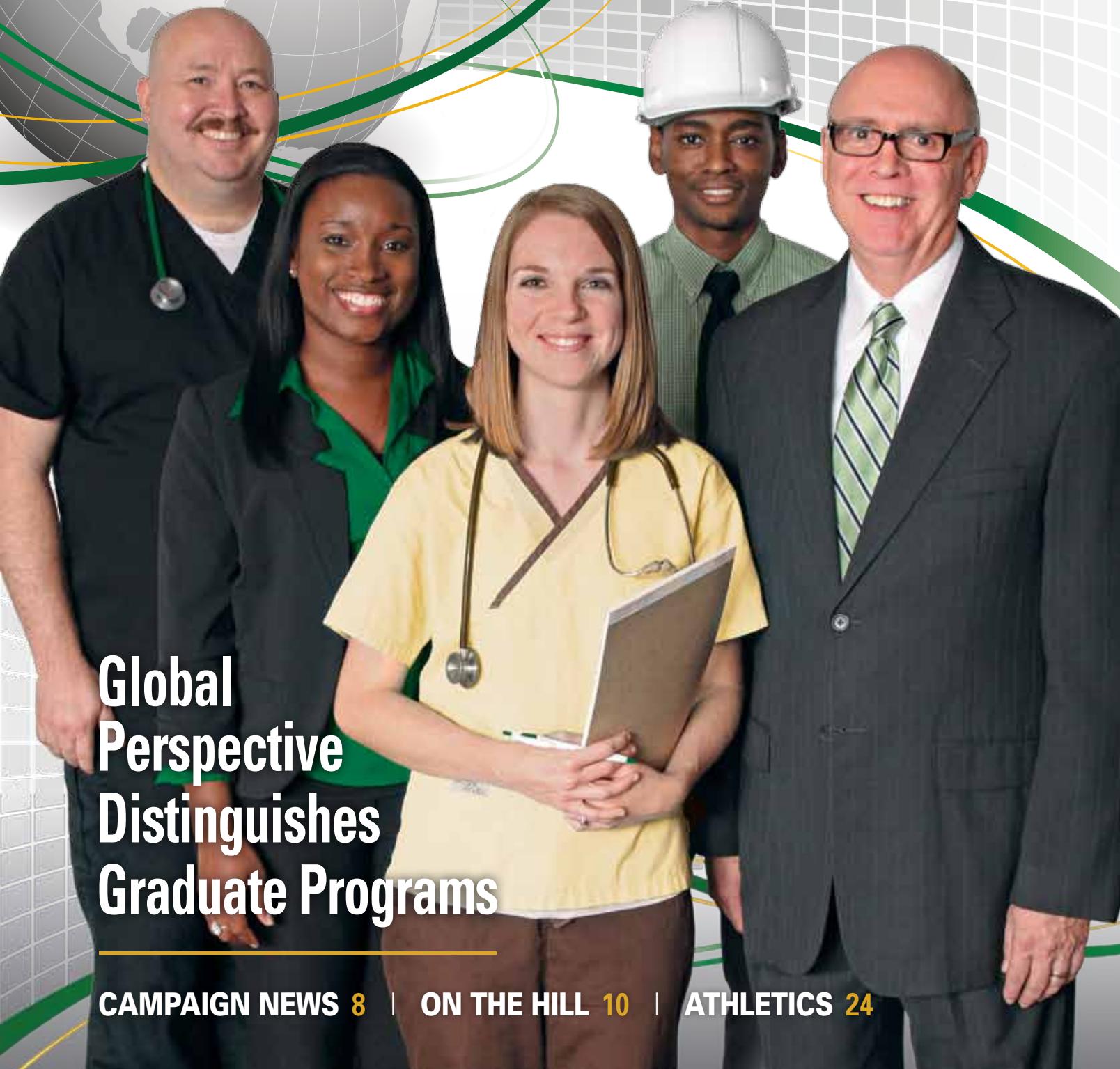


SUMMER/FALL 2012

OBU magazine

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OKLAHOMA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



**Global
Perspective
Distinguishes
Graduate Programs**

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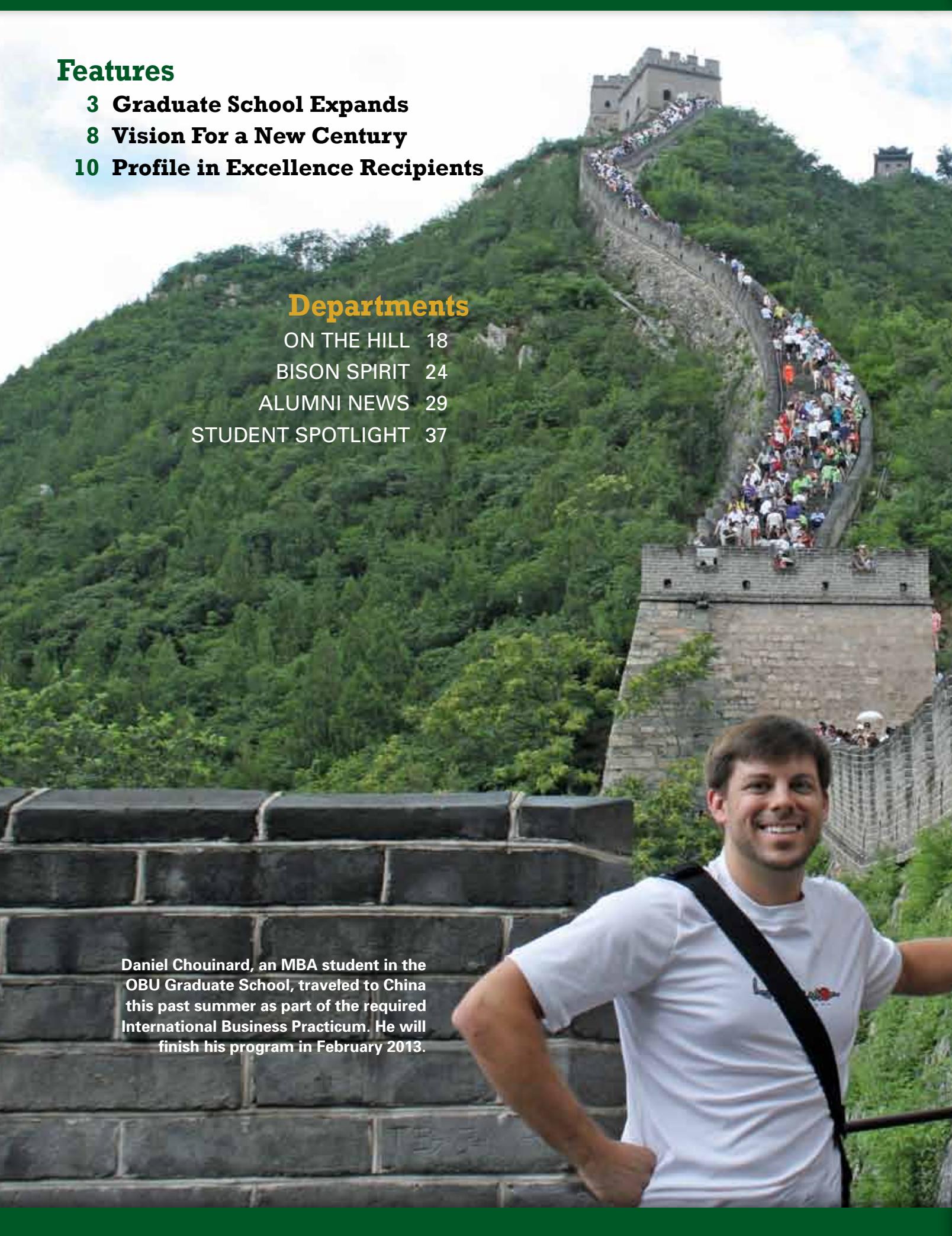
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Daniel Chouinard, an MBA student in the OBU Graduate School, traveled to China this past summer as part of the required International Business Practicum. He will finish his program in February 2013.



OBU

magazine

SUMMER/FALL 2012 | VOLUME 8, NUMBER 1

OBU MAGAZINE STAFF

Editor

Dr. R. Stanton Norman

Managing Editor

Paula Gower

Writers

Ray Fink, Hannah Henderson,
Julie McGowan

Art Director/Graphics

Chele Marker-Cash

Photographers

William Pope, Ryan Weaver

View OBU Magazine Online

www.okbu.edu/magazine

Contact OBU Magazine

obumagazine@okbu.edu
405.585.5410

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

President

Dr. David W. Whitlock

Provost and Executive Vice President for Campus Life

Dr. R. Stanton Norman

Executive Vice President for Business and Administrative Services

Randy L. Smith

Vice President for University Advancement

Will Smallwood

CONTACT INFORMATION

(area code 405)

Academic Center.....	585.5100
Admissions.....	585.5000
Alumni	878.2706
Business Office.....	585.5130
Campus Ministry	585.5700
Career Services.....	585.5260
Mabee Learning Center	585.4500
President's Office.....	585.5801
Residential Life	585.5253
Student Development	585.5250
Student Financial Services	585.5020
Switchboard	275.2850
University Advancement.....	878.2703
University Communications	585.5410

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As another fall semester begins on Bison Hill, we are celebrating the lives God has assembled here for such a time as this. Joined by faculty, staff and students from all over the world, we treasure the opportunity to gather to pursue academic excellence, to integrate faith with all areas of knowledge, to engage a diverse world and to live worthy of the high calling of God in Christ.

Our shared mission is a sacred trust, born of the University's founders, maintained through 102 years of diligent sacrifice and toil of faculty and staff, and made possible by the One in whom all things hold together.



OBU's founders envisioned a Christian liberal arts curriculum preparing Christian catalysts in education, science, commerce, arts, ministry and all areas of society and culture. They dreamed of a university built upon the Christian intellectual tradition integrating mind, body and soul as opposed to secular models that provide education devoid of the great answers found in a personal relationship with Jesus, the Creator and Author of all truth and knowledge.

Our purpose in higher education at a distinctively Christian university is to reach higher, to settle for nothing less than excellence. Advancing our mission, be it in our role as faculty or students, is to embrace Christ's commandment to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

OBU has as its noble calling the responsibility to transform lives through the great Christian intellectual tradition – to teach and learn and investigate, to understand and appreciate the world around us. Our students are challenged to study and dig deep into their disciplines, to become the best they can be in their chosen fields, to demonstrate excellence to the world around them and, in so doing, to bring honor to Christ.

Our commitment to the pursuit of academic excellence extends from Bison Hill to our Graduate School in Oklahoma City. In this issue, you'll read about how the OBU Graduate School is expanding to serve more students and how those students are gaining a global perspective through an international business practicum in East Asia.

You will also read about our Vision For A New Century Capital Campaign and about some of those who have joined us to help marshal the resources needed to strengthen academic programs, expand student scholarships and construct new facilities that will enable OBU to continue to fulfill its mission. We are grateful for these partners and for you, our alumni and friends. Keep us in your prayers. What we do matters.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Wesley Whitlock".

