ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The History

Oklahoma State University was founded as Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College on Dec. 25, 1890, just 20 months after the Land Run of 1889. When the first students assembled for class on Dec. 14, 1891, no buildings, books or curriculum existed. This land-grant institution has held true to its mission of instruction, extension and research.

Land-grant universities were made possible by the Morrill Acts of 1862, 1890 and 1994. The first granted federally controlled land to states to establish "land-grant" colleges. They were designed to be a departure from the typical liberal arts curriculum and a response to the industrial revolution. Land-grant colleges were designed to improve the world through education and research in agriculture, military tactics and mechanical arts.

In 1894, 2½ years after classes began in local churches, 144 students moved into the first academic building, later named Old Central and still located on the southeast corner of campus, housing the Honors College today. In 1896, Oklahoma A&M held its first commencement with six male graduates.

The Smith-Lever Act of 1914 created a cooperative extension service associated with each land-grant institution. Oklahoma State University has 77 Extension offices (https://extension.okstate.edu/), one in each county. They provide practical, research-based knowledge for improving lives and communities.

On July 1, 1957, Oklahoma A&M College became Oklahoma State University. Technical branches were established in Okmulgee in 1946 and in Oklahoma City in 1961. In 1990, these two technical branches were renamed OSU-Okmulgee (https://osuit.edu/) and OSU-Oklahoma City (https://osoukcc.edu/); and in 2008, OSU-Okmulgee (https://osuit.edu/) was renamed OSU Institute of Technology (https://osit.edu/). OSU-Tulsa (https://tulsa.okstate.edu/) was formed in 1999 from a consortium of universities that were originally established in 1982. In July of 1988, the Oklahoma College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery (in Tulsa) became the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. In 2001, it became part of the OSU Center for Health Sciences (https://health.okstate.edu/), which also has an affiliation with its primary teaching hospital — the OSU Medical Center (https://www.osumc.com/home/).

OSU’s main campus is located in Stillwater, a north-central Oklahoma community with a population of around 50,000. Stillwater is approximately 60 miles from the Tulsa and Oklahoma City metropolitan areas and is readily accessible by interstate highway and air. Stillwater added daily air service to Dallas in 2016.

The university has an enrollment of more than 32,800 students on five campuses. It offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in many fields, as well as Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees. Specialist in Education degrees are also offered in selected fields.

Although OSU is a large, comprehensive university, its size does not minimize the personal attention each student receives. The individual is more than just a number here. Students can count on personal attention in a friendly environment.

As a comprehensive land-grant institution, OSU offers many distinct advantages: nearly 4 million volumes in the library’s collection; modern research laboratories and equipment; excellent physical education, recreation and student union facilities; more than 500 student organizations; nationally recognized residence hall programs; outstanding cultural and athletic events; and 45 nationally affiliated fraternities and sororities that provide a stimulating educational and social environment.

The Mission

Proud of its land-grant heritage, Oklahoma State University advances knowledge, enriches lives and stimulates economic development through instruction, research, outreach and creative activities.

Student Profile

Oklahoma State University has a diverse student body. Students come from Oklahoma, across the nation and around the world. Of OSU’s more than 32,800 students, approximately 71 percent are on the Stillwater campus, including students at the College of Veterinary Medicine (https://vetmed.okstate.edu/). The remaining student population is spread over OSU-Oklahoma City (https://osoukcc.edu/), OSU Institute of Technology (https://osit.edu/) in Okmulgee, OSU-Tulsa (https://tulsa.okstate.edu/) and the OSU Center for Health Sciences (https://health.okstate.edu/) in Tulsa. More than 77 percent of the undergraduates enrolled are Oklahoma residents, 20 percent are out-of-state residents and 3 percent are from 55 foreign countries. Of the undergraduate population, 51 percent are women. U.S. minorities make up approximately 32.4 percent of the undergraduate student body. The six-year graduation rate of full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate students is 64.7 percent.

There are almost 4,300 graduate students throughout the OSU system. Over 3,300 of those students are on the Stillwater campus. Forty-seven percent are Oklahoma residents, 32 percent are out-of-state residents and 21 percent are from foreign countries. Graduate students are equally divided by gender, and U.S. minorities make up 20 percent of the graduate student body.

An annual report regarding gender equity in OSU’s athletic programs is available upon request from the Athletic Department (https://okstate.com/).

