), has established strong relationships with many business organizations and federal agencies, which support faculty research and teaching activities, engage in student recruiting, and provide scholarships and fellowships to MIS majors. Currently, there are 23 member organizations in the center, which is in its 14th year.
- Strong ties exist between our students and their employers, including on-campus recruiting, an active internship program, company-sponsored scholarships, an annual CIO-student roundtable forum, a corporate-sponsored "Back-to-School" picnic and frequent company presentations.
- Our undergraduate MIS majors, who are in very heavy demand by employers, have the second-highest average starting salary of any major in the Price College of Business. Salaries in excess of \$60,000 (plus signing bonuses) have been reported by recent graduates.
- We also have an active student organization, MISSA, the MIS Student Association, that fosters student-industry ties by promoting corporate events, company presentations and student recruiting.
- Next fall, the division will welcome two new faculty members: Matt Jensen from the University of Arizona as an assistant professor of MIS, and Nate Stout from Indiana University as a clinical assistant professor of MIS.

The combination of outstanding research published in the top journals, dedicated teaching resulting in the placement of our graduates in reputed organizations, and close ties to industry evident in our vibrant research center has been the key to the international ranking and reputation of the MIS division.



Laku Chidambaram, the W.P. Wood professor of MIS and the director of the MIS division, served as the program co-chair for one of the leading conferences in the field, Americas Conference on Information Systems, which had more than 750 paper and panel submissions. He also completed four years of service as an associate editor of *Information Systems Research*, a top-rated journal in MIS.

The MIS Division has an internationally recognized faculty with a common set of core values dedicated to top-quality research, exceptional teaching, institutional service and professional leadership.

Below are some highlights of recent faculty achievements.



Traci Carte received the nationally competitive Fulbright Scholar Award for conducting research during her sabbatical stint in Sri Lanka. She also received the Merrick Teaching Award, a campus-wide award focused on excellence in teaching free enterprise principles, and the OU Alumni Teaching Award. Carte also is an associate editor at the top-rated *MIS Quarterly*.

Robert Dauffenbach is the associate dean for research and graduate programs and the director of the Center for Economic and Management Research. He plays an active role in the college's doctoral and masters programs. Dauffenbach teaches the Excel-based math camp for incoming MBA students, in addition to his regular teaching assignments.



Shaila Miranda, the coordinator of our Ph.D. program, continues to be a champion for doctoral students and mentors their development. She also is an associate editor at the top-rated *Information Systems Research*, having previously served in the same role at *MIS Quarterly*.

Ning Nan, the MIS division's most recent hire, comes to OU from the University of Michigan. Nan is engaged in research stemming from her dissertation and teaches the introductory MIS course and the database course at the undergraduate level.



R. Leon Price, recognized for 30 years of service to OU, will retire at the end of the spring semester after a phenomenal career educating three generations of Oklahomans. He was the faculty honoree at the Fall 2007 MIS Banquet, which feted his many accomplishments, accolades and honors.

Mano Ratwatte, the MIS division's star programming instructor, received the OU Alumni Teaching Award and the Hurley Roberson Award for Teaching Excellence. He also served as the advisor to the MIS Student Association.



Al Schwarzkopf, also recognized for 30 years of service to OU, spearheads the MIS capstone experience, the "field project class" that provides students with valuable "real world" experience by having them design, develop and deploy information systems for businesses and non-profit organizations in the region. An estimated 300 projects have been completed during the past 25 years of this course.

Terrie Shaft, the coordinator of the master of science in MIS program, focuses her energies on promoting the program, admitting students and counseling them. She also is the co-founder of a special interest group of the Association of Information Systems called IS-CORE, aimed at getting together researchers engaged in scholarship at the intersection of MIS and cognitive sciences.



Rajeev Sharma is an assistant professor and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in MIS. He serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Strategic Information Systems*.

Robert Zmud, the first Michael F Price Chair in the Price College of Business, received the prestigious George Lynn Cross Research Professorship (university-wide lifetime award given for outstanding scholarship); he currently is the only faculty member in the college to have been so honored. Zmud serves as a senior editor for *Information Systems Research* and *MISQ Executive* and, among others, is on the editorial board of the *Academy of Management Review*.





Robert Haddad, BBA 1954, is president and CEO of Columbus Container Inc. He served in the U.S. Air Force after graduation and then worked for Shell Oil Co. for 18 months until the company relocated to Denver and neglected to transfer Robert. He was devastated with being let go and learned early on that there is no such thing as job security. He resorted to what he knew – boxes.

As a high school student in Sand Springs, Robert worked summers for Hoerner Boxes. After being laid off from Shell, he managed a Hoerner box plant in Columbus, Ohio. When the company wanted him to relocate, Haddad promised his wife, Helen, that he would not move the family. So a few months later, he started his own company.

In 1975, Haddad and three employees built Columbus Container Inc. into a high-tech company with more than 300 employees and annual sales of more than \$50 million, covering four states. The company manufactures corrugated sheet, linerboard, packaging and containers, and Haddad credits its 30 years of success to teamwork. He has turned the manufacturing of cardboard boxes into a science, and his company produces more than 2 million boxes a day.

Columbus Container is very active in the community, assisting non-profits and the arts. At 72, Haddad still puts in 60-hour work weeks and is involved with every aspect of the business. He and his wife, Helen, recently celebrated 50 years of marriage.

1940s

Alfa B. Dutton Sasser, BBA 1947, has completed 55 years of accounting practice and continues to remain active in his profession. He is proud to announce the birth of his great grandson, Jaxon Bradley Bandelier, born on March 12, 2007.