David Wesley Whitlock
OBU President



Grad School Introduces

- **Global Nursing Track**
- **Energy Track**
- **Marriage and Family Therapy Degree**

“The OBU Graduate School is here to help people become leaders in their professions and have an impact in the lives of others.”

Dr. Scott Harris
Director, OBU Graduate School

In August, the OBU Graduate School launched two new tracks in its existing master's degree in nursing education and master's degree in business administration, and it received approval to add a master's degree in marriage and family therapy in 2013.

The new tracks provide a global approach to nursing and a focus on energy in business.

“OBU has a strong history of providing relevant preparation for our students,” said OBU President David W. Whitlock. “In keeping with that history, these new graduate tracks offer educational resources for fields which are rapidly growing in importance.”

The Higher Learning Commission confirmed the addition of the two new tracks as part of OBU's accredited master's degree programs.

"With the growth of the energy industry in Oklahoma, we believe our MBA energy track will equip our graduates to provide entrepreneurial leadership from a Christian worldview for this ever-growing industry," said Dr. Stan Norman, OBU provost and executive vice president for campus life. "As occasions for global engagement continue to develop, the graduates of our MSN global nursing track will be uniquely prepared to provide the highest quality of health care for diverse contexts as well as minister to the spiritual needs of their patients. We believe both programs hold great promise and are appropriate expressions of the mission of OBU."

The **global nursing track** of the MSN degree is a 39-hour program, said Dr. Lana Bolhouse, dean of OBU's College of Nursing. The curriculum includes a focus on global issues in nursing, international health problems, international nursing roles and international health organizations, as well as a practicum either outside the United States or with international people groups within the U.S.

"This degree would be helpful for nurses interested in a nursing career in missions or work with international groups," Bolhouse said.

The MBA degree with an **emphasis in energy** is a 36-hour degree, said Dr. David Houghton, dean of OBU's Paul Dickinson College of Business. Courses specific to the energy track include "21st Century Global Energy Environment and

Issues," "Organizational Leadership in Energy Firms" and "Financial Analysis and Management for the Energy Industry."

"Students who complete the program will have the managerial breadth of an MBA while also gaining depth in an industry that is highly relevant to our Oklahoma economy," Houghton said.

The Higher Learning Commission also approved the addition of a marriage and family therapy degree. Studies in OBU's marriage and family therapy (MFT) degree program will commence with the fall 2013 semester under the direction of Dr. Canaan Crane, assistant professor of psychology at OBU. Crane earned a bachelor's degree at OBU in 1997 and a master's degree at OBU in 2000.

The marriage and family therapy graduate program will extend the existing mission of the undergraduate programs into a technical degree program which will equip marriage and family therapists for Christian service in churches, agencies, on the mission field and in private practice. OBU's MFT graduate program will

serve as a "mission-critical" initiative by preparing competent professionals who will apply their Christian faith to help a diverse and hurting world.

"The OBU Graduate School is here to help people become leaders in their professions and have an impact in the lives of others," said Dr. Scott Harris, director of the Graduate School. "The addition of the MFT program demonstrates our continued commitment to serve the needs of professionals here in Oklahoma and beyond."

The **marriage and family therapy** master's degree will be a 45-hour program and will meet requirements for licensure as a marriage and family therapist in the state of Oklahoma. A thesis option is planned for students continuing work towards a doctorate.

OBU previously offered an MFT graduate program in partnership with Christian Family Institute in Tulsa, Okla. The first cohort of students enrolled in 1993. In 2003, enrollment for the MFT program was suspended due to transitions in program leadership. The final class graduated in spring 2005.



1 **Henry Davis** is a student in the master of science in nursing education degree program and will graduate in 2013.

2 **Ann Gray** earned a master of business administration degree in international business in 2012.

3 **Lacey Thompson** earned a master of science in nursing education degree in 2012.

4 **Sinclair Williams** is a student in the master of business administration in energy management degree program and will graduate in 2013.

5 **Dr. Rich Rudebeck**, OBU associate professor of business, teaches in the master of business administration program at the Graduate School.



Students from the OBU Graduate School of Business recently completed an international business practicum in Shanghai, China. This international business experience is a distinctive feature of the master's of business administration degree.



Graduate Students Gain Global Perspective in China

In a world where information is immediate and technology changes at a supersonic speed, a global mindset is mandatory for successful business ventures.

At the OBU Graduate School, an international business practicum in East Asia was an integral part of the curriculum for current MBA candidates.

Eighteen students working toward masters of business administration degrees through the OBU Graduate School traveled to Shanghai, Hangzhou and Beijing, China, July 7-15, to expand their business worldviews through the practicum. Led by adjunct professor Trish Zylstra, the group interacted with executives from international companies in China.

"Being that now just about every company and organization has some form of international makeup, this trip forced us to consider the international aspects of our industries and our world," said Scott Timmons, an MBA student from Shawnee, Okla. "China is especially unique due to its size, presence on the world stage, and a thought process that is very much foreign to Western thought."

Rubbing shoulders with executives and learning the cultural customs of the country offered the students an opportunity to discover what it

would be like to conduct business transactions in a foreign country.

"The purpose of the trip was to help students apply their book knowledge in the international business arena by visiting companies in China and exploring the possible ways to do business with China in their industry," Zylstra said. "On the trip, students learn business by doing business. They exchange business cards, meet prospective clients and begin forming relationships with Chinese executives."

Students visited companies – including Siemens Medical Equipment, Inventronics, Taomee Entertainment Network and the ELS Language Center – and met with executives while in China. They also were introduced to local culture, food, transportation methods, markets and business etiquette during the practicum. They traveled on a high-speed train from Shanghai to Beijing and climbed the Great Wall.



Representatives of the OBU Graduate School climbed the Great Wall of China during an international business practicum in July. They included (from left) professor Trish Zylstra and students Keli White, Scott Timmons, Eduardo Pajares, Kyle Rudek, Michael Dickinson and Fred Oraene.

During the trip, the students met with OBU President David W. Whitlock, who was traveling with executives from the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma to lead business workshops and meet with executives and entrepreneurs in China. The OBU students participated in a one-day business conference in Beijing and heard a business lecture from Whitlock.

"One of the highlights of my trip was connecting with our MBA students in Beijing," Whitlock said. "Engaging directly with students is among my favorite activities, and spending time with them was a great opportunity."

Zylstra created an exercise in Beijing in which the students visited business highlights in a contest involving speed and budgetary constraints. For MBA student Jonna Raney, from Shawnee, Okla., the exercise proved to be the most interesting and culturally educational part of the trip.

"We had several places that we had to find as teams, and we had to use all modes of public transportation and communicate with locals for directions and information," Raney said. "It gave us a good understanding of what it would be like to live in Beijing as part of the minority population."

Zylstra said the international business practicum is a unique component of the OBU Graduate School's MBA program.

"Very few programs assist students in traveling internationally to get a hands-on understanding of the global economy," Zylstra said. "The OBU Graduate School offers a distinctive (aspect) by providing students the opportunity to travel internationally to understand international business."

Timmons said from a professional standpoint, the trip forced him to think bigger than he has thought before. He said the magnitude of the surroundings was matched by the

willing spirit of the Chinese people to work with businesses in the United States.

As a business owner, Timmons said the experience provided him with multiple ideas and granted him the confidence that he is capable of making international business transactions happen as a result of the trip. The journey was an invaluable asset from his MBA studies at OBU, he said, as the global marketplace does not appear to be shrinking anytime soon.

"This business trip sets our MBA program apart," said Dr. Scott Harris, director of the OBU Graduate School. "It truly allows students to learn about international business up close and personal rather than from a cold textbook. Whether our MBA students engage in international business directly after graduation or not, their perspective on business is never the same, and that makes them a valuable asset to their companies."

Daniel Chouinard (center) and Jinglin Gao (right), students in the OBU Graduate School MBA program, discuss the cost of goods at the Panjiayuan Flea Market in Beijing, China, with a vendor. The students participated in an "Amazing Race" style event through Beijing to learn about transportation, communication and culture in China.



Graduate School Begins Classes on New Campus

The OBU Graduate School relocated in May to a larger campus at the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma building, located at 3800 N. May Ave. in Oklahoma City, from its former location in Oklahoma City's Triangle District. The new location, at the crossroads of I-44 and Lake Hefner Parkway, is easily accessible from all parts of Oklahoma City and beyond.

The Graduate School had been located in the Momentum Building at 111 N. Harrison in downtown Oklahoma City since January 2007.

"OBU's Graduate School is continuing to grow," said Dr. Scott Harris, the

school's director. "With this move, we have expanded our classroom space. This will allow for new programs to be added in the coming years. We will be able to serve the needs of our students very well in these new facilities."

Designed for working adults, the MBA degree program at the OBU Graduate School teaches students to think strategically, lead effectively and exercise power ethically in a global business world. The program includes an International Business Practicum which includes travel to a foreign country where students learn local business customs and encounter new cultures.

Students in the MSN degree program learn nursing education principles and skills in a contemporary environment. Classes meet one night a week and one Saturday per class.

Harris said the technological capabilities in the new space will continue to meet the needs of an ever-changing professional world.

"Our professors are first-rate in their instruction," Harris said. "With our new facility, we continue to match their level of quality by providing our students with an educational environment which supports their learning endeavors."



Administrators from the OBU Graduate School celebrate the Grand Opening of the school's new campus at 3800 N. May Ave. in Oklahoma City with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 11. Those cutting the ribbon included (from left) Dr. Lana Bolhouse, dean of the College of Nursing; Dr. Stan Norman, provost and executive vice president for campus life; Dr. Scott Harris, director of the OBU Graduate School; Dr. Reagan Bradford, chair of the OBU Board of Trustees; Dr. David W. Whitlock, OBU president; Dr. Anthony Jordan, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma; and Dr. Pam Robinson, associate provost and dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

vision FOR A new century

Gifts made through the Vision for a New Century Campaign will provide the resources needed to fulfill the University's Vision 2020.

THE \$42 MILLION CAMPAIGN began in May 2011 and, as of August 2012 has generated a total of \$24.9 million in gifts and pledges. OBU is thankful for the many alumni, friends and business supporters who have contributed to the campaign that will make the vision a reality for thousands of OBU students in years to come.

CAMPAIGN PROJECTS INCLUDE:

Endowment

\$16 million

Gifts to the endowment provide OBU the ability to continue to deliver the high quality learning-focused and excellence-driven academic environment for students. The endowment provides funding for student scholarships, academic chairs and professorships, campus lecture series, the honors program, the faculty sabbatical program and emerging Centers of Excellence.



Nursing and Allied Health Building

\$8 million

The OBU College of Nursing has long outgrown the current facilities provided in the Williamson Nursing Center located on the lower level of Thurmond Hall. With more than 200 nursing students, the nursing program feeds high quality health professionals into an ever-expanding growth industry. The new facility will provide the state-of-the-art education facilities needed to equip future nurses and other health care professionals.



Agee Residence Center Renovation

\$6 million

As the new student residential village on the north side of campus is opened, Agee Residence Center – formerly Brotherhood Dormitory – will be renovated to provide the campus with facilities to accommodate student organizations and greatly needed campus offices.