Research

Research has been one of the three essential components of the OSU mission since the University’s inception. Research adds richness, depth and broader impact to the other mission components of teaching and outreach. In the sciences and engineering, basic research advances the frontiers of disciplinary knowledge; whereas, applied research improves quality of life and economic prosperity by bringing new products, processes and medicines to the marketplace. Research and creative innovations within the arts and humanities enhance how human beings view and understand the world we live in.

OSU’s faculty and students are engaged in research across the full spectrum of human endeavor and inquiry, including areas of state and national priority. In addition to disciplinary research in virtually all academic units on campus, OSU is strong in several areas of interdisciplinary research. Researchers in the food-energy-water nexus span agricultural innovation, nutrition, engineering, toxicology, geosciences, economics and the social/behavioral sciences. OneHealth is an interdisciplinary framework that recognizes the interconnections between human health, animal health and a healthy planet. OSU OneHealth includes research as diverse as veterinary medicine, ecology,
psychology, exercise science and bioengineering—as well as basic research in the bench sciences. Unmanned systems research (including unmanned aircraft) brings researchers from several engineering disciplines together with experts in production agriculture, computer science, information systems and aviation education to create platforms, sensors, data management tools and new applications for this burgeoning field. Such interdisciplinary research strengths are enhanced by big data solutions, including OSU's high performance computing facilities and advanced analytical expertise.

The Division of the Vice President for Research administers research across the OSU System. The division is comprised of the following units:

The Research Administration office (research.okstate.edu) is responsible for research governance, operations and special programs including OSU Research Week, the Regents Distinguished Research Awards, the President’s Fellows Faculty Research Award, the Otto S. Cox Graduate Fellowships for Genetics Research and the Niblack Research Scholars program. Other areas administered by the office include conflict of interest, complaints of scientific misconduct, core facilities and facilities renovation/development programs, and the University cost-share and University start-up programs.

The Center for Strategic Proposal Development (cspd.okstate.edu) works closely with faculty, staff and administration across colleges and campuses at OSU to develop strong and competitive external funding proposals. An experienced grant writer is available to provide a wide range of pre-award services, advice and information to strengthen and enhance proposal quality.

The Office of University Research Compliance (compliance.okstate.edu) ensures OSU follows federal, state and University regulations that set forth requirements for certain kinds of research. Working through faculty committees, it oversees research involving human subjects, animal models, radiological materials, certain hazardous agents and recombinant DNA.

The Office of University Research Services (urs.okstate.edu) is the document control center for the routing of all proposals and awards throughout the University. It provides support to faculty and staff (through information about funding opportunities, and training seminars); posts online research expenditures and abstracts; and provides guidance for compliance with federal export control regulations that govern the conduct of research and export of specific technologies that may have an impact on national security and trade.

The Division of the Vice President for Research is also home to two core research facilities. The High Performance Computing Center (hpcc.okstate.edu) provides supercomputing services and computational science expertise that enables faculty, staff and students to conduct a wide range of focused research, development and test activities. Its main objective is to facilitate research and aid in educational advancement by integrating state-of-the-art high performance computing technology for multidisciplinary units across the OSU campus and throughout Oklahoma. The Oklahoma State University Microscopy Laboratory (http://microscopy.okstate.edu) is a multi-user instrumentation facility for materials research spanning from nanotechnology to biology and medicine. Analytical capabilities include microscopy via electron beams, force probes and visible light, as well as nanomechanical and nanotribological probes.

In addition to units within the division, the Vice President for Research also serves as the President of the Oklahoma State University Research Foundation (OSURF; osurf.org) which handles technology development, transfer and commercialization on behalf of OSU. OSURF also manages several strategic resources that can connect OSU researchers to industry and other partners. The OSU Research Park is a 160-acre site uniquely designed for collaboration among tenants while providing custom facilities for technology-based or industry-driven companies in all stages of development. The Venture I building consists of OSU and private-sector labs while the Michael S. Morgan Business Accelerator Building is designed to support and serve as an incubator for technology-based start-ups. The Technology Development Center (tdc.okstate.edu) manages OSU’s innovative technologies and other intellectual property for the benefit of the University and the public. In carrying out this mission, personnel work with faculty, staff, administrators and students to protect OSU’s intellectual property and license it to commercial firms. Cowboy Technologies (cowboytechllc.com) is a for-profit, limited-liability company within OSURF with the mission to be a catalyst for commercializing university inventions. The company goals run parallel with that of OSU’s land-grant mission of taking University research from “Campus to Community.”