1950s

Paul E. Moore, BBA 1951, is retired from the U.S. Navy and U.S. Steel Treasury. He and his wife, Chloe “Jeanie”, are enjoying travel during their retirement.



Ken Bartlett, BBA 1956, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Association of Community College Trustees for a three-year term in October 2007.

Jerry Wayne Segroves, BBA 1956, has had multiple retirements following more than 40 years in the defense contracting business with the Department of Defense and other contractors such as Raytheon and Boeing. He lives in Plano, Texas, with his wife, Rev. J. Colleen F. Segroves, and finds retirement both unsatisfying and boring!

Mel James, BBA 1963, is the founder of Southwestern Management Corp., a private investment banking and business financial services consultant. In September 2007, he was selected as president-elect of the Oklahoma Venture Forum, a non-profit organization formed in 1987 to encourage economic development in Oklahoma. Mel will serve as chairman of OVF the following year.

1960's

F. Duggan Smith, BBA 1960, retired from Shell Oil Co. in 1993. He lives with his wife, Ruth, in Granbury, Texas.

Jim Galbraith, MBA 1963, worked in the computer industry for 15 years, until he was called into the Episcopal Church ministry. He retired in 2002, and he and his wife, Dedee “Dorothy”, moved to Mississippi to be closer to their family. They lost everything in Hurricane Katrina, and after living in a FEMA trailer for a year, they are in a new home and report everything is well.

Nancy Greenbach, BBA 1963, received the Northwood University Distinguished Women’s Award. Greenbach is one of eight top national female business leaders, philanthropists, and educators to be recognized. Nancy is a committed community leader and holds leadership positions in multiple foundations, charities and organizations.

Don Warrick, BBA 1963; MBA 1964, received the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award for the College of Business at the University of Colorado Springs for the 13th time. He also has received the Outstanding Teacher Award for the university and holds the lifetime title of President’s Teaching Scholar awarded by the University of Colorado.

George Brose, BBA 1965, works for Clark County Common Pleas Court Mediation Center in Kettering, Ohio, and spent the past summer teaching mediation in the Congo, Rwanda, Burundi and Kenya (oonka.com/george-blog/). Several OU alumni contributed to the cost of the project.

Jack Drake, BBA 1966; JD 1976, is serving much like a city manager for a commercial center of some 18 million square feet of development near Houston’s Bush Intercontinental Airport. He urges students to consider careers in public administration as a way to contribute their talents and realize the immense satisfaction gained through a better understanding of the communities around them.

Charles K. Misak, BBA 1966, retired lieutenant colonel of the U.S. Air Force, recently retired as vice president and part owner of The Phoenix Air Group Inc., a provider of aviation services to DOD, NATO and the Office of Cuban Broadcasting.



Ray Blaum, BBA 1967, is enjoying retirement after 32 years in the U.S. Air Force and additional careers in real estate, law enforcement and county government. He serves as secretary on the board of directors for the Hinsdale

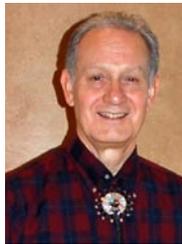
County Historical Society, chair of the development fund committee and chair of the construction committee for the Lake City Community Arts Center as well as vice president of the board of directors for the Lake City Main Street Program. At 69, Ray is enrolled in a course to become an emergency medical technician to further serve his community. "Who says retirement is boring?"

Mark Bradley, BBA 1969, is an agent for PBS&J Civil Engineering. He contracts with various government clients, acquiring right-of-way for highway, toll-road and public works projects.

1970s

Mitchell Chouteau,

BBA 1970, retired one year ago from the Department of Interior and Bureau of Indian Affairs. He is a Vietnam veteran and spent two and a half years in the U.S. Army. Mitchell and his wife, Anne, have been married for 37 years and have eight wonderful grandchildren. They just moved back to Oklahoma City this past summer after living in Albuquerque, N.M., and Washington, D.C.



Leo J. Silva, BBA 1972, recently was promoted to internal wholesaling independent planner channel manager and transferred from Newport Beach, Calif., to Omaha, Neb.

Ron Wagner, BBA 1972, is the regional transportation manager for Best Buy Stores and lives with his wife, Sharon, in Ardmore, Okla.

Jim Tate, MBA 1973, opened Tate Wealth Management, which focuses on high net-worth individuals in Smith Mountain Lake, Va. He provides asset management and financial planning services. His typical clients are medical professionals and retired corporate executives desiring 401K plans, SEP plans, profit sharing plans, IRAs, estate and trust planning services. His staff is made up of certified financial planners and registered investment advisers.

Kenneth R. Ross, BBA 1973; MBA 1976, is the founder and CEO of Solara Healthcare since 2003. Solara owns and operates eight specialty hospitals. Ken and his wife, Pam, live in Southlake, Texas.



Donald A. Ball, BBA 1974; MBA 1977, is a self-employed commercial/industrial real estate developer in Bryan, Texas, and is considering giving himself a promotion.

Mike Jennings, BBA 1974, worked for a couple of years in public accounting and then took the position of director of internal audit at Navajo Tribal Utility for 26 years. He currently is the CFO at AMERIND Risk Management Corp., a non-profit property, liability and workers' compensation "risk pool" owned by more than 450 Native American tribes and Alaska native villages. AMERIND provides this coverage on reservations located in 32 states, including Alaska. Mike currently lives in Albuquerque, N.M.

Bill D. Bretches,

BBA 1975, is enjoying his career with Mr. John Q. Hammons, the number one developer/owner/operator of first-class hotels in the world. The company just opened a second hotel in Dallas. Bill, his wife, Carla, of 29 years, and their younger son live in Frisco, Texas, and their older son lives in Dallas. Billy, the youngest, will graduate in 2009 from Frisco High School in Dallas. Billy has his eye on OU's College of Architecture and his father's Sig Ep fraternity.