Student Services Center

\$6 million

Providing superior student services to current and prospective students is vital to student satisfaction, with their experience at OBU resulting in greater retention and graduation rates. The Student Services Center will allow the delivery of a variety of student services in one convenient location constructed on the north side of John Wesley Raley Chapel.



Ford Music Hall Renovation

\$3 million

A part of campus since 1951, the three-story Ford Music Hall needs significant interior renovations, a new heating and cooling system, a new roof and a card-access entry system. The building serves as the primary practice facility for students in the Division of Music containing



piano and vocal practice rooms and space for the OBU Preparatory Department classes and choral rehearsals.

W.P. Wood Science Building Expansion

\$1 million

OBU's strong programs in pre-medicine, physics, biology, mathematics and chemistry have resulted in the need for the expansion of the W.P. Wood Science Building to provide additional laboratories and enhanced classrooms. OBU science programs have produced internationally acclaimed researchers and medical school acceptance rates by graduates that are much higher than the national average.



Property and Grounds Improvement

\$2 million

An attractive environment is essential to the preservation and growth of a vibrant campus community. OBU's vision to beautify and enhance the grounds of Bison Hill provides the foundation to create a welcoming environment for students, alumni and visitors.



WAYS TO GIVE

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Deferred Gifts • Life Insurance • Securities
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Investing in Future Generations

Alumni Campaign Leadership

OBU is thankful for the following individuals who have volunteered to serve as alumni leaders for the campaign. As of July 20, 2012, alumni's gifts and pledges total \$970,168.

CAMPAIN CO-CHAIRS Dr. Robert Cargill, '51, and Sara Lou Cargill, ex '50

HONORARY CHAIRS Dr. Burton Patterson, '56
Dr. Rachael Smith Gibbs, '81
Marilyn Jones Rogers, '70

1935-49 DIVISION CHAIR LeVoe George Maxwell, '48
1935-44 VICE CHAIRS A.V. Daugherty, '39 | Dr. J.M. Gaskin, '44
1945-49 VICE CHAIRS Dr. LaVeta Ligon, '46 | Nema Melton, ex '45

1950-59 DIVISION CHAIRS Dr. Joe Skinner, '54 and,
Louise Glover Skinner, ex '54
Robert Ringwald, '57, and
Dr. Leta Schreiner Ringwald, '50
Dr. Everett Thomas, ex '51, and
Jean Lambert Thomas, ex '54
1950-54 VICE CHAIRS Shirley Stevens Coyner, ex '52
Bob Keck, '52, and Nelda Ward Keck, ex '52
1955-59 VICE CHAIRS Mary King Bailey, '58
Gaylon Dighton, '59, and
Maurine Smith Dighton, '58

1960-69 DIVISION CHAIR Judy Steiger Howard, '66
1960-64 VICE CHAIRS Elizabeth (Liz) Lee Dillard, '60
Tom Shaner, '61
1965-69 VICE CHAIRS Dr. Leon Gregston, ex '66
Dr. Richard James, '66, and
Jeanette Wilson James, ex '64

1970-79 DIVISION CHAIRS Mr. Al Clark, '71 | C. Mark Smith, '75
1970-74 VICE CHAIRS Dr. David Lester, '73, and
Bernadon Cleveland Lester, '74
1975-79 VICE CHAIR Ronda Shelton Mikles, '75
1985-89 VICE CHAIRS Lonnie Fuller, '87, and
Dr. Cynthia Robinson Fuller, '86
Gary Rhoades, '85, and Holly Hudson Rhoades, '86

1990-99 DIVISION CHAIRS Dr. Matt Kimberling, '90
Stephen Ferrell, '91
1990-94 VICE CHAIRS Cynthia Watson Gregston, '91,
Kevin Hanna, '91, and Tina Steele Hanna, '91
Noble and Rhonda McIntyre, '92
Sonny Miller, '94
1995-99 VICE CHAIRS Dr. Elizabeth Dolin, '98
Jenifer Henry-Gonzalez, '95

2000-12 VICE CHAIR Samantha Kellogg, '10

Dear OBU Alumni,

OBU provided a superior Christian education for us, our children and their spouses, preparing us for a variety of opportunities in ministry and business. For over half a century we have consistently given to OBU as our top priority as the best investment in advancing the cause of Christ around the world. Though we have supported every OBU fundraising campaign, this Vision for a New Century Campaign can lift our university to a new level.

We hope all alumni will give as generously as possible to partially repay for what others provided us, and to have a part in investing in future generations.

As co-chairs of the alumni phase of the campaign, we enthusiastically encourage every OBU former student to give as generously as possible in the Vision for a New Century Campaign for Oklahoma Baptist University.

Bob Cargill, '51, and Sara Lou Young Cargill, ex '50

Contributing to the Future of Our University

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF OBU,

We find ourselves at an exciting point in the history of Oklahoma Baptist University, a point in time where we can impact the future of OBU. A hopeful expectation for the future is evident on Bison Hill. The administration and faculty continue to provide a place of high level learning coexisting with an unashamedly Christian worldview. While immediate events impact the University now, like increased masters' degree program offerings in business and nursing or a national championship in swimming or the renewal of football on campus, it is the long-term planning for the future of OBU that is truly inspiring.

As you may be aware, this planning involves a significant upgrade to the look of the OBU campus through many building initiatives over the next decade and longer. These upgrades enhance degree programs overdue for new space such as the School of Nursing; bring modern housing to the male students on campus; offer all students a single facility to handle any need from enrolling to paying tuition to tutoring; or add curb appeal

and direction to campus for those traveling to OBU from I-40. These changes are only a whisper of the things planned for the future, and they will need significant prayer and support from the OBU community. Alumni, professors, faculty, staff, administration, students and the City of Shawnee must work together for the common goal of positioning OBU for its next 100 years of operation.

The support of alumni is critical to meeting that goal. Others met it before us, and now it is our time. The Alumni Board of Directors is committed to alumni fulfilling our role in this expansion and upgrade of campus facilities. As such, at our last meeting on Feb. 4, we decided that every member of the Board, with 100 percent participation, will give financially to the Vision for a New Century Campaign. This fundraising represents a commitment to the future of OBU. While the size of the gift may vary by those on the Board, our commitment expresses our desire to give back or sacrifice for the school that contributed to the men and women we have become. I cannot imagine the path of my life, personally or professionally, without the influence of OBU administration,



I cannot imagine the path of my life, personally or professionally, without the influence of OBU administration, OBU professors and staff or the student body that was on campus with me.

Bart Newsom, '00

OBU professors and staff or the student body that was on campus with me. Those experiences and lessons learned on Bison Hill have paid immeasurable dividends in my life. As alumni, we cannot deprive those future students of those same lessons and experiences.

My hope is that you desire to see our school continue equipping young men and women for professional excellence while adhering to biblical values. Please do not dismiss this chance to contribute to the future of our University.

– Bart Newsom



Make plans to attend the inaugural
Green and Gold Gala
featuring
TONY DUNGY
 April 9, 2013
 at the
 Tulsa Convention Center

OBU's inaugural Scholarship Gala will feature Tony Dungy, retired Super Bowl winning head coach for the Indianapolis Colts and current analyst for NBC's Football Night in America. The goal of the gala is to become OBU's primary fund raising event for its student scholarship fund.

Continued Support



OBU provided me with the academic foundation in math, science, economics and liberal arts to be successful in graduate school and in business. In addition, OBU provides many opportunities for spiritual growth, development of societal responsibilities, and having fun. We need to provide these benefits and opportunities to future OBU students.

**Richard (Dick) James, '66, and
Jeanette Wilson James, ex '64**
Alumni Campaign Division Vice Chairs



"Leaving a legacy is important. For more than 35 years, the focus of my business has been antique quilts because I treasure the legacy they represent. I also value the legacy of Oklahoma Baptist University and its impact on the lives of countless individuals for more than a century. Because we value OBU, my husband and I are pleased to invest in a scholarship in memory of my parents, John and Louise Steiger. We are confident that God is at work in the lives of students and graduates who benefit from the Steiger Scholarship, and we are grateful for the opportunity to help contribute to OBU's enduring legacy in our world."

Judy Howard, '66
Alumni Campaign Division Chair

Outstanding Alumni and Former Professors to be Recognized

During Homecoming in November, OBU will recognize outstanding honorees with five distinct honors. The Alumni Achievement Award, the Graduate of the Last Decade Award and Athletic Hall of Fame honorees will be recognized during Harvest Dinner at 6 p.m. on Nov. 9. Profile in Excellence recipients and Faculty Hall of Fame honorees will be recognized during the Homecoming Chapel service at 10 a.m. on Nov. 10.

The highest honor bestowed by the OBU Alumni Association, the **Alumni Achievement Award** is given in recognition of outstanding life service which has brought honor to the individual's alma mater. Recipients of this year's award are Dr. Debbie Collum Blue, '72, and Johnny B. Cullison, '74.

The **Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) Award** is presented to a young OBU alum who, in his or her life and career, has demonstrated outstanding achievement and brought pride and honor to the University. Dr. Caleb J. Harris, '02, will receive the GOLD Award during this year's homecoming festivities.

The **Athletic Hall of Fame** was formed to pay tribute to men and women who have helped bring honor and recognition to OBU through their achievements on the playing fields, or to those persons who, by their deeds, have made outstanding contributions to the overall athletic program. This year's recipients are Pat Brown, '05, and Quinn Wooldridge, '99.

The **Profile In Excellence Awards** are given to former students who have demonstrated recognizable accomplishments in their professions, businesses, avocations or life service in such a way as to bring pride and honor to the University. Profile in Excellence recipients include Jennifer Cloyde, '83; Joel Engle, '90; Col. Gordon Groseclose, '76; Dr. John Robert Hughes, ex '62; Tom Jordan, '70; Jami Smith King, '93; Dr. James Webb, '95; and John V. Young, '56.

The **Faculty Hall of Fame** distinction is granted by OBU to honor former faculty members who were master teachers and made a significant impact on OBU students. Faculty Hall of Fame Awards will be presented to Manoi Smith Adair, '50, professor emerita of business; Dr. Laura Crouch, professor of English; and Mary Kay Higginbotham Parrish, '62, professor emerita of music.



Jami Smith '93

Just Part of the Puzzle

Recording music in a studio on Friday and leading worship at a conference on Saturday are not parts of a typical mother's schedule. But for Jami Smith, '93, they are part of just one more exciting weekend on the calendar.

Smith is known throughout the world for her musical ability, leading worship for churches, conferences, schools and retreats, as well as having recorded a multitude of albums. Early in life, she knew she was called to this type of profession; she just wasn't sure where to start.

Like most high school graduates, when Smith graduated, she planned on attending college. She had paid her deposit and was anxiously waiting for her freshman semester to begin. However, before she left for college, her pastor at Sharon Baptist Church in Chickasha, Okla., asked if she had considered attending OBU. He encouraged her to visit the university and pray about the idea. She followed his advice and visited the campus with her mother alongside.