Research Centers and Facilities

OSU has multiple research centers and facilities across the Stillwater campus and throughout the state.

The NSF Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPScor) program leads a statewide initiative that conducts cutting edge research while building Oklahoma’s talent pipeline in STEM fields (http://okepscor.org).

The Oklahoma Center for Respiratory and Infectious Diseases (ocrid.okstate.edu) works toward understanding and treatment of a major health problem in the U.S.

The Center for Integrative Research on Childhood Adversity (circaok.com), a collaboration between OSU and the OSU Center for Health Sciences in Tulsa, is establishing the linkages between childhood difficulties and later physical health.

The Unmanned Systems Research Institute brings together researchers from all over the university and the state to advance unmanned aerial systems and related technologies and applications.

The Robert M. Kerr Food & Agricultural Products Center provides large and small businesses, producers and entrepreneurs access to faculty and staff with expertise in business and technical disciplines. The FAPC seeks to develop successful value-added enterprises in Oklahoma.

The Helmerich Advanced Technology Research Center is a state-of-the-art research, development, testing and education center located on the OSU-Tulsa campus. Faculty from mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and materials science and engineering work collaboratively there on research and graduate education.

The Henry Bellmon Research Center houses six of OSU’s leading interdisciplinary research programs: synthetic chemistry, biodiversity, biophysics, photonics, bioforensics and biogeophysics. These are but a few of OSU’s research centers and facilities; for other examples and more detailed information, visit https://research.okstate.edu/.

Outreach

Oklahoma State University’s long and proud tradition of excellence in outreach and community engagement is rooted in its beginnings
as a land grant institution. That heritage is demonstrated through engagement in the hundreds of educational and research programs seeking to solve problems and help people thrive in the state, nation and around the world. Every college on the OSU campus is engaged in outreach programs (https://outreach.okstate.edu/) that include noncredit professional development, education opportunities for young children to the elderly, and technical assistance services to support business and economic growth.

**Office of Individual Study**

OSU Individual Study undergraduate courses provide a self-paced, independent, and online format for students with full-time work, family, or military responsibilities. Individual Study students may be in-state, out of state or out of country students. OSU students can choose either a twelve-month or semester-long format. All other students enroll in the yearlong courses which have open start dates so students may begin a course anytime they wish. Courses are delivered through the OSU learning management system, Canvas; however, students who do not have Internet access can participate in courses using print-based materials.

Call 405-744-6390 or visit is.okstate.edu (http://is.okstate.edu) to browse classes, tuition rate and enrollment information. For information on all OSU online courses and degrees, visit osuonline.okstate.edu (http://osuonline.okstate.edu), call 405-744-1000, or email osuonline@okstate.edu.

**Accreditation**

Oklahoma State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Programs within the colleges also hold area accreditation. The HLC may be reached at:

230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411
Phone: 800.621.7440/312.263.0456
Fax: 312.263.7462
info@hlcommission.org

In the Ferguson College of Agriculture, the undergraduate program in biochemistry and molecular biology is accredited by the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. The undergraduate forestry ecology and management option of the natural resource ecology and management major is accredited by the Society of American Foresters. The landscape architecture program (Bachelor of Landscape Architecture) is accredited by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). The landscape management program is accredited by the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP). The professional education program in agricultural education is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) formerly known as the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). In addition, the undergraduate biosystems engineering program is accredited by Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of ABET as a component of associated engineering programs in the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology.

In the College of Arts and Sciences, the chemistry program is certified by the American Chemical Society; the program in communication sciences and disorders is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology; the School of Media and Strategic Communications, which offers programs in multimedia journalism, sports media, and strategic communication, is accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC); the Clinical Laboratory Sciences program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences; the Department of Music is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music; the program in clinical psychology is accredited by the American Psychological Association; and the Department of Theatre is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