James Dee Johnson, BBA 1976, is owner of James Dee Johnson & Co. Certified Public Accountants PC in Oklahoma City. They provide business accounting and tax services, individual tax services, estate tax services and financial statement preparation, auditing and review services.

C. Christopher Cree, BBA 1977, with Cree Investment Management Corp., has been in the wholesale lift truck business for 30 years and has expanded operations encompassing real estate development as well as truck and trailer rental and leasing. Chris is the seven-time Texas State Scrabble Champion, and currently is ranked third. He is involved in the development of tournament play and serves as player advocate to the National Scrabble Association. His hobbies also include golf and music and Chris recently has recorded a CD of original material that he made for his father's 85th birthday. He and his wife, Carla, are expecting their third child in July.

David Dahlgren, BBA 1978, owns Tycon Energy Corp., which handles acquisitions and drilling deals. He and his wife, Terri, live in Edmond, Okla.

Robert Sarikas, BBA 1978, is teaching at Christ College in Bangalore, India. This Ohio University MBA program is the first American MBA program to be offered in India with USA-based faculty. Robert has taught in China, Russia and Vietnam, and credits his overseas work to the education he received at OU.

James N. Shelton, BBA 1978, owns Shelton & Associates. Because of his training in the Air Force as a top-secret communications crypto specialist, he now is a security expert for the satellite and cable industry, dealing in piracy and copyright theft. After graduating at OU, he worked for United Video in Tulsa, where he met his wife, Debbye. The couple recently moved from San Diego to Norman, where James restored his grandparents' 1917 craftsman-style home near OU. Debbye works at the Price College of Business Alumni and Development office.

John B. Wilkinson, BBA 1978, lives in Grand Rapids, Mich., and is an independent petroleum landman.

Jimmie Lee Shaffer, BBA 1979, works for MidFirst Bank and lives with his wife, Angi, in Oklahoma City.





John Matheson, BBA 1988, has been elected president, CEO and a member of the new board of directors of Global Power Equipment Group Inc. following the successful reorganization of the company's operations. Headquartered in Tulsa, Okla., Global Power is a design, engineering and manufacturing firm furnishing equipment and services to the worldwide power infrastructure, energy and process industries and providing routine and specialty maintenance services to nuclear, coal-fired, fossil and hydroelectric power plants and industrial operations. The company conducts operations through the Braden Manufacturing, Deltak, and Williams Industrial Services Group subsidiaries and has offices in the United States, China, The Netherlands, Mexico, Egypt, India, and South Korea. John also is an alumnus of Georgetown University Law School and Harvard Business School.

Jim Trepagnier, BBA 1979, is vice president and land manager of Lance Ruffel Oil and Gas Corp. He is responsible for all land matters associated with the acquisition and development of oil and gas rights as well as most contractual matters relating to the operational aspect of drilling oil and gas wells. Jim and his wife, Cathie, live in Oklahoma City.

1980s

Ann Herndon-Cox, BBA 1980, serves as a human resources specialist for NORDAM, one of the largest privately held aerospace companies in the world. One of her responsibilities is coordination of NORDAM's intern program, which has been touted as the best in Oklahoma. In the past three years, the company has hired most of their new engineers through this program, including many OU graduates.



Donna Ledgerwood, BBA 1980, was named the 2007 Human Resources Southwest Educator of the Year. Donna is an associate professor at the University of North Texas in the Department of Management. Her passion and "Pay It Forward" mentality led her students to nominate her for this prestigious award. Donna also has received the President's Council Teaching Award, the College of Business' Outstanding Teacher Award and the Minnie Stevens Piper Award, which recognizes the top 10 professors in the state of Texas.

Randy Reynolds, CPA, BBA 1980, is the CEO and administrator for Foundation Surgery Center of Oklahoma. He is married to Nita Reynolds, who graduated from OU in 1980 with a degree in elementary education.

Charles "Chuck" Lister, BBA 1981, works for Tatum, LLC and lives with his wife, Eleanor, in Riverside, Calif.

Blant N. Miller, BBA 1981, owns a CPA practice and performs financial planning. Blant is a partner in several motels and lives with his wife, Cindy, in Beeville, Texas.

Teresa Garrison (Endsley) Pratt, J.D., BBA 1981, is a solo attorney in private practice in Eufaula, OK. She is married to **James "Jim" Roger Pratt**, BBA 1973 and JD 1976, who is the associate district judge of McIntosh County, Okla. The couple has three children, Lauren, Dillon and Travis. Lauren and Dillon both attend OU, and Dillon is a freshman equipment manager for the OU football team. Their youngest, Travis, is a sophomore at Eufaula High School.

Charlene Clark, BBA 1982, has been promoted to senior server administrator at Pre-Paid Legal Services Inc. in Ada, Okla.

Mike (Nicholson) McGehee, BBA 1982, is an Oracle database instructor at Moore-Norman Technology Center. She wishes to thank Leon Price for the impact he made on her life.



Greg Curry, BBA 1983, is a partner in the Dallas law firm of Thompson & Knight. He has been elected 2007-2008 executive vice president of the Texas Association of Defense Counsel, a statewide association of more than 2,000 private practice attorneys specializing in civil defense trial law.