Throughout the campus tour, Smith felt a strong, growing conviction that this was the place for her to study, learn and grow. Her mother felt it, too.

Smith pulled her deposit from the other school and was granted a music scholarship at OBU. When classes began, she learned her professors wanted her to thrive both inside and outside the classroom. She enthusiastically involved herself in intramurals and became an "intramural fanatic," playing five sports in one semester.

During this time, God also placed influential professors, staff and friends in her life. She acknowledges her music professors, Dr. Nancy Cobb Lippens and Jim Brown, and her student minister, Odus Compton, as being huge impacts in her academic and spiritual life.



**These strict expectations
[from her professors] helped
mold Smith from an
inexperienced undergrad to
a well-known worship leader
and recording artist.**

"I grew so much during my time at OBU," Smith said. "God extended his hand and placed people around me that had such a vibrant relationship with God, and I wanted that, too."

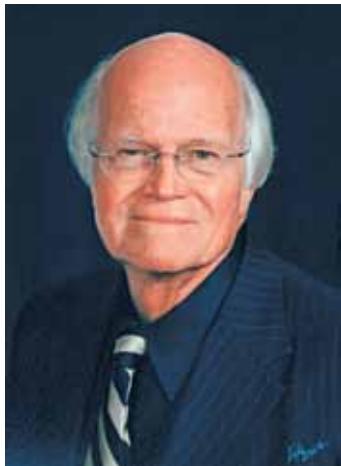
Her professors pushed her to always do her best. Any work submitted that was partly done, or where she had not given her best effort, was unacceptable. These strict expectations helped mold Smith from an inexperienced undergrad to a well-known worship leader

and recording artist who has traveled the world for the last 20 years.

"I never get used to the fact that when I'm leading worship, I'm helping petition a holy God," Smith said. "That is such a powerful gift."

"I never want to take for granted that I get to be a part of a life-changing experience for people. When I'm leading worship, I want to become a forgotten person, a part of the puzzle, which leads others to God."

Smith and her husband, Justin King, have two children, Emory, 3, and Griffin, 1. When she's not traveling, she and her family attend Bridgeway Community Church in Oklahoma City.



John Young '56

Journalism 'Middleman' Dedicated to Excellence

As an incoming freshman on Bison Hill, John Young was no stranger to OBU and, by his own account, no scholar. But the friendships he formed on campus, the experience he gained through the student

newspaper and the leadership he saw modeled have affected the remainder of his life.

Young was offered a scholarship to work in OBU's athletic department publicity and took up residence in student housing provided by Dr. James Ralph Scales, who served as vice president at the time and, later, as president of the University. The housing, Young said, was a wonderful side benefit in addition to Scales' teaching of Oklahoma history and the history courses taught by Betty Scales. Another side benefit was having life-shaping friendships with roommates Dick Neptune and Warren Osburn.

After graduating from OBU in 1956, Young went to Naval Officers Candidate School in Newport, R.I., and spent three years on active duty in the Amphibious Fleet based in San Diego. His first newspaper job was as news and sports editor in his hometown of Cushing, Okla.

"Having served as editor of The Bison at OBU my senior year, I felt it was something I was suited to do, and I have been at it in one form or another for more than 50 years," Young said.

Young's journalism career continued with jobs at United Press International in Dallas and Kansas City (1963-66), The Sapulpa (Okla.) Herald (1966-79), The Tulsa Tribune (1979-92) and The Tulsa World (1992-present), primarily as a news or copy editor.

"It hasn't been just a matter of jobs; it's been a life," Young said. "The fascination of the newspaper has never ebbed."

Four months after joining UPI, I was thrust into being a part of that organization's prize-winning coverage of the assassination of John F. Kennedy, with several by-line articles dispatched worldwide. That was a matter of geographical happenstance rather than personal merit, but one's educational experience quickly comes into play in learning to observe and to cope."

Young was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2006, having been nominated by coworkers on the copy desk of The Tulsa World "who recognized a paucity of our ilk in that body," Young said. "The copy desk is the middleman in getting the story from the point of origin to the reader. It's not often a high-profile job, but is a vital one; one in which the dozens of errors detected before getting into print are unknown to the reading public, but the one undetected leaves you red-faced."

Enroute to Houston in the mid-1960s to assist in coverage of several of the Gemini spaceflights, Young stopped in Shawnee to visit Dr. Scales, who exhibited interest in how OBU grads were faring in their college afterlife.

**"Having served as editor of
The Bison at OBU my senior year,
I felt it was something I was
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more than 50 years."**

"He asked if it was my OBU educational experience that qualified me for the assignment," Young said. "My response was that as uplifting as a 'yes' might be, the unglamorous fact was that I was considered management and could work 16 hours a day without overtime pay. Yet, later, I realized that working long hours for meager pay,

writing about something that was completely out of my depth – that was exactly what I had learned at OBU."

In addition to shaping his career, it was through OBU that Young met his wife of 52 years, Dru. Young's college roommate, Jim Brown, professor emeritus of music, was her choir director at First Baptist Church, Midwest City, in 1960. The Youngs are members of First Baptist Church, Tulsa. They have two children, Shawn and his wife, Rhoda, of Sapulpa, and Sabrina Young Davis, '89, and her husband, Lane, '90, of Oklahoma City; and five grandsons.



Jim Webb '95

Basics Head to Hybrid Success

Most radiologists sit in a dark room reading X-rays, CT scans, MRIs and ultrasounds all day. Many interventional radiologists focus on image-guided minor procedures with general diagnostic imaging. Pain doctors administer epidural injections and other pain medicine.

Dr. Jim Webb, '95, combines the work of those three medical specialists at his hybrid practice, Musculoskeletal Imaging of Tulsa. He brings expertise to read MRIs and other scans to find a diagnosis, and then he performs the procedures to help his patients, whether through interventional pain management or minimally invasive spine surgery.

He also focuses on osteoporosis management. He was the first doctor in Oklahoma to offer minimally invasive lumbar decompression surgery for patients with spinal stenosis. He treats patients who have seen some of the brightest minds in medicine tell them "nothing can be done." For Webb, the answer can be found by going back to the basics.

"I take the 10 percent of pain patients that are difficult for other doctors, and that's 90 percent of my practice," Webb said. "I get to see patients who have dealt with pain for decades that we're able to help."

"And every time that happens with a patient, I think back on something Jim Hurley said about advances in science. If you think about all the things that we are discovering about science, medicine and the human body in health and disease, you will realize that 100 years ago we didn't even know what penicillin or DNA was, much less stem cells. The Creator, through his grace and magnanimity, helps those who would to discover the many secrets of the Universe."

Webb counts Dr. James E. Hurley, the highly esteemed professor of biology at OBU from 1962-98, as a giant in his life. Today, OBU's College of Science and Mathematics is named in Hurley's honor.

"Many new students were afraid of Dr. Hurley because, at first, his keen focus and seriousness could come off as stern



and curt," Webb said. "The only reason to be afraid of him was if you desired mediocrity. He expected nothing less than the absolute best from his protégés, and he gave them nothing less than the best as a mentor."

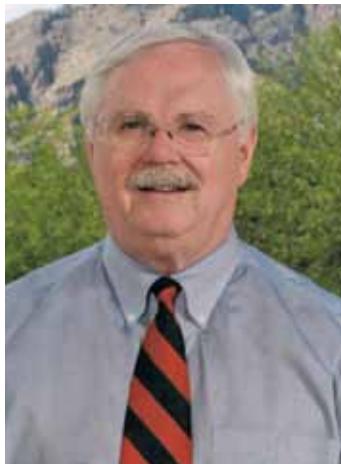
Webb said another mentor who seemed divinely placed for him on Bison Hill was Dr. Doug Watson, professor emeritus of English.

"From my first experience as a freshman, (he) had an incredible gift for helping others see other perspectives objectively," Webb said. "He helped me expand my worldview by cutting through my own biases without condescension. As a result, to me he was – and is – a legend in constructive criticism and was able to help me find my natural talents in critical thinking, logic and writing style."

"The only reason to be afraid of [Dr. James Hurley] was if you desired mediocrity. He expected nothing less than the absolute best from his protégés, and he gave them nothing less than the best as a mentor."

age 14. Today, he takes his music more seriously, pursuing singing and songwriting while continuing his medical practice. He has completed several recording sessions in Nashville, Tenn. Much like his medical practice, his musical style has been called a "hybrid," combining influences of country and jazz.

But despite his advances in medicine and his budding musical endeavors, Webb said he is most proud of his family: his wife, Tiffany Murrey Webb, '96, whom he met on the steps of WMU Dormitory 20 years ago, and their two children, Lola and Zane.



John Hughes '63

Building a Legacy

Dr. John Hughes knew at an early age he would be a Bison. His father, Ross Hughes, graduated from OBU, paying for his own schooling by helping build the rock wall outlining the perimeter of the campus that stands

to this day. So, when the topic of college was discussed among John and his three siblings, OBU was the only option according to the Hughes family.

While intending their children would attend college, the Hughes family had few resources. However, Hughes and his siblings were unaware of their financial limitations while growing up. Instead, he said they experienced rich relationships with friends, mentors and relatives who consistently nurtured and encouraged them.

Despite the limitations, Hughes made it to Bison Hill. He got involved on campus, where he said he grew in the right direction. He cultivated relationships and excelled in his studies, successfully taking on a strenuous course load of 18-20 hours each semester.

"When I look back on those three years at OBU, I was blessed by good friendships with great people focused on strong faith and good decisions," Hughes said.

Hughes acknowledges two key administrators who helped him thrive in his time at OBU. His chemistry professor, Dr. William Neptune, provided encouragement and stimulated a strong interest in chemistry. Hughes also acknowledges OBU's ninth president, Dr. James Ralph Scales, as always taking time to talk to and encourage him, even after Hughes had graduated from OBU.

Upon graduating, Hughes attended dental school at the University of Missouri at Kansas City, where he found the education he received at OBU had prepared him well for the rigor of further studies. Hughes said he was better prepared than most of his peers.

After graduating from dental school in 1966, he married his wife, Thompson. They have been married for 46 years. The Hughes family stayed in Kansas City, where

they were civically, politically and socially involved in the community. They attended church, where Hughes served as an elder. Hughes also was active in the Kansas City Civic Council, where he was chosen to work with civic, religious, political, educational and charity leaders in Kansas City.

Hughes entered a residency program in endodontics at Boston University's Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry, graduating in 1983. That same year, the Hughes family moved to Tucson, Ariz., where Hughes eventually started Southern Arizona Endodontics. In the 29 years of its existence, the group has grown to include 12 endodontists at four locations.

"Our faith is a strong contributor to our success," Hughes said. "It has grown into the largest endodontic partnership in the United States."

Along with cultivating success in the dentistry industry, Hughes also has been involved in mission opportunities. For the past 13 years, he has spent a week each March with college students ministering to the residents of Ensenada, Mexico. Hughes serves as a contractor, leading the students in building houses for families in need.