In the College of Education and Human Sciences, the Aviation Management and Professional Pilot options are accredited by the Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI). The counseling psychology and school psychology programs are both accredited by the American Psychological Association. The school counseling and community counseling programs are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). The school psychology program is also accredited by the National Association of School Psychologists. The Recreational Therapy Program is accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Recreational Therapy Education (CARTE) through the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), which is accredited by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The Recreation Management program is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism, and Related Professions (COAPT), COAPT which is accredited by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). All Professional Education programs are accredited through the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) formerly named the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) has accredited the undergraduate interior design program. The pre-production and the production management apparel curricula is endorsed by the American Apparel and Footwear Association (AAFA) Education Foundation, making it one of only 13 approved programs in North America. The Child Development Laboratory is licensed by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (DHS) and has received a Three Star Differential Quality Certification from the Department of Human Services. The Child Development Lab School is also accredited by the accrediting branch of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Program approval has been granted to the early childhood education program by the Oklahoma State Board of Education. The Early Childhood Education program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). The Family and Consumer Sciences Education program has been accredited by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation in cooperation with the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). The Marriage and Family Therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. The Didactic Program in Dietetics and the Dietetic Internship at OSU are both currently granted continuing accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, ph. 312.899.0040 ext. 5400.

In the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology, bachelor’s degree programs are accredited by nationally recognized accreditation organizations. Programs in aerospace engineering, architectural engineering, biosystems engineering, chemical engineering, civil engineering, computer engineering, electrical engineering, industrial engineering and management, and mechanical engineering are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of ABET http://www.abet.org. Programs in construction engineering technology, electrical engineering technology, fire protection and safety technology, and mechanical engineering technology are accredited by the
General Education at Oklahoma State University provides students general knowledge, skills and attitudes conducive to lifelong learning in a complex society. Specifically, general education at Oklahoma State University is intended to construct a broad foundation for the student’s specialized course of study; develop the student’s ability to read, observe and listen with comprehension; enhance the student’s skills in communicating effectively; expand the student’s capacity for critical analysis and problem solving; assist the student in understanding and respecting diversity in people, beliefs and societies; and develop the student’s ability to appreciate and function in the human and natural environment.

Every general education course is aligned with one of four content areas: analytical and quantitative thought (A), humanities (H), natural sciences (N), and social and behavioral sciences (S). In addition, OSU students must participate in an international dimension course (I) and in natural sciences courses that include a lab component and have a scientific investigation (L) designation. Beginning in Fall 2008 all new students will also complete a diversity (D) course. A course is qualified to be part of the general education curriculum if it meets the needs of students in all disciplines without requiring extensive specialized skills and satisfies all the criteria for a specific general education area. The criteria for each general education area follow:

- Analytical and quantitative thought (A) courses incorporate the study of systems of logic and the mathematical sciences and place primary emphasis on the development of the intellect through inductive and/or deductive processes. Their aim is broader than proficiency in techniques and includes appreciation of how the processes can supplement intuition and provide ways to analyze concrete problems. Requirements of "A" courses are to prepare students to critically analyze and solve problems using quantitative, geometric or logical models; form inferences using logical systems and mathematical information and communicate them effectively; and give appropriate multiple representations (symbolical, visual, graphical, numerical or verbal) of logical or mathematical information.

- Humanities (H) courses concentrate on the expression, analysis and interpretation of ideas and the aesthetics or values that have formed and informed individual and societies. Requirements of "H" courses are to prepare students to critically analyze the relationships of aesthetics, ideas, or cultural values to historic and contemporary cultures; develop an understanding of how ideas, events, arts or texts shape diverse individual identities; and demonstrate their understanding through written work that provides them the opportunity to enhance their writing skills.

- Contemporary international culture (I) courses prepare students for engaged citizenship in today’s global society through understanding of cultural perspectives outside the United States. Requirements of "I" courses are to prepare students to examine current interactions of groups or cultures external to the United States within their political, economic, ideological, or natural contexts; understand how current international cultures relate to complex systems related to oppression, political ideology, globalization, or other similar dynamics; and demonstrate their understanding through written work that provides them the opportunity to enhance their writing skills.

- Scientific investigation (L) courses include the equivalent of at least one semester credit hour of physical or biological laboratory experience aimed at evaluating scientific hypotheses through the scientific inquiry process. Requirements of "L" courses are to prepare students to critically analyze scientific problems, formulate hypotheses, conduct appropriate experiments, and summarize...
and interpret results; and communicate procedures, results and conclusions through written work appropriate to the discipline.

- Natural science (N) courses feature the systematic study of physical or biological processes and the mechanisms and consequences of human intervention in those processes. Requirements of "N" courses are to prepare students to understand the scientific inquiry process; critically analyze the physical world using the language and concepts of science; use the methodologies and models of science to define, evaluate, and solve problems in physical and biological sciences; understand the consequences of human intervention in physical and biological processes and mechanisms; and demonstrate their ability to communicate in a manner appropriate to the discipline through written assignments.