Jeff Hardy, BBA 1983, after 17 years with the Trammell Crow Co., has decided to take a risk as an entrepreneur. He joined with three others to form SC Investments Consulting. SC is quickly creating a diversified portfolio of professional athlete-centric companies in the areas of technology, real estate, financial management, entertaining and transportation. Jeff is responsible for SC's real estate strategies and enjoys the chaos of being part of a start-up venture. Jeff's wife, Carolyn, is chairman and CEO of the household, raising the five Hardy Boys (6, 10, 12, 15, and 46!). The family enjoys living in the San Francisco Bay Area and proudly wears their OU colors whenever possible.

Monty Lee, MBA 1984, works for FedEx Express in Westcliffe, Colo. His oldest daughter got married last fall, and they are awaiting the birth of their third grandchild. Monty and his wife, Terry, traveled to Japan and spent two weeks living with locals in Noto through a Japan-American cultural exchange.



Mark W. Waller, BBA 1984, works for A-1 Freeman North America Inc. in Flower Mound, Texas and can hardly believe that it has been 23 years since he graduated from OU. He and his wife, Stephanie, could not be more proud of their daughter, Sam, who married Paul Stoltenberg in December. The bride's wedding colors were none other than crimson and cream!



Jeffrey J. Allison, BBA 1984, has been promoted from executive vice president of planning and allocation to executive vice president and general merchandise manager of home and custom decorating division for J.C. Penney Co. in their corporate headquarters location in Plano, Texas.

Janet Giessmann Hailey, BBA 1984, has been the internal audit manager for the Oklahoma government for more than 20 years. She is a certified public manager and a member of Institute Auditors Organization. She is a new grandmother to Joseph Doyle, whose parents, Joseph and Tina Hailey Dischinger, both hold MBAs from OU.

Stephanie Melancon Pruitt, BBA 1984, is excited for the recent opening of Pruitt Insurance Group, LLC. After being in mortgage and real estate markets for four years, she transitioned to mortgage protection, life and disability insurance back in mid-2006 due to the falling mortgage market. She currently has 15 full-time and 15 part-time agents serving

the north Georgia area, protecting families and providing both retirement and college planning. The business is building nationwide, with agents in Ohio and Texas, and plans to branch into neighboring states.

Tim Thorne, BBA 1984, is the regional vice president of operations at ABF. Tim is a retired Army officer and earned his MBA from the University of North Alabama in 2000. He and his wife, Diane, live in Midvale, Utah, and have two children, Matt, 18, and Mallory, 12.

Jana Plowman, BBA 1985, has worked for the past five years as an accountant in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the OU Health Sciences Center.

Mark Wright, BBA 1985, was promoted in January to director of project marketing for Acorn Systems Inc., an enterprise software company with many large clients. He and his wife, Denise, live in Norman.

Barry Evans, MBA 1986, founded a free Christian school and currently serves as the principal. He resigned his Air Force commission in 2000 and has obtained his Ph.D. Barry has taught a management course at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas, for the past three years. His hobbies include making custom furniture and spending time with his wife and two teenage daughters.

Kerry Egdorf, PhD, BBA 1986, is teaching at Marquette University in Milwaukee and has been appointed to ombudsman at the school. With his position, he provides a confidential, informal, independent and impartial resource for the faculty and staff regarding the workplace. He is on the editorial board for the *Journal of California Caucus of College and University Ombuds* and is an active member in the International Ombudsman Association. In 2007, Kerry completed a graduate certificate in dispute and resolutions at Marquette and when time permits, he mediates small claims court cases.



Kevin Hutchinson, BBA 1986, is CEO of SureScripts, a company owned by the pharmacy industry

that processes prescriptions electronically between physician offices and pharmacies throughout the United States. The company routes millions of prescriptions every month in all 50 states.

Harter Ryan, BBA 1986, has completed 10 years at Ensemble Studios, which was purchased by Microsoft in 2001. He was first involved as the lead producer on *Age of Empires II: The Age of Kings* in 1999, and has since been the executive producer on all the subsequent "Age"-series games. He now is the executive producer on the upcoming Xbox 360 exclusive "Halo Wars." Before joining Ensemble Studios in 1997, he worked for Mobile Oil in downtown Dallas for nine and a half years.

Steven G. Heinen, BBA 1987; MBA 1991, is a shareholder of the Tulsa law firm GableGotwals. He is practicing in business and commercial law.

Robert A. Keenan, BBA 1987, handles management and oversight of all the internal and external audits for the asset performance group at Sallie Mae. Robert also oversees all the client audits they perform. On the risk side, he manages the risk and compliance areas overseeing the adherence to the policies, procedures, fraud and investigations. Robert credits his team with all the great work they perform. He and his wife, Teresa, live in Omaha, Neb.



Johnny D. Onkst, BBA 1987, works in Tulsa for United Technologies Corp. As a member of the Masonic Fraternity, he was elected grand master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Oklahoma and also is the chairman of North America Grand Master Conference.





Nancy Hope Alexander, MBA 1997, currently is serving as the executive director of the U.S. Department of Commerce/Oklahoma City Minority Business Enterprise Center and is the program manager for the USDA 1890 Rural Business Economic Opportunity Program at Langston University. After receiving her MBA from OU in 1997, she served as the ISO 9000 technical writer for the telephone technical support division at Seagate Technology. She eventually managed four of the company's top six customer service accounts on a worldwide basis with support staff in Europe and the Pacific Rim.

Nancy received her Six Sigma Green Belt certification in 2000 by accomplishing a comprehensive understanding of the philosophy, theory and tactics, quantitative benchmarking tools, process/program diagnostic methods and experiential design.

In 2003, Nancy completed Dartmouth University's Tuck School of Executive Business Strategic Planning Program. In the past five years, she has secured more than \$90 million in financing and contract procurement for minority entrepreneurs in the state of Oklahoma. In October she secured the 1890 REOD grant for Langston University that will address value-added projects for disadvantaged farmers and renewable energy projects throughout the state of Oklahoma.