"The families we build for are awed by their good fortune, but those most impacted are the students," Hughes said. "They go down for a great vacation and experience a life-changing seven days."

Hughes has started a foundation to replicate and expand the experience. The JWAC (Jesus Was a Carpenter) Foundation provides the same mission opportunity to adults of all ages so they can learn how and where to build a house in a safe location.

Hughes said none of the opportunities or relationships he has gained would have been possible without his education at OBU.

"I have had a lot of great experiences, splendid friendships and exceptional opportunities," he said. "I have been very blessed by health, good education, wonderful friendships and a loving, supportive wife whose talents exceed mine, four grandkids who live next door, two sons and a daughter. I am truly blessed."



Joel Engle '90

Transformed on Bison Hill

Joel Engle is senior pastor of The Exchange Church in Keller, Texas, and a national recording artist. The 1990 alum said he has no doubt God sent him to OBU and that the decision deeply impacted his life, character and worldview.

Engle gleaned patience, excellence and encouragement from Norma Partridge, professor emerita of music, during his time on Bison Hill. Sandra Meyer, retired professor of music, fostered his love for music and gave him the music theory tools he needed to be a real musician.

But it was the Bison Glee Club that really transformed his life.

"Being in the Bison Glee Club with Dr. Michael Cox was truly an honor and a revolutionary experience," Engle said. "I have never met a finer musician to this day (and I have met a few world-class musicians). My experience in Glee Club was life-changing in so many ways that I don't have the words to express it."

"Singing in the Bison Glee Club brought new meaning to the phrase, 'Real men sing loud.' As I've performed thousands of concerts, I still have never experienced a feeling equal to that of singing with a 60-man power-choir! The camaraderie that I experienced through the friendships I made helped me graduate from a boy to a man."

When Engle was 16 years old, he moved from living in the Oklahoma Baptist Home for Children in Moore, Okla., to a foster home in Garber, Okla. When the Engle family took Joel in, their son, Gregg, was attending OBU. As an aspiring musician, Joel moved Gregg, a music student, to "hero" status. The superintendent of the children's home, Dr. James Browning, provided the avenue for Joel to find his own music, academic and leadership scholarships on campus.

After he graduated, Engle traveled, performing music for concerts, church events and youth meetings. He made several independent recordings and toured with the Dawson McAllister Student conference, singing to more than

200,000 people each year. Later, Engle and his wife, Valerie Gaser Engle, '92, started a worship resource company called SPIN360.com, serving more than 15,000 churches worldwide.

In 2000, Sony Records approached Engle to use his tracks to create "The Ultimate Worship Collection." The biggest secular music label in the world paid him to promote praise and worship music. He signed a recording contract with Word/Warner Bros. in 2005 and released "Made for Worship," which featured three top-10 songs. Then he and his partners began their own record label, called Spin360 Records, with Word Music.

"I was challenged [at OBU] on so many levels: intellectually, spiritually, relationally and emotionally. That is the true value of a liberal arts education within the context of a Christian community."

As his musical dreams were becoming a reality, Engle felt God calling him to plant a church and leave the music industry. A new father, he welcomed the break from travel. He had released Bible study resources through LifeWay called "The Exchange," so they named the church The Exchange. Planted

in 2008, the church now has more than 400 members. And the Engles' own family has grown to include four children: Elizabeth, Evelyn, Elaine and Ethan.

"OBU prepared me for success by teaching me to think for myself," Engle said. "I was challenged on so many levels: intellectually, spiritually, relationally and emotionally. That is the true value of a liberal arts education within the context of a Christian community."

"To this day, there isn't a week that goes by that I don't default to something I learned from my OBU experience."





Gordon Groseclose '76

Chaplain Nurtures and Honors Soldiers

Wyoming teenagers are prone to rodeo accidents. For Gordon Groseclose, a native of Greybull, Wyo., a fractured neck – and the resulting three months in a body cast – led to him accepting the gift of God's grace.

"Losing what I believed were the essentials of life (sports, popularity, my vitality), I discovered the true essence of life and how much (God) loved me and had a plan for my life beyond anything I had imagined," Groseclose said.

As a junior college student, Groseclose grew in his new relationship with God. He felt God call him to full-time ministry, and he enrolled in a Christian college in Minnesota. His pastor gave him a postcard about "some school named OBU from a state I had never visited, nor desired to," Groseclose recalled. During the next few days, to his amazement, he felt God directing him to Bison Hill.

At OBU, Groseclose found great comfort in the camaraderie of fellow classmates worshiping God during the Baptist Student Union "Noontime" services. In high school and junior college, he had known few other students who professed to be Christians. At times, Groseclose felt he was strange to be so focused on "religion."

"Then came OBU, and for the first few days I would sit in that little chapel during noontime with tears running down my face, with scores of voices around me singing worship choruses to this same Jesus, totally overwhelmed and thinking, 'I'm not a freak, I'm not crazy,'" he said.

Groseclose graduated from OBU in 1976, and one week later he married Deborah J. Frellick, '76. Today, they have two children, Angela and Micah, and one grandchild.

"The most precious gift I received from OBU was Deborah Frellick, now my best friend, trusted advisor and lifelong mate," Groseclose said. "We met my second day at OBU when, as a transfer student, I was going through the enrollment line. She refused to give me an enrollment packet and told me she was tired of being flirted with by

guys giving funny last names she couldn't find. The Lord must have a sense of humor since she has now worn that same funny last name for 36 years."

Following graduation from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Groseclose served as pastor of a mission church in Wisconsin. He joined the Wisconsin National Guard as a chaplain and, in 1985, was asked by the Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board) to become an active-duty Army chaplain.

Groseclose earned a master's degree in strategic studies at the U.S. Army War College. He serves as command chaplain for the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security

Command in Fort Belvoir, Va. He most recently was staff chaplain for the Army's Department of Ministry and Pastoral Training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, providing medical- and trauma-based religious support training for other chaplains.

A recent "day in the life" of Groseclose's work involved ministering to the family

of a soldier killed in active duty, helping a commanding general prepare remarks for the funeral and preparing for the Army-wide suicide prevention program. Such work defines the ministers who nurture the living, care for the wounded and honor the fallen.

Among other accolades, Groseclose is the recipient of the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with seven Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and Army Achievement Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters.

Elliff Tells Graduates To Be More Than Successful

Encouraged to achieve effectiveness rather than just success, 246 OBU graduates received their diplomas during the 98th Spring Commencement on May 11.

Before an overflow audience of more than 1,800 in OBU's Raley Chapel, Dr. Tom Elliff, president of the International Mission Board, reported how more Southern Baptist missionaries serving on the mission field graduated from OBU than any other university. He told the graduates there is a difference between what a person does and who he or she is. In Commencement ceremonies across the country, he noted, the common theme is success.

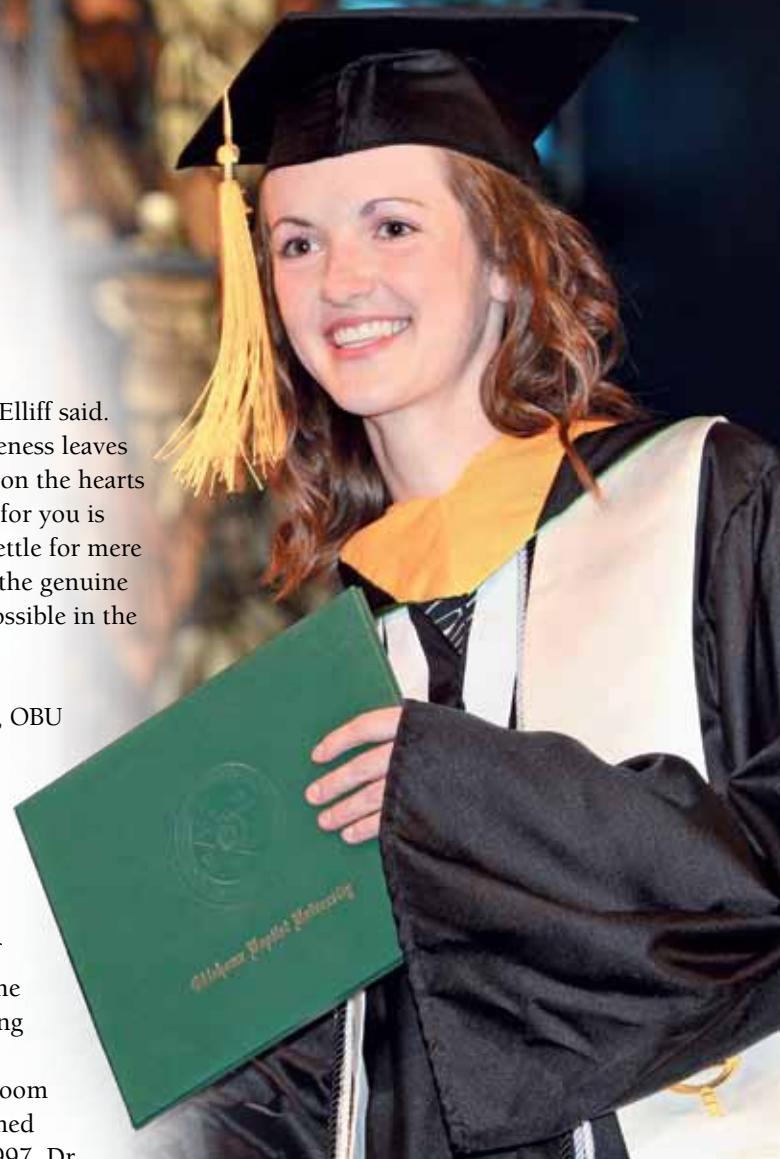
"Graduates, today I would like to challenge you to be more than merely successful," Elliff said. "I think success always plays a second role to genuine effectiveness, and my challenge would be that you would choose effectiveness."

Success can be easy to measure, Elliff said, as it pops up relatively quickly and then fades. While effectiveness can take longer to achieve, it also lasts longer. He directed the graduates to consider the life of the Apostle Paul, whose life ministry touched two-thirds of the Mediterranean world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Elliff pointed out that Paul was effective – rather than merely successful – because he was confident in God as the controller of his life; he knew God had a plan for his life; and he was content in the circumference God had drawn around his life.

"Success is fleeting," Elliff said. "But genuine effectiveness leaves a permanent imprint on the hearts of people. My prayer for you is that you would not settle for mere success, but only for the genuine effectiveness made possible in the Lord Jesus Christ."

During the ceremony, OBU President David W. Whitlock presented OBU's top three awards for faculty and staff. Dr. Jeanne Akin, Mary A. White professor of education, received the Distinguished Teaching Award, presented in recognition of "classroom excellence." Akin joined the OBU faculty in 1997. Dr. Alan Bandy, Rowena R. Strickland assistant professor of New Testament, received the Promising Teacher Award, presented to a faculty member who has taught at the University for less than five years and "shows great promise as a teacher." Bandy joined the faculty in 2009. Dr. Norris Russell, professor and chair of the Division of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies, received the University's Meritorious Service Award. He joined OBU in 1981.