- Social and behavioral sciences (S) courses propose theoretical constructs based on empirical observation (including quantitative or qualitative methods) to explain human behavior and society in social and/or physical environments. Requirements of "S" courses are to prepare students to critically analyze generalizations about society and explore theoretical structures; understand the role of empirical observation using quantitative or qualitative methods in the social and behavioral sciences; and demonstrate their understanding through written work that provides them the opportunity to enhance their writing skills.

- Diversity (D) courses prepare students for engaged citizenship in the diverse, multicultural society of the United States. Requirements of "D" courses are to prepare students to reflect on identity through the examination of one or more underrepresented groups (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, social class, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation) in present day United States; to examine the ways underrepresented groups define and express themselves and the context in which these definitions are constructed; to critically analyze theories and systems of cultural, societal, political, or economic power; and demonstrate their understanding through written work that provides them the opportunity to enhance their writing skills.

Athletic Programs Mission

Oklahoma State University is committed to providing regionally and nationally competitive athletics programs as an integral part of the overall educational mission of the University. Sponsored programs comply with the highest recognized standards of the institution and the athletic governing bodies. Intercollegiate athletics operate in harmony with the University's stated mission and are committed to the intellectual, cultural, physical and social development of the student-athletes as individuals. Opportunities for student-athletes are provided without discrimination. OSU is a member of the highly competitive Big 12 Conference.

Facilities

The OSU campus is one of exceptional beauty with its many modified Georgian-style buildings set against immaculate landscaping. The main campus encompasses more than 200 permanent buildings on 840 acres. Notable facilities include the Edmon Low Library (https://go.okstate.edu/about-osu/traditions/edmon-low-library.html), one of the largest in the Southwest, and Old Central, the university's first permanent structure on campus. Lovingly restored, Old Central continues to hold court on the southeast side of campus as it houses the Honors College.

OSU boasts an extremely comprehensive Student Union (https://union.okstate.edu/). Thanks to a $63 million facelift, the Student Union offers greatly enhanced facilities and services to students. Leadership & Campus Life (https://lc1.okstate.edu/) is prominently located on the second floor, and dining options have been enhanced and expanded. The Student Services Center in the Union houses the Bursar (https://bursar.okstate.edu/), Registrar (https://registrar.okstate.edu/), Scholarship and Financial Aid (https://go.okstate.edu/scholarships-financial-aid/), University College Advising (https://universitycollege.okstate.edu/ucu/), Undergraduate Admissions (https://go.okstate.edu/admissions/) and New Student Orientation and Enrollment (https://firstyearsuccess.okstate.edu/) in one convenient location. In 2016, the Student Union's Atherton Hotel (https://www.athertonhotelatoksu.com/) received a major renovation that enlarged its rooms and upgraded its accommodations.

In 2006, OSU launched its campus Master Plan 2025, calling for more than $850 million in projects to improve facilities in four areas: academics, student life, infrastructure and athletics. The historic, far-reaching plan continues to transform the OSU campus.

Newest Additions

The McKnight Center for the Performing Arts (https://mcknightcenter.org/Online/default.asp?doWork::WScontent::loadArticle=Load&BOparam::WScontent::loadArticle::article_id=C22E-484B-84A0-6454E9B59213) is a world-class epicenter for the arts, attracting celebrated national and international programs featuring notable productions and artists. The New York Philharmonic opened the McKnight's 2019-2020 season. The center will allow the university and the center's supporters to express — and be recognized for — their passion for the arts on a global stage. The 93,000-square-foot facility opened in 2019 along the southwest corner of University Avenue and Hester Street, boasting 1100 seats in the Performance Hall and 250 in the Recital Hall. The 1,000-seat outdoor plaza features a massive, high-definition screen that can show events taking place inside the Performing Arts Center or telecasts from around the world.

The Michael and Anne Greenwood School of Music (https://music.okstate.edu/) will be a premier music education facility that harnesses the synergy of research, talent and incomparable hands-on learning experiences available only at Oklahoma State University. The building is set to open in 2021, thanks to lead donors Michael and Anne Greenwood. The Greenwood School of Music's proximity to The McKnight Center for the Performing Arts will amplify and leverage opportunities, including master classes, for students and faculty to interact with world-class musicians. Music laboratories, classrooms and teaching studios will be equipped with the latest technology for high-level studio production.