Nancy currently is a third year Ph.D. student at OU in the Educational Leadership Adult and Higher Education program with an emphasis in training and development.

Phil Thomison, BBA 1987, is vice president of MBE/The UPS Store Worldwide Operations in San Diego.

Brigeeta Scales (Ward), BBA 1988, is self-employed and living in Lawrenceville, Ga. She builds web sites and spends most of her time at home caring for her two boys, ages 6 and 8. She also has been happily married for almost 10 years.

John D. Rickards, Jr., BBA 1988, recently was reassigned from California as the executive assistant to the executive director for Commander, Naval Installations Command, in Washington, D.C. CNIC is responsible for shore installation management for naval bases worldwide.

Stephanie Lynn Ward, BBA 1988, lives in the Netherlands and owns her own business, Firefly Coaching (fireflycoaching.com). She launched a book in October 2007, *No Sweat Networking: Simple Solutions to Overcome Networking Obstacles*, which teaches people to enjoy networking in a both relaxed and focused manner.



1990s

Kelly Brcka, BBA 1990, just launched her own company, Chain of Events (chain-of-events.com), an event-planning company focusing on corporate, social and wedding occasions. Kelly lives in Plano, Texas, with her husband, Terry.



R. Craig Cross, BBA 1990, once a traditional landman, worked at Mobil Oil and the Williams Cos. before moving to Samson Resources in 2002. He currently is Samson's manager of oil, gas and natural gas liquids marketing for North America. He has a 7-year-old son named Cayman, who aspires to be a wide receiver for OU in 2019. His wife, Kathy, left her career to raise their son.

Christina (Loveless) Houghton, BBA 1990, and her husband, Joe, have been blessed with their fourth child, Christopher Emerson Houghton, born on Jan. 23, 2007. The siblings, Tucker, Emilee and Tristan, are excited about the newest addition.

Nicole M. Aeschliman, BBA 1991, is a stay-at-home mom, while her husband prepares to graduate from OU with his Pharm.D. The family will move to Wichita this summer, where Daryl will work as a nuclear pharmacist for Cardinal Health. Pictured is their youngest daughter, Hailey, searching for a Christmas tree.



Sherman Black, MBA 1991, is the senior vice president and general manager of Seagate Technology's Enterprise Compute Business Unit. He is responsible for shaping the strategy, product offerings, research and development investments, product marketing and profit/loss management of the enterprise computer business. He is a 2007 inductee into the University of Arkansas' Academy of Electrical Engineering. Sherman serves on the board of directors for the Minnesota High Tech Association and also is on the advisory board for the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management's Institute of Marketing Research.

Klint Kneuppel, BBA 1991, is the regional fraternal manager for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans in the Greater Milwaukee, Wis., area. His wife, Amy,



and their three children, Mack, 10, Maddy, 5, and Mason, 4, enjoyed watching Klint (on right in photo) and his brothers (flyingkneuppelbrothers.com) throw out the first pitch at a Milwaukee Brewers baseball game. While at OU, Klint was a member of the three-time all-campus champion Water Boys. He is working

on locating other Water Boys out there, so if you know of any, contact him at amyknueppel@aol.com.

Brian Amend, BBA 1992, is a partner at the Risk Consulting Firm of Protiviti (formerly Arthur Anderson's Risk Consulting Practice). He and his wife, Johanna, just welcomed their third child, Brian Andrew, in 2007. The family resides in Dallas and enjoys regular trips to Norman during football season.

Tina Cheng, BBA 1992, joined the government as a civil servant in 1993, working for cultural services. Her current position is manager of Hong Kong Cultural Centre House Management Office. She studied in an advanced certificate program in arts and entertainment management, co-organized by the University of Hong Kong and State University of New York at Binghamton. She took away many ideas and programs from her visit to the 2006 Edinburgh International Festival/Edinburgh Festivals Fringe.



Clifton Daniel Jr., BBA 1992, holds the position of director of delivery for CIBER Inc. Clifton and his wife, Elizabeth, live in Tampa, Fla.

John C. Drennan, BBA 1992, is a principal with the Dallas office of American Capital, a private equity firm with \$20 billion under management. Further, John is owner of The Wine Therapist, a retail wine-tasting room.

Cindy Gross, BBA 1992, is a dedicated support engineer for the SQL server at Microsoft and enjoys the benefits of working from home in Boise, Idaho.

Brian Hadding, BBA 1994, joined Select Source International as the director of sales. In early 2007, he opened an office in La Jolla, Calif., and is recruiting and staffing the West Coast consulting market.

Layne R. Wroblewski, BBA 1994, has been promoted to supervisor, ad valorem tax, at Devon Energy Production Co., L.P. His wife, Brooke, gave birth to their first child, Sophia, on Aug. 22, 2007.



Lysa D. Park, BBA 1995, is a practicing CPA with Finley & Cook, PLLC. This past fall, the Channel 4 Morning Show in Oklahoma City featured Lysa on their Women in Finance segment. She shared her insight as a CPA and single mother.

Chad C. Taylor, BBA 1995, is a shareholder with the law firm, Pray, Walker, Jackman, Williamson and Marlar in Tulsa, Okla. He concentrates his litigation practice in business, insurance, real estate and tort disputes in both state and federal courts. Chad resides in Jenks, Okla., with his wife, Brandi, and their three children, Jack, Audrey and Ellery.