The program also included greetings from Dr. Anthony Jordan, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, which founded the University in 1910. Amity Walker, president of the senior class, made the presentation



Andrea Kellogg, a biology major from Shawnee, Okla., receives her diploma during Spring Commencement.

of the graduating class. Lori Hagans, executive director of the OBU Alumni Association, inducted the graduates into the association.

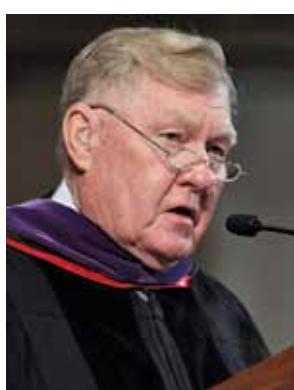
In his charge to the graduates, Whitlock said, "We've sought to instill within you an honest awareness of yourself and the world around you. We've sought to strengthen your commitment to Christ. We've sought to equip you with the ability to think and the knowledge base that provides the content for sound decision-making. We've sought to impart to you the heart to care and the spirit to attempt great things that will help make your world a better place."



ELLIFF



LUTER



RALEY

Three Honored with Doctorates

OBU awards honorary doctorates to three Southern Baptists committed to the University's mission to transform lives

Dr. Thomas D. (Tom) Elliff – Doctor of Divinity

OBU awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree to Dr. Thomas D. Elliff, president of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, during OBU's Spring Commencement ceremony in May.

Prior to serving as president of the IMB, Elliff served as the founder of Living in the Word Publications and as the IMB senior vice president for spiritual nurture and church relations. He was senior pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla., for 21 years.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Ouachita Baptist University, the master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a doctorate of ministry from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as the Southern Baptist Convention president in 1996-97 and 1997-98. He has led multiple crusades and conferences in the United States and overseas.

He and his wife, Jeannie, have four children: Beth Cox, Amy Jarboe, Sarah Mann and Dr. Jon Elliff; and 25 grandchildren.

Dr. Fred Luter Jr. – Doctor of Divinity

Dr. Fred Luter Jr., senior pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans, La., was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree from OBU during services held at the church on June 10.

He attended the University of New Orleans and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He lost his home and his church in Hurricane Katrina in 2005. While displaced in Birmingham, Ala., he started new congregations in Baton Rouge, La., and Houston, Texas, as an outgrowth of ministering to his church members displaced across the country. He has served in various Southern Baptist leadership roles on the local, state and national level and was elected in June as president of the Southern Baptist Convention, during the SBC Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

He and his wife, Elizabeth, are the parents of Kimberly Ann Luter and Fred "Chip" Luter III.

Dr. John Wesley Raley Jr. – Doctor of Humanities

Standing in the chapel named for his father, Dr. John Wesley Raley Jr. was awarded an honorary doctor of humanities degree during OBU's Fall Convocation in August.

Raley has practiced law in Ponca City, Okla., for 21 years and is the retired U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Oklahoma. Appointed by President George H. W. Bush, Raley was reappointed by President Bill Clinton.

He received a bachelor's degree from OBU in 1954 and a juris doctorate from the University of Oklahoma College of Law. Raley earned a commission in the U.S. Navy and, after 34 years of service in the U.S. Navy Reserve, he retired with the rank of Navy Captain.

Raley served on the boards for OBU and the Oklahoma Bar Association. He is the father of two sons, John Wesley Raley III and Robert Thames Raley, and the grandfather of three grandchildren. He and his wife, Caroline, reside in Ponca City.

OBU Dedicates Herschel H. Hobbs College of Theology and Ministry



From left: Dr. Anthony Jordan, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma; Dr. David W. Whitlock, OBU president; Dr. Mark McClellan, dean of the Hobbs College of Theology and Ministry; Jeremiah Custar, a senior youth ministry major from Ardmore, Okla.; Dr. Reagan Bradford, chair, OBU Board of Trustees; and Randy Smith, executive vice president for business and administrative services.

For more than half a century, the legacy of Dr. Herschel H. Hobbs has been tied to Bison Hill. Hobbs left an indelible mark on Southern Baptists in general and Oklahoma Baptists in particular.

The influence of Hobbs was honored in May as OBU administrators dedicated the Herschel H. Hobbs College of Theology and Ministry Suite at Montgomery Hall. The University recently renovated the second floor of Montgomery Hall – including professors’ offices and a conference room – to house the faculty and functions of the College. The renovation was made possible by the Hammons Charitable Foundation and the Arkansas Baptist Foundation.

Hobbs was invited to chair OBU’s religion department in the late 1950s,

but he declined because he felt his calling was to serve in pastoral ministry. That calling included more than 22 years as pastor of First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City (1949-72). He served two terms as president of the Southern Baptist Convention and was chairman of the committee that crafted the Baptist Faith and Message in 1963. He also served two terms as chair of the OBU board of trustees.

The Hobbs College encompasses six distinct divisions: departments of biblical and theological studies, Christian and cross-cultural ministry, and philosophy; the Joe L. Ingram School of Christian Studies; the Avery T. Willis Center for Global Outreach; and the Don R. Kammerdiener Center for Missiological Research.



OBU Hosts Pastors School

For many people, “summer school” is a chore rather than a privilege. But for more than 70 Oklahoma pastors and other ministers, the 2012 OBU Pastors School in July provided an opportunity for learning and retreat led by well-respected OBU alumni who also have pastoral experience.

Sponsored by OBU’s Herschel H. Hobbs College of Theology and Ministry, The Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma and NavPress, the school featured three Baptist scholars and pastors: Dr. Hance Dilbeck, ’87, pastor of Quail Springs Baptist Church, Edmond, Okla.; Dr. Calvin Miller, ’58, former pastor of Westside Church in Omaha, Neb.; and Dr. John Bisagno, ’55, pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church, Houston. The event also featured sessions taught by OBU Hobbs College professors Dr. Alan Bandy and Dr. Christian George.

“In this first OBU Pastors School in more than half a century, OBU and the Hobbs College of Theology and Ministry were able to serve, encourage and equip pastors from across the state of Oklahoma,” said Dr. Mark McClellan, dean of the Hobbs College and chair of the committee tasked with planning the school. “This Pastors School is one of the ways that OBU can fulfill its mission to serve and assist our churches in fulfilling their mission and the Great Commission.”

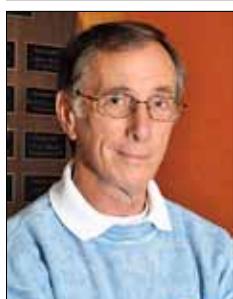
Retirees Represent 133 Years of Service



CHEEK



COLE



HADLEY

Six members of the OBU community retired from their posts as faculty and staff members on Bison Hill following the 2011-12 academic year.

Richard Cheek, dean of library services, concluded 11 years of service at the University. He joined OBU's administrative staff in 2001. He taught classes, brought the library into the Internet era, and has been actively involved with the OBU Theatre Department. Cheek earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and master's degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and the University of Oklahoma. He and his wife, Jene, have five children and numerous grandchildren.

Dr. Carolyn Cole, who served as Crouch-Mathis professor of literature, taught at OBU for 25 years. She joined the OBU faculty in 1987 as assistant professor, attaining the rank of associate

professor in 1994 and professor in 2000. She received the Distinguished Teaching Award in 2000. She earned a bachelor's degree from Mississippi College and a master's degree and doctorate from the University of Southwestern Louisiana. Her professional expertise includes medieval and renaissance literature, contemporary Latin American literature, and rhetoric and composition. Cole sponsored student study programs in England, France, Germany, Hungary and Argentina. She and her husband, Tom, have two children and three grandchildren.

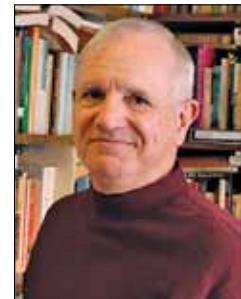
Dr. Roger Hadley, who served as Frank W. and Pauline G. Patterson professor of journalism and professor of telecommunication, taught at OBU for 27 years. He joined the faculty in 1985 as associate professor, achieving senior faculty status in 1991 and professor in 1995. Hadley received the Distinguished Teaching Award in 2004. He also received the Fred Tewell Outstanding Communication Educator award from the Oklahoma Speech Theatre Communication Association. He earned a bachelor's degree from Southeast Oklahoma State University and his master's

degree and doctorate from the University of Oklahoma. He and his wife, Wanda, have two children and five grandchildren.

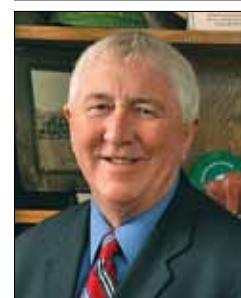
Dr. William Hagen, professor of English, taught at OBU for 38 years. He joined the faculty in 1974 as assistant professor, attaining senior faculty status in 1979. He achieved the rank of associate professor in 1981 and professor in 1987. Hagen received the Distinguished Teaching Award in 2006. He earned a bachelor's degree from Davidson College, a master's degree from the University of North Carolina, and a doctorate from the University of Iowa. He has published numerous articles on Joseph Conrad, Malcolm Lowry and film adaptations of fiction. He is a regular reviewer for World Literature Today and a lecturer in the Oklahoma Humanities Council-sponsored "Let's Talk About It" series in libraries through the state. He and his wife, Goldie, have one son.

Bill Holley, associate vice president for university advancement, worked at OBU for 28 years. He joined the administrative staff in 1983.

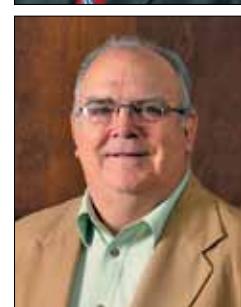
He earned a bachelor's degree in English from Belmont University and a master's degree from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. During his tenure at OBU, Holley served as director of annual giving, coordinator of regional fundraising and assistant vice president for development. He provided valuable leadership for three University capital campaigns.



HAGEN



HOLLEY



MILLIGAN

New Dean and Faculty on Bison Hill

DEAN



Paul W. Roberts

is dean of library services. Roberts earned a bachelor's degree in biblical studies from Central Bible College. He earned a master's degree in biblical and theological studies from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; a master's degree in Reformation studies from Reformed Theological Seminary; and a master's degree in library science from the University of Kentucky in Lexington. He is pursuing a doctorate in church history from the Theologische Universiteit Kampen voor de Gereformeerde Kerken in The Netherlands.

Since 2008, Roberts has served as

director of patron services for the James P. Boyce Centennial Library at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

FACULTY



Janice Carr

is an assistant professor of nursing (pediatric) in the College of Nursing. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and a master's degree from the University of Central Oklahoma. She earned a master's degree in nursing education from the OBU Graduate School in 2011. She has served as an adjunct faculty member in OBU's nursing program.



Song Cho is an assistant professor of Spanish in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. He earned a bachelor's degree from New York University and a master's degree from Middlebury College in Madrid, Spain. He earned a master's degree in Christian studies from Trinity International University. In addition to Spanish and English, he speaks Korean fluently.