The new Ray and Linda Booker OSU Flight Center (https://news.okstate.edu/articles/education-health-aviation/2020/osu-announces-new-ray-linda-booker-flight-center.html) is a $6 million replacement facility will serve as a premiere resource for students pursuing degrees in aviation education. The 11,600-square-foot facility will include private rooms for individual flight debriefings between students and flight instructors and encourage on-site group instruction and discussions. Additional advances to the student learning experience include space for state-of-the-art simulator technology, dispatch space and student common areas.

DASNR's new Greenhouse Learning Center (http://oaes.okstate.edu/station-enhancements/greenhouse-learning-center/) opened in August of 2019 and serves students in Oklahoma State University's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources in a new facility that will better prepare them to enter the professional workforce. The Greenhouse
Learning Center, a $6 million facility, will replace and improve functions of OSU's existing teaching greenhouses that have been in use for decades. Greenleaf Nursery, one of North America’s largest wholesale nursery growers and long-time partner and supporter of OSU’s horticulture programs, has committed $1 million toward this new project. The Greenhouse Learning Center will feature six greenhouses, including an isolated entomology greenhouse, and head house, which includes a classroom, office space and plant-preparation area, as well as storage space for soil, equipment and chemicals such as fertilizer and pest-management materials. A large foyer will provide space for student club meetings. It also will house cutting-edge irrigation systems, intense climate and humidity control and other technology standard in today’s horticulture industry.

The Boone Pickens School of Geology dedicated the new Gary F. Stewart Core Research Facility (https://bpsgpetroleum.okstate.edu/news/349-core-facility/) in November 2019. The facility will serve as a “one-stop shop” for treatment, storage and analysis of core samples (cylindrical rock samples obtained by drilling), a needed service in the region. The building includes a grinding and polishing lab, thin section preparation, an area designated for coloring, porosity and permeability, significant layout and review space, as well as office space and a conference room. More than a repository, the facility houses active research. It is located in the northwest section of campus, near the corner of McElroy Road and North Willis Street.

Research
As a land-grant university, Oklahoma State is a leader in research of all kinds with the facilities to make that possible. ENDEAVOR (https://ceat.okstate.edu/endeavor/) opened in fall 2018. The 72,000-square-foot lab in the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology is the only one of its kind in the U.S. and is dedicated to immersive undergraduate learning experiences. It’s the glass-and-steel embodiment of a new era in undergraduate engineering learning, where walls no longer exist between disciplines, and individual expertise is melded into interdisciplinary teams. Donors paid for more than half of the $35 million cost to build it, and students changed their fees to ensure it would be staffed, accessible and open for their innovations.

The impressive Henry Bellmon Research Center (https://hbrc.okstate.edu/) opened in 2010. The $70 million building, the largest project in the state’s Capitol Bond Program, provides state-of-the-art laboratory space for a wide range of disciplines and encourages collaborative research. In spring 2015, OSU opened the Bert Cooper Engineering Laboratory (https://go.okstate.edu/undergraduate-academics/majors/civil-engineering.html) for structures and materials engineering with a new geothermal systems for energy efficiency.

The grand opening of EXCELSIOR (https://news.okstate.edu/articles/engineering-architecture-technology/2019/ceat_celebrates_grand_opening_of_excelsior.html), an unmanned systems innovation laboratory, was celebrated on Nov. 2, 2019. The new lab houses multi-disciplinary research and education programs for the Unmanned Systems Research Institute in the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology. The facility offers a recognized emphasis in instruction and research in unmanned aircraft systems and supplies hands-on analysis, design, construction and flight testing of UAS platforms. Students focus on projects that include flight testing and operations. Research opportunities include UAS design, aerodynamics, flight path management and airspace integration, sense and avoid, controls, structures, aeroacoustics, propulsion, communications and operations, and sensors and payloads.

Academics
Providing the quality facilities for a foundation of success for our students is an overarching goal at Oklahoma State. From smaller renovations to update buildings to constructing new facilities, academic buildings are well cared for as part of the overall building plan.