Barry Waters, BBA 1995, is the bookstore director at Central Michigan University. He and his 5-year-old daughter, Abryanna, enjoyed watching the Sooner Women's Gymnastics team as they competed against the Central Michigan Chippewas on Jan. 11. Watching an OU team compete in Mount Pleasant made Barry a little homesick for Norman. Pictured is Barry's oldest daughter with the gymnastics team after their victory.



Mike Salem, BBA 1996, after working for Sprint and Bank of America, recently started his own business with several other investors. The new company, located in Dallas, is a software development corporation called Vorex.



Amy Reilly Sallusti, BBA 1996, after graduating from the OU College of Law in 1999, began working for the law firm Geary Port & Donovan in Dallas. In 2006, Amy was named a shareholder and currently deals with property tax and business litigations.



Becca Sharp, BBA 1996, is celebrating her 10th year in advertising sales at Tyler Media- KKNG, JACK FM Radio and Tyler Outdoor.

Gary L. Ward, MBA 1996, is the assistant vice chancellor of facilities for the University of Missouri. Prior to this position, he served as director of physical plant operations for both Penn State and OU. He and his wife, Sandy (OU class of 1982), have two children in high school, Lauren and Matt.



Greg A. Valley, MBA 1997, was awarded the 2007 Top 10 Property and Casualty Agency for American National Property and Casualty Insurance Co. He is a Career Club award winner with Valley Agency LLC.

Matt Williamson, BBA 1997, has worked in sales with Hilti North America for the past 10 years. He recently was promoted to field trainer for DFW Metro. He and his wife, Miyako Ono, who also graduated from OU in 1997 with a degree in psychology, left the Houston area for north Texas in February.





Doug Haneborg, BBA 2005, is the owner of three Express Personnel Services franchises, serving the greater Treasure Valley area of Idaho, including Boise, Nampa, Caldwell, Fruitland and Ontario. The Express Personnel Services franchise is part of a network of nearly 600 franchisees forming Express Services, the fifth-largest staffing company in the United States. Express also operates internationally in Australia, Canada and South Africa.

After college, Doug began working for Express Personnel Services with business development in Norman and then moved to Oklahoma City to work at their international headquarters. Doug has been actively involved in customer service, human resources, marketing and operations.

Doug's entrepreneurial spirit brought him to Idaho in 2006 to open his three Express offices. Doug has identified the robust economic growth in the region and the hospitality of Boise's residents for choosing this market as his new home.

James Ybarra, BBA 1997, accepted a three-year term of service on the OU School of Social Work Board of Visitors in May 2007 and looks forward to once again serving the university. James is a team manager for Sitel Inc., and is involved with the Norman Public Library, volunteering as an ESL tutor and serving on the Library Planning Committee.

Ken Cameron, BBA 1998, is the assistant maintenance department head at Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light 46, located at Naval Station Mayport, Fla.

Brian Gilbertson, BBA 1998, and his wife, Courtney, are proud to welcome their third child, Finn Robert, born on Nov. 14. Finn joins his siblings, Conner, 4, and Avery, 2.



Paul Jaramillo, BBA 1998, is a network security specialist with Sprint in Olathe, Kan. He and his wife, Jennifer, are expecting their first child this April.

Belinda McCoy (Brandenburg), BBA 1998, is back in Oklahoma after living in Dallas for almost 10 years. Her husband, Cameron, has taken a job at OU and Belinda is working for Devon Energy. The couple is enjoying the urban life of downtown Oklahoma City until they find a new home in Norman. Although Belinda is a native Texan, she is glad to be back in Oklahoma and won't miss those weekend trips from Dallas during football season.

Amy Taylor, BBA 1998, has a successful career in the IT industry as a senior program/project manager for USBioservices – AmerisourceBergen Specialty Group. She lives in Frisco, Texas, and is planning a wedding this summer!



Scott Bradford, BBA 1999, works for Goldman Sachs in investment banking and recently has been relocated with his

wife, Dr. Jennifer Wolf Bradford, from Los Angeles to New York.

Bryan Dougherty, BBA 1999, has been a member of the corporate server support team with 7-Eleven for three years and currently is the subject matter expert for infrastructure virtualization (VMwareESX) and infrastructure monitoring technologies.

Daniel Nevels, BBA 1999, lives in Norman and works for the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

Corbett "Corby" Oliver, BBA 1999, began working for Devon Energy in May 2001. He spent his first five years working in accounting and became the accounts payable supervisor. He now works on the information technology side of the company and holds the title of senior systems analyst.

Trent Wells, MBA 1999, has worked at the University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc. since 2003. He and his wife, Heather, have two children, Piercen and Hayden.

Christine Wilkinson, MBA 1999, works for Iowa State University and is engaged to Andrew Denison. The wedding is set for July 26.

2000s

Chris Bezaire, BBA 2000, worked for Aldi Foods as a district manager for four years before returning to run the family business of real estate in beautiful Cape May, N.J.



Erik Gano, BBA 2000, received his MBA in sports management from the University of Denver on June 8. Erik is working for Qwest Communications in Denver.

Philip Houchin, BBA 2000, married fellow Price College graduate, **Katy Hawes**, BBA 2006, on Sept. 14.

Nathan Howell, BBA 2000, has been working at the family business, Affiliated Movers of OKC Inc., for the past seven years. The company provides professional packing, relocation and storage for local businesses, families and military members.

He and his wife, Carrie, are involved with many side businesses. They recently sold their flower shop and have been investing in real estate. The Howells have two beautiful daughters, ages 4 and 10 months, in addition to two rescued dogs.



Sven Jacker, BBA 2000, lives in Mamer, Luxembourg, and works for Norrdeutsche Landesbank Luxembourg S.A.