Dr. Contessa Edgar is an assistant professor

of biology in the James E. Hurley College of Science and Mathematics. A Goldwater scholar, she earned a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from the University of Sioux Falls. She earned a doctorate from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine Mayo Graduate School. Her study focused on biomedical science.



Dr. Kaine Ezell

is an assistant professor of education in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. He earned a bachelor's degree in English and English education from Southern Arkansas University. He earned a master's degree and doctorate in English from the University of Arkansas.



Leslie Hobbs

is an assistant professor of nursing (general) in the College of Nursing. She is a 1992 OBU alum. She earned a master's degree in nursing education from the OBU Graduate School in 2012. She has worked as a registered nurse for 20 years, with 17 years as a pediatric nurse at Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City.



David Kenworthy

is an assistant professor of theatre and design technician in the Warren M. Angell College of Fine Arts. He earned an associate's degree

in education at Shasta College and a bachelor's degree in theatre from Chico State University. He earned a master's degree in scenography from Humboldt State University, where he served as a guest lecturer.



Dr. Kristi Key is an associate professor of English in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. She earned a bachelor's degree in English from John Brown University; a master's degree in English from the University of Tulsa; and a doctorate in English from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.



Dr. Yvonne Mbote is an assistant professor of chemistry in the Hurley College of Science and Mathematics. She earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Ilorin, Nigeria. She earned a master's degree in organic chemistry from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. She earned a doctorate in physical chemistry from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.



Dr. Ishwaran Mudliar is an associate professor of religion in the Herschel H. Hobbs College of Theology

and Ministry. He earned a bachelor's degree from Union Biblical Seminary in Pune, India, and a master's degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He earned a master's degree and doctorate in Hebrew Bible and Northwest Semitic Languages from Johns Hopkins University.



Dr. Christopher Neal is an associate professor of music and director of bands in the College of Fine Arts. He earned a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Oklahoma, and a master's degree in instrumental conducting from The University of Texas. He earned a doctorate from OU. He is artistic director of West Winds Chamber Players in Oklahoma City.



Dr. Brent Newsom is an assistant professor of English in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. He earned a bachelor's degree from OBU in 2003 in interdisciplinary studies: religion, English and teaching English as a Second Language. He earned a master's degree in English from Louisiana State University and a doctorate in English from Texas Tech University.



Joe Rawdon is an assistant professor of nursing (surgical) in the College of Nursing. He earned a bachelor's degree

from OBU in 2002 and a master's degree from OU in 2008. He has completed work toward a doctor of nursing practice degree through Oklahoma City University. He taught as an adjunct professor at OBU in 2007.



Phyllis Tipton returned to Bison Hill as an assistant professor of education in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in early childhood education from the University of Central Oklahoma. Tipton joined OBU's Division of Teacher Education in fall 2010, having also taught OBU courses in 2001-03.



Women's Outdoor Track Wins National Title

OBU ended a three-year streak of runner-up finishes and took home its first NAIA Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championship last May in Marion, Ind.

Jura Levy, the meet's Most Valuable Female Athlete, clinched the title in the 200 meters, beating chief rival and top-seeded Idella King of Indiana Tech in 23.26 seconds.

That made the final event – the 4x400 relay – a technicality, but even that was a success as the Lady Bison pulled off a school-record 3:35.46 with Stacy Warrior, Nikita Tracey, Levy and Verone Chambers capturing the team's third relay title of the meet.

"I'm just happy for our seniors to be leaving with a national championship," Levy said. "We're winners! They all worked as hard as I did."

In all, OBU won seven events, and runner-up Concordia (Ore.) captured five.

"We won all three relays, and we've never done that before," said OBU Coach Ford Mastin, who also received the NAIA Coach of the Year award. "It's amazing it took this much work to do it. The competition was tough. They all worked so hard and everyone contributed. It's fun to work hard and actually get what you worked for."

The Lady Bison finished with 101.5 points, 20.5 points ahead of runner-up Concordia at 81. Azusa Pacific was third at 62, Embry-Riddle was fourth at 49 and Wayland Baptist fifth at 45. Concordia's 81 was the most points by a runner-up since 2000.

The NAIA Outdoor Track and Field championship lineup included Chelsea Abinah, Ashton Adams, Chambers, Uniqua Cooper, Aubrey Dolliver, Shondia Drew, Hannah Helker, Halie Herbert, Levy, Aspen Marical, Kenney Meigs, Taylor Moore, Erinn Shaughnessy, Evan Shimaneck, Tracey and Warrior.



OBU Bison Represented at Olympics

OBU's last representative in the London Olympics, Nickeisha Wilson, finished 13th in the semifinals of the 400 meter hurdles, representing Jamaica. Her time of 55.77 did not advance her to the finals. She placed fifth in her heat, which produced the two fastest times in the semifinal round.

OBU Athletes Excel in Academics

OBU's athletic program was ranked fourth in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for overall success in the 2011-12 Learfield Sports Directors' Cup standings. That achievement was bolstered by a strong academic showing for the University's varsity athletes, as they compiled a 3.01 grade point average for the academic year.

OBU scored in 10 of a possible 12 sports with national championships in

women's outdoor track and men's swimming and diving. OBU was the top-ranked school from the Sooner Athletic Conference.

"Not many universities at any level can say that their athletic department GPA is 3.01 while finishing in fourth place in the Directors' Cup standings," Davenport said. "This is a great accomplishment for our athletes, coaches and University."

The Learfield Sports Directors' Cup measure the overall success of college athletic programs. It was developed as a joint effort between the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) and USA Today. Points are awarded based on each institution's finish in up to 12 sports – six women's and six men's.

"I am extremely proud of our student-athletes for their accomplishments in the classroom," said OBU Athletic Director Robert Davenport. "This is a compliment to our student-athletes as well as to the coaches who recruited them. OBU strives to assist our student-athletes as they work toward college degrees while competing for championships."

OBU fielded 19 varsity teams for the 2011-12 year, competing in the NAIA's Sooner Athletic Conference. The University claimed national championships in men's swimming and diving and women's outdoor track and field. The OBU men's basketball, women's indoor track and field, and women's swimming and diving teams each finished second in the nation.

A total of 344 student-athletes participated in varsity sports for OBU in 2011-12. OBU scored 765.25 points for fourth place, while Azusa Pacific scored 918 for its eighth consecutive title.

Wilson ran for the Lady Bison track team in 2006, winning the 400 hurdles at the NAIA Outdoor Track and Field Championships and anchoring the national champion 4x400 relay.

OBU's representation at the 2012 Olympics came to a close with Wilson having been the most successful. Ines Remersaro finished 43rd in the women's 100 meter backstroke, representing Uruguay.

OBUs other two Olympic qualifiers – Michael Rodgers of USA Track and Field's 4x100 relay team and Latoya Greaves, who was to represent Jamaica in the 100 meter hurdles – were both unable to compete, due to injury.

OBU Olympians of the past have included 1936 silver medalist Harold Cagle in the 1600 meter relay representing USA; Pat McMahon, who was 12th for Ireland in the 1968 marathon; and Willie Rios, who represented Puerto Rico in the 1968 games in the 1500 meters. Additionally, Joy (Ackland) Turner, current director of global mobilization, captained Great Britain's 1980 Olympic basketball team before playing for the Lady Bison.

OBU Names New Lacrosse and Tennis Coaches

LACROSSE

OBU has hired Aquinas College assistant coach Katy Mohr as its first women's lacrosse head coach. OBU plays its first lacrosse season in Spring 2013.

Mohr coached three years at Aquinas and helped the Saints to a 56-9 record in her time there. She also was involved in the program's recruiting, fundraising, community service, NAIA compliance and summer camps.

"We are really excited to have Coach Mohr join us and start our lacrosse program," said OBU Athletic Director Robert Davenport. "Her experience and enthusiasm will go a long way to help us build our lacrosse program into one of which we will be proud."

Mohr is a 2009 graduate from Western Michigan University and earned a bachelor's degree in recreation. She was a standout lacrosse player during her prep years at Tecumseh (Mich.) High School.

"I'm very excited to help start the program at Oklahoma Baptist," Mohr said. "It will be a good opportunity to

build college lacrosse in Oklahoma and for OBU to be at the forefront of that."

During her college years Mohr was the president and captain of

OBU lacrosse players take part in one of the first practice sessions for the sport on campus.



MOHR

WMU's club lacrosse team. She also coached in Portage for three years, leading her team to the championship game for the club tournament in the 2008 season.

Mohr is involved with Fields of Growth International, a non-profit organization that places athletes in human and community development in Uganda. She started the first women's teams in Uganda and coached the first national championship team in 2011.

TENNIS

OBU hired 2009 Bison graduate Peter McCorkle as full-time coach for both the men's and women's programs.

"We are excited to welcome Peter back to OBU as our tennis coach," Davenport said. "He has a great background of both playing and coaching tennis. He is a perfect fit for our athletes and can continue the growth and improvement in our teams."

McCorkle has served as men's tennis coach at Cascia Hall Preparatory School, a tennis instructor at Lafortune Tennis Center and a coach for the U.S. Tennis Association. At Cascia Hall, he coached the boys to a state title in 2010 and regional championships in 2010 and 2011. The Tulsa World named him High School Coach of the Year in 2010.



McCORKLE

"I'm excited to come back to OBU and to carry on the tradition OBU has had and, I hope, improve on it," McCorkle said. "I am looking forward to working with our players. They are a very skilled group."

As a Bison player, McCorkle and doubles partner Andrew Sharp hold the season record for wins at No. 3 doubles with 16. He ranks second in all-time combined career wins with 91, forging a 91-56 record in his fourth year at OBU. He was 43-29 in singles and 48-27 in doubles.

He won the 2006 ITA regional title and qualified for the ITA national tournament, and he helped the Bison win a Sooner Athletic Conference title. He was a two-time NAIA Scholar Athlete and was named the 2009 Outstanding Senior in Youth Ministry.

OBU football players go through their first contact drills in a practice Sept. 24.

Football Practice Begins

Ninety-one athletes hit the field for the first football practice since 1940 as the leadership class took the new practice field in Shawnee on Aug. 24.

Chris Jensen was hired as the University's first head football coach in more than 70 years. New assistant coaches Jason Melot, Ray Brown, C.W. Cook, Larry Latimer, Rod Wolfard and student assistant coach Cody Iverson have hit the ground running.

OBU President David W. Whitlock announced the addition of four new varsity sports programs in December 2010 including the return of Bison football.