A historic gift from alumni Kayleen and Larry Ferguson (https://osugiving.com/new-frontiers/) in January 2020 launched a New Frontiers fundraising campaign to create a state-of-the-art research, extension and teaching facility for the Ferguson College of Agriculture. Architectural planning and programming are underway for the new facility, which will be located north of the Henry Bellmon Research Center on the east side of Monroe Street. The new facility will include innovative and flexible teaching and research laboratories, dynamic classrooms, faculty offices, robust student service programs and a variety of strategically planned spaces to encourage collaboration, development of new OSU Extension programming and a sense of community. The university is expected to break ground on the building in 2021, with an expected completion date of fall 2023.

The new home for the Spears School of Business (https://business.okstate.edu/) on Hester Street opened in spring 2018. The $72 million building is unique in design and shape, a “Crescent Masterpiece” that brings all of Spears Business together for now and in the future. Spears Business is designed to promote collaboration and hands-on, experiential learning to best prepare graduates for success in the modern workplace.

The north wing of the Human Sciences building opened in fall 2016 and houses Department of Design, Housing and Merchandising lab spaces as well as Hospitality and Tourism Management. Also in 2016, OSU opened a new veterinary medicine academic center and the Charles and Linda Cline Equine Teaching Center (http://afs.okstate.edu/about/facilities/equine/).

In 2014, the Library Auxiliary building on the west side of campus opened to handle printed volumes and free space in Edmon Low Library to better meet the study and online research needs of today’s students.


Athletics
One of the most tradition-rich programs in college baseball has a new state-of-the-art home. O’Brate Stadium (https://okstate.com/sports/2020/1/29/o-brate-stadium.aspx) was scheduled to hold its first game in March 2020, but the unveiling to Cowboy fans was delayed due to the battle against the coronavirus. The revolutionary facility features an expansive clubhouse and operations center, including a “training triangle” with an indoor facility, pitching lab and practice infield. The ballpark includes 3,500 permanent seats that can be expanded to 8,000 as needed.

The renovation of the west end of Boone Pickens Stadium (https://okstate.com/sports/2015/6/18/GEN_0618155302.aspx) created one of the premier collegiate football facilities in the country. The university also completed several athletic projects north of Boone Pickens Stadium. OSU opened the Sherman E. Smith Training Center for indoor training and
a new outdoor track in 2013. The Michael and Anne Greenwood Tennis Center opened in early 2014. The new tennis center features six indoor and 12 outdoor courts and is one of the leading collegiate tennis facilities in the country.

Gallagher-Iba Arena (https://okstate.com/sports/2015/3/17/GEN_2014010157.aspx) continues to be a staple of athletics at OSU. In 2001, the university constructed the new Athletic Center on the site of Gallagher-Iba. The top of the original building was removed, and the Athletic Center was built completely over and around Gallagher-Iba, expanding its seating to approximately 13,600. Historic Gallagher-Iba continues to exist as the arena within the Athletic Center.

Women's Soccer has a new home. In 2018, the Cowgirls played their first season in Neal Patterson Stadium (https://okstate.com/sports/2015/3/17/GEN_2014010156.aspx). The $20-million project is a showcase for college soccer with club seats, plaza and upper bowl gathering areas and a north end zone terrace area and seating designed specifically for OSU students. Team facilities include locker rooms, meeting areas, kitchen facilities, sports medicine areas and equipment rooms. A crowd of more than 4,000 was on hand for the stadium dedication and initial match.

After undergoing extensive upgrades, the OSU Cross Country Course (https://okstate.com/sports/2015/3/17/GEN_20140101115.aspx) opened in its current form in 2019, when OSU hosted the NCAA Midwest Regional Championship. The course now features state-of-the-art drainage and is equipped to host major national events such as the NCAA Cross Country Championships, which will be contested in Stillwater in 2020.

Karsten Creek (https://okstate.com/sports/2015/3/17/GEN_2014010154.aspx) has been consistently ranked as one of the best college golf courses in the country and has hosted multiple NCAA events, including two national championship tournaments. Karsten Creek once again played host to the nation’s best with the NCAA Division I Men’s and Women’s Golf Championships in 2018.

Life
At OSU, we also have an eye on comfortable and convenient living, ranging from residence halls and transportation to incorporating art into the campus. The university has been on the forefront of replacing outdated residential halls with apartments and suite-style accommodations for nearly two decades. Multiple upgrades have opened, giving on-campus students new opportunities for better living and community within the halls.