Oscar B. Nelson, MBA 2000, lives in San Antonio and has been with U.S. Global Investors for four years, working as a trader for a mutual/hedge fund. The firm's primary focus is natural resources and emerging markets.

Charles D. Richardson, BBA 2000, married Allison "Ali" McClymont on Aug. 4, and the couple honeymooned in Italy for two weeks before settling in Denver. In 2006, after five years as an account executive in the mortgage industry,



Charles started a business with two other partners called Ag-HR, LLC. Ag-HR is a professional employer organization based in Nebraska and provides an HR outsourcing option to small and medium-sized businesses. This past year, Charles and Ali opened a meal assembly kitchen in Lone Tree, Colo., with a few of their closest friends. Their company, A Gourmet Affair, provides ready-to-cook meals for customers. The company also provides catering services and features a wine lounge.

Angela J. Anderson, BBA 2001, graduated from the University of Tulsa School of Law in 2006. She graduated from the University of Washington School of Law with an L.L.M. in Taxation in 2007. Angela has accepted a tax attorney position at Deloitte Tax, LLP in tax controversy services in Houston.

Leal J. Anderson, BBA 2001, is a business teacher and basketball coach for the Anderson Trojans. He lives with his wife, Ariana, in Austin, Texas.

Angela Davenport, BBA 2001, became a certified public accountant in 2006 and is a self-employed accountant who specializes in tax returns and accounting in Oklahoma City.

Christin (Smith) Linch, BBA 2001, and her husband **Matt Linch** (BBA 1997), have opened a maternity apparel franchise called Pickles & Ice Cream in Edmond, Okla. Utilizing the knowledge gained from their time at OU, the couple's goal is to provide the best in quality and customer service to the Oklahoma City area. The Linches are planning to expand the business throughout Oklahoma and surrounding states.

Mike Thompson, BBA 2001, worked for Ernst & Young for four years. Mike currently is in the San Francisco Bay area working for Chevron and plans to obtain his MBA at Duke. He and his wife, Carrie, have one child, Nicholas, who was born in May 2007.

Saul F. Aguilera, BBA 2002, works for Tronox Inc. in Oklahoma City and lives in Yukon, Okla.

Michael Thompson, BBA 2002, is an IT project manager at OG&E Energy Corp. He has three boys, Judah, 5, Maddox, 3, and Beckman, 1.



Irfan Kawosa, MBA 2002, and his wife, **Beth Kawosa**, MBA 2003, are proud parents of a baby girl. Sofia Jane Kawosa was born on Dec. 16, weighing 7 lbs 1.1 ozs. and measuring 19½".



Emily Gail Archbald, MD, BBA 2002, recently graduated from medical school at OUHSC in Oklahoma City. She is

working as an intern and will continue her residency training in dermatology at OU this July. She lives in Edmond, Okla., and spends her spare time traveling the world, cooking and attending OU football games.



Vladimir R. dela Cruz, MBA 2002, has been relocated to Singapore, where he is vice president and manager of commercial development for ConocoPhillips International Inc. His former position with the company was director of investor relations in New York City.

Robert M. Stover, BBA 2002, is the manager of key market development of Cancer Treatment Centers of America and lives in Owasso, Okla. Robert will graduate in December with a master of healthcare administration from OSU-Tulsa.

He and his wife, **Staci Stover**, BBA 2001, are celebrating their fifth wedding anniversary and the joy of their lives is Seldon Leanna, their 19-month-old daughter.



Rikki (Otto) Koetter, BBA 2003, dated her husband, John Koetter, computer engineer and 2003 OU graduate, through college and married the spring after graduation.

Rikki works in inside sales for the plastics manufacturer, Poly-America, LP and John works at Flight Safety International. The couple has two dogs and lives in north Fort Worth. John plans to attend law school next fall and the Koetters may be back in Norman soon!





In Memoriam

O.T. McCall, BBA 1940, passed away Jan. 18 at the age of 89. He was a lifelong resident of Norman, attending Norman High School, then the College of Business with a degree in finance and management. Upon graduation, he accepted a commission in the U.S. Army, where he served during World War II, advancing to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He was married to Virginia in Fort Lee, Va., and they were married for 62 years until her passing in 2004. Besides being involved in numerous associations, the Norman School Board, the Norman Chamber of Commerce Board, and owning McCall's Supermarket and Greenleaf Grocery, he was an avid supporter of OU. He was past president of the OU Alumni Association and past president of the Dad's Association. O.T. made sure he attended many OU athletics events in Norman and out of town and loved to play golf. He is survived by two daughters, Julie McCall and Gail Schwabe, and Gail's husband, Dennis; four grandchildren, Grant Schwabe, Chase Schwabe, Summer Schwabe and Bevin Coley; two great-grandchildren, Tabia and Tanisha Edwards; nieces and nephews; and special friend, Mary Bess Gamel. Price College of Business and the OU community will miss him.

Landon Morgan, BBA 2003, was recently hired by the Country Music Association as executive assistant to the CEO and gives executive support for industry relations. Landon currently lives in Nashville, Tenn.



Adam Nuse, BBA 2003, has completed a children's musical CD with his wife, Sarah. The CD is being marketed worldwide. The couple has a children's book being published, and their television animated series also is being produced for PBS. Their work is aimed at preventing childhood diabetes. Adam states that the skills he learned at the Price College of Business have been very valuable to his career.

Aiham MHD Rabih, BBA 2003, joined Sea Group in Oklahoma City after graduation. In 2004, he moved to Kuwait and worked with a software company called JAWA as DBA. He became an Oracle-certified professional and now works as an IT consultant for MEDCOMM. He was married in August 2006, and now has a 4-month-old son, Rabeh. Aiham is in the process of taking his project management professional test and then plans to earn his MBA.