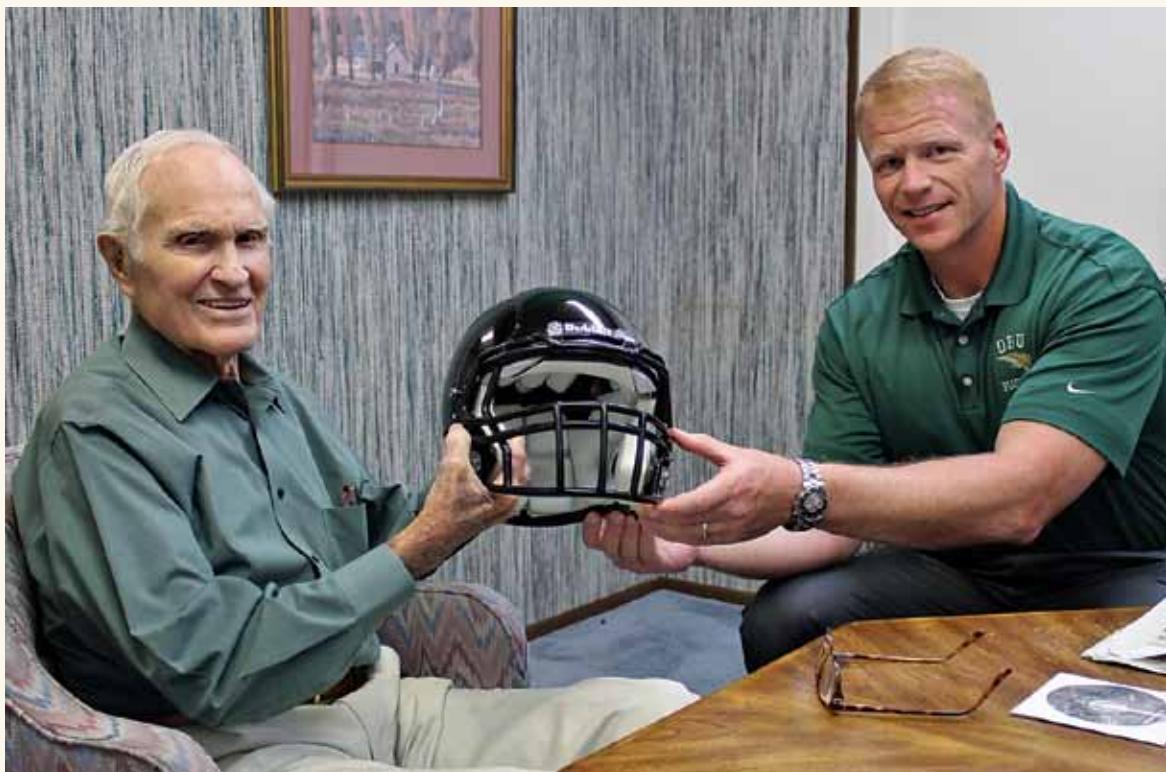
"Our vision for athletics is a means of teaching the virtues of competition and discipline and teamwork," Whitlock said. "Our vision for these new teams will be to set a high standard of excellence both on and off the field of competition – or as the case may be – in and out of the pool of competition. We believe that character development and diligent preparation in athletics within a framework of a rigorous liberal arts education is both noble and consistent with our mission."



The Bison have three intrasquad scrimmages scheduled this fall and will kick off their first game on Aug. 31, 2013.

OBU has applied and been granted membership in the Central States Football League, which includes Langston, Bacone, Texas College, Southwestern Assemblies of God, Wayland Baptist and Oklahoma Panhandle State University.

Larry Harris, a member of OBU's 1940 football team, receives a helmet from current Bison head football coach Chris Jensen.



Coach Cox Wins SAC Character Award

OBU's Bobby Cox was named the Sooner Athletic Conference Coach of Character for 2011-12.

Cox, baseball coach at OBU for 27 years, led his team to get involved with assisting students at Dale Elementary School, fundraising for breast cancer awareness and other community and team projects.

Cox is OBU's all-time leader in coaching wins in all sports, having led the Bison baseball team to 1,055 wins through 27 seasons at the OBU helm. Cox is the only coach to take a Bison baseball team to the NAIA World Series. He has accomplished

the feat in 1989, 1996 and 2011. The team also reached the NAIA Opening Round in 2012.

His teams have never had a losing season. He has coached 18 All-Americans and 14 major league draftees.

Cox, who was inducted into OBU's Hall of Fame in 1996 and the NAIA Baseball Hall of Fame in 2011, was named Sooner Athletic Conference Coach of the Year in 1986, 1996 and 2011; District 9 Coach of the Year in 1986, 1989 and 1991; Area 3 Coach of the Year in 1989, Great Plain Region Coach of the Year (by

the region and by the American Baseball Coaches Association) in 1996 and Region Coach of the Year in 2011.

As a player, Cox was an All-District performer for the Bison in 1979, leading his team with a .389 batting average while driving in a team-high 33 RBI in 34 games.

Cox and his wife, Lyn, have two sons, Bobby and Chris.



Basketball Makes Championship

The OBU men's basketball team, coached by Hall of Famer Doug Tolin, reached the NAIA Men's Division I Basketball Championship Game for the second time in three seasons, coming up short, 72-69, in March.

"We set the bar for what OBU basketball is supposed to be, in terms of heart and character," said Bison Coach Doug Tolin. "I can only speak for the last 12 years, but this is the standard by which we measure what Bison basketball should and will be."

In the national tournament, the Bison recorded wins over Belhaven, Columbia, Biola and Mountain State before falling to Concordia in the finals. OBU played the championship game without second-leading scorer DeAngelo McIntosh, who was injured in the semifinals.

Emmanuel Wilson and Heath McKay were named to the All-Tournament Team. OBU won the national championship in 2010 and is the all-time leader in national tournament victories with 59.

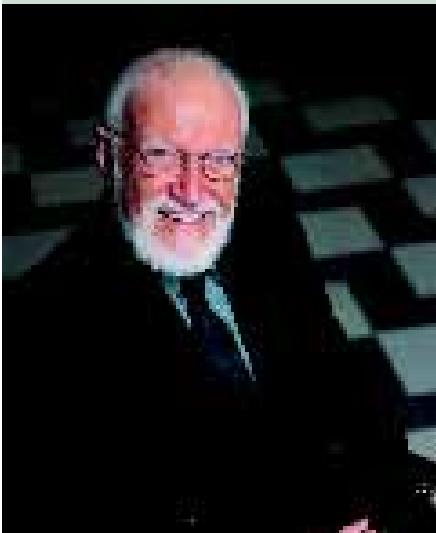
The Bison went 32-5 on the season, marking the sixth 30-win season since 2002. OBU has won the last three Sooner Athletic Conference regular season championships.

OBU men's basketball also has produced two of the last three NAIA Players of the Year. Nate Brumfield earned the title in 2010 and Wilson – a fifth-year senior – claimed the award in 2012.



MOSTLY EDGES

A TRIBUTE TO CALVIN MILLER



DR. CALVIN MILLER (1906-2012)

loved him most, Calvin Miller was a man who found his forte in the thin places. Places like Iona, Scotland, where turquoise-bathed hills echo millennia of island prayers and hymns. And Santa Fe, New Mexico, where cracking clay steeples pierce blood-orange sunsets above. Calvin loved these places, he painted these places, and for one who believed that "life is mostly edges," his pilgrimage through this world proved to be one of curiosity and unrestrained creativity.

At least that's how I've come to know him. As the end of his journey coincided with the beginning of mine, I'll never forget his warning to resist the temptation of disentangling theology from art, for "God is an artist," he reminded me. I always admired how, in the tradition of C. S. Lewis, Calvin could with one hand deliver a lecture on the fundamentals of homiletics, while with the other incarnate his thoughts into a book that children could easily digest. How well he did the incarnation thing! As a friend he was never without an encouraging word; as a critic his honesty was matched only by his insight and experience. The kaleidoscope of memories with him abound: painting until 3 o'clock in the morning, playing Gershwin side by side at the piano, watching Jackie Chan movies until we almost

It is said that God is not tethered to any one place, but some places are tethered to God. The Celts called these places "thin" where the edges of heaven blur into the edges of earth. To those who knew him best and

"got into trouble" by doing kung fu moves like spider-monkeys in his living room.

But perhaps the most enduring memories I possess with Calvin occurred in those quiet moments – those garden moments – when, between the pregnant doldrums of our conversations, he taught me how to think of things that really mattered. Things like the brevity of this world and the eternity of the world to come. That the way up is the way down – for decrease is more precious to God than increase. And that God doesn't just want part of me – he wants all of me, for it's in the little things that the secrets of the kingdom can be found.

And so I can't help but wonder, during this, his first full week in paradise, just how Calvin Miller is spending his time. I'd like to think he's painting with colors he's never used, dancing to songs he's never heard, joking with people he never thought would make it there, and, most importantly, praising the God who, in his graciousness, shared with us for a little while a man of whom this world was unworthy. Calvin, as you venture from this edge to the next, may your thin place be ever thick with blessings, love and worship!

*I once scorned every fearful thought of death,
When it was but the end of pulse and breath.
But now my eyes have seen that past the pain
There is a world that's waiting to be claimed.*

*Earthmaker, Holy, let me now depart,
For living's such a temporary art.
And dying is but getting dressed for God,
Our graves are merely doorways cut in sod.*

– Calvin Miller, *The Divine Symphony*

»»» To read **Calvin Miller's obituary**, see page 35.

More than 60 OBU students, faculty and staff embarked on Global Outreach (GO) Trips during the summer 2012 semester, sharing their faith around the globe under the leadership of Dr. Joy Turner, director of global mobilization and Dr. Bruce Carlton, director of the Avery T. Willis Center for Global Outreach. The GO Trips took OBU teams to South America, Asia and Africa.



A missions volunteer team from OBU traveled to Brazil May 15-June 6 to share their faith with people in two communities. The team included (from left) Cody Moore, Dr. Alan Bandy, Jeremiah Custer, Tyler Martin, Jeremy Smith, Amber O'Clair and Micah Keeney.

Students display an OBU flag during a summer mission trip to the coastal region of South Asia. They include (from left) Hannah Epp, Kyle Motsenbocker, Josh Caudill, Lacey Arterberry and Abby Fuller. The team, comprised of seven students, was accompanied by faculty sponsor Dr. Bruce Carlton.

OBU student volunteers pause outside a house church in the Horn of Africa wearing traditional outfits given by local believers. The team included (from left) Koty Koster, Britanee Russell, Meagan Barth, Lauren Divine and Bettsy Yarbrough.

A volunteer team from OBU visits a night safari in Chiang Mai, Thailand, during a missions trip in June. The team included (from left) Heather Johnson, Kelsey Gressett, Cherry Donnelly, Megan Stuckey, Christopher Thrutchley, Victoria Corte, Ann Berry and Kate Berry.

A team of students from OBU spend time with people in Kampala, Uganda, where they distributed food, led Vacation Bible School and shared their personal faith in Jesus Christ. The team included (center back, from left) Janette King, Matt Baker, Christina Perkins, Kaylee Doty, Grant Collins, Caitlyn Yount and (center, front) Ben Buchanan.

Students display an OBU flag at the New Day Orphanage in Mapanza, Zambia, during a summer Global Outreach Trip. The OBU team included (from left to right) Timothy Thomsen, Dayla Rowland, Callie Neumeier, Brittany Sawyer, Joseph Hefner, Margo Thomason, Anna Nicanor and Hannah Burnett.



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Something New

The leadership class of the first Oklahoma Baptist University football team since 1940 lines up for its first practice at the new practice football field.