The University Commons (https://offcampushousing.okstate.edu/property/view/listingid/311274/), a traditional-style residence hall, opened for the fall 2015 semester. Located north of the Colvin Center on Hall of Fame Avenue, the facility was enhanced a year later with the nearby North Dining Facility, which features seven distinctive dining choices that offer a focus on healthy, fresh options.

Parking and Transportation (https://parking.okstate.edu/) have also seen significant changes in recent years. The Multimodal Transportation Terminal and 1,100-space Monroe Street Garage opened in the fall of 2009. The facilities provide a central point of contact for the various modes of transportation serving OSU-Stillwater and its branch campuses, as well as the community and surrounding areas. OSU has added two more multilevel parking garages — the Wentz Lane Garage opened on the southwest corner of campus in the spring of 2013, and the Fourth Avenue Garage opened in fall of 2016 adjacent to the McKnight Center for the Performing Arts. OSU has expanded campus bus service for both the Stillwater community and the OSU-Stillwater campus. To reduce energy costs and emissions, OSU converted its entire fleet of campus buses to compressed natural gas in 2010.

From stunning sculptures enlivening the Stillwater campus of Oklahoma State University to striking landscaping designed to welcome one and all, art is taking its place in the public realm — some of it in America’s Brightest Orange. President Burns Hargis and First Cowgirl Ann Hargis have been leading the charge, transforming the university into a regional cultural hub.

Under their leadership, the university has seen the installation of pieces from renowned sculptor Allan Houser (https://news.okstate.edu/articles/communications/2018/allan-housersculpture-gift-elevates-osu-public-art-initiative.html); yearlong exhibitions by Bill Barrett, (https://museum.okstate.edu/) the commemoration of Nancy Randolph Davis (https://humansciences.okstate.edu/about-us/randolph-davis-sculpture.html), the first African-American to attend the university when it was Oklahoma A&M College; and many more. The sculptures co-exist with the brick-and-mortar architectural landscape and integrate art into everyday life. OSU opened its Postal Plaza Gallery in 2014 as the home of the OSU Museum of Art (https://museum.okstate.edu/), showcasing the university’s extensive art collection and strengthening its connection to downtown Stillwater.

Infrastructure
OSU completed work on a state-of-the-art Central Plant to replace its inefficient 1940s power plant. The facility will reduce OSU’s environmental footprint, save energy costs and feature an 80-person classroom.

The first phase of a campus wide electrical upgrade project across campus has also been completed. The upgrade replaced aged underground piping and cabling that served many buildings’ electrical power. In addition to the underground infrastructure, Facilities Management (https://fm.okstate.edu/) is also nearing the completion of a new power distribution center, otherwise known as the PDC. The PDC acts as an indoor switching station between two OG&E substations, that allows power to be distributed throughout campus. These infrastructure projects provide more capacity, offer better resiliency, and renew the life of the electrical system serving campus for decades to come.

OSU is a leader in network computing resources. The university has applied the student technology fee in concert with other resources to create a second-to-none networking system on campus that includes maintenance of large-scale computer laboratories, high speed inter-laboratory connectivity and a virtually seamless interface to the internet across campus.

Improvements continue in the university’s outdoor spaces as well, and a landscape architectural master plan (https://fm.okstate.edu/about-us/landscape/landscape_site_files/documents/osu_landscape_master_plan_2012.pdf) developed in 2010 is guiding those efforts. Major east-west streets Hall of Fame Avenue and University Avenue have been greatly updated, and the university has completed a total redesign and reconstruction of Monroe Street, which runs north-south through the heart of the campus. A series of landscape projects near student residential facilities have occurred in recent years. In the summer of 2005, the Edmon Low Library plaza was restored by installing a new surface on the main upper plaza and the lower area. Completed in 2013, Legacy Walk provides a scenic pedestrian thoroughfare in front of the library, connecting to Hester and Monroe streets. In the fall of 2016,
OSU unveiled an impressive Welcome Plaza (https://news.okstate.edu/articles/communications/2018/osu-wins-keep-oklahoma-beautiful-award-welcome-plaza.html) outside the southeast corner of the Student Union. The plaza is an inviting garden area featuring statues of a galloping mare and her foal.

**Other Facilities of Note**

Lake Carl Blackwell (https://lcb.okstate.edu/), located eight miles west of Stillwater, is owned by OSU. The area includes approximately 3,350 acres bordering the 3,000-acre lake that provides the water supply for OSU. It is also used for research activities in addition to being a popular regional recreational area.