P.K. Kociuba, BBA 2004, was hired by Express Jet Airlines in June and is currently a first officer.

Prairie Matthews, BBA 2004, lives in Dallas and works for Southwest Airlines as a flight attendant.

James "Jim" Rogers, MBA 2004, joined i2E, Inc. as director of enterprise services in May 2007. i2E is a private, not-for-profit corporation supporting the Oklahoma-based technology start-up companies, providing consulting services and making investments through several funds administered and managed on behalf

of OCAST (the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology).

Crystal Mantecon, BBA 2005, is an actress who plays Sister Mary Francis/Carmelita on the TV series "Prison Break." She also has movies coming out in 2008.

Larry Watts, BBA 2005, worked in IT for Sunoco Inc. in Tulsa for almost five years and has returned to the Oklahoma City area to be closer to his kids. He now works for Power Costs Inc. His son, Lain, 9, and daughter, Aislan, 8, occupy much of his time, but he also enjoys working out, cooking, movies, golf, kickball, spending time with friends and traveling. Larry plans to start his MBA soon and hopes to get more involved with alumni activities.



Tim Helms, MBA 2006, is working as an auditor in Tulsa, Okla., for Ernst & Young. He recently completed the CPA exam and expects to obtain his initial certification in 2008.

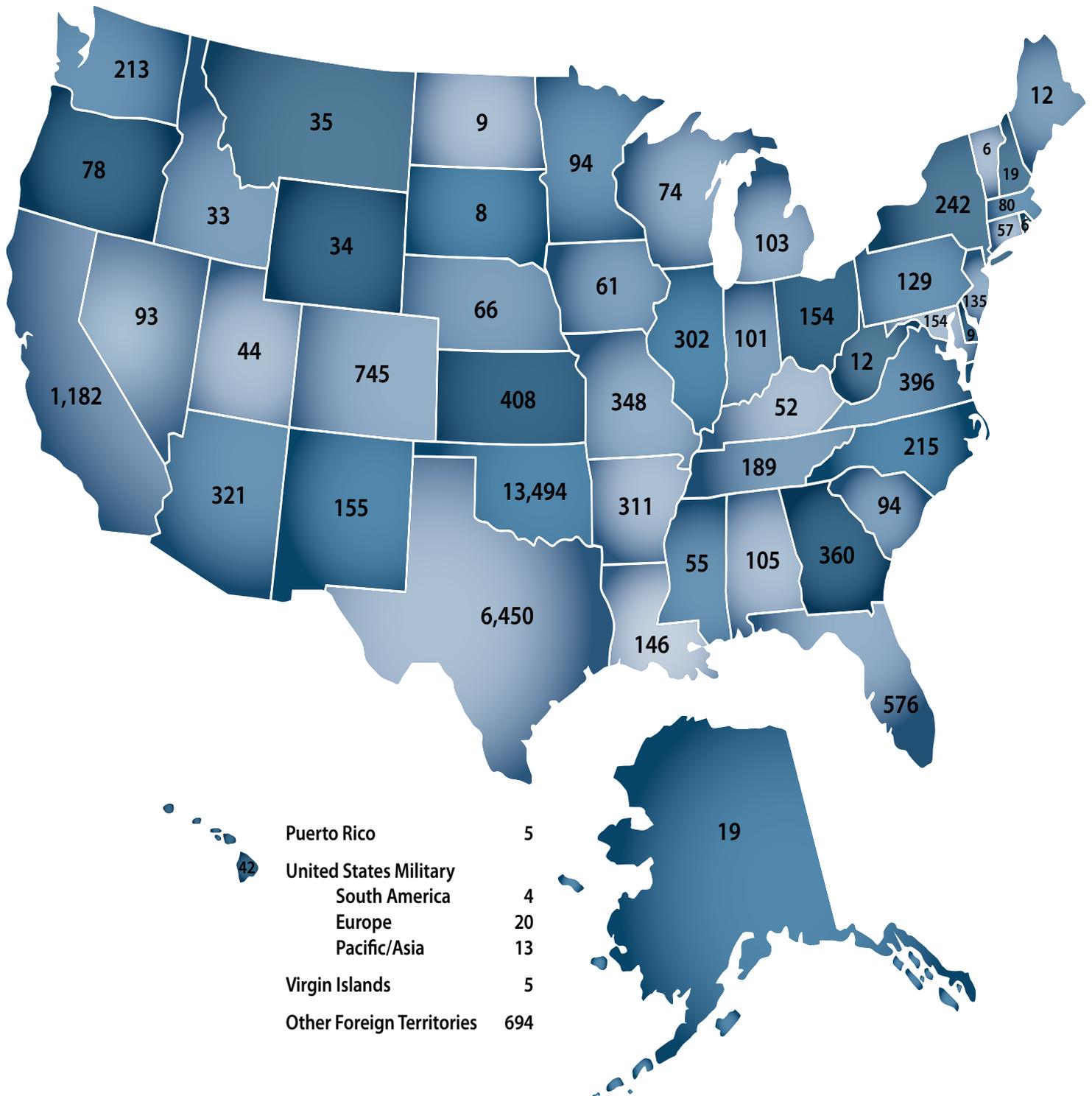
Tyler Parker, BBA 2006, works for Halliburton Energy Services in the company's management training program. His position presents him with many opportunities for travel, and he receives a new assignment every six months, giving him exposure to different aspects of the oil industry. He currently is working in the field operations implementing "lean" tolls in the field camps in Houston.

Megan Henry, BBA 2007, lives in downtown Oklahoma City and loves her position as an analyst in the acquisition department with Canaan Resources.



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