UCO Recognized as One of the Nation’s ‘Great Colleges to Work for’

The Chronicle of Higher Education named UCO as one of the “2014 Great Colleges to Work For.” Central is the only higher education institution in the state recognized on the list, and one of only a handful of institutions in the nation given the distinction of being named to the “Honor Roll” for being cited most often among all the recognition categories. Central joins Duke, Baylor and Notre Dame on the list of the ten universities named to the large institution honor roll. Results were determined through a direct survey of faculty and staff at universities and colleges throughout the country. This is the sixth time in the past seven years the university has been named to the list, with past recognition in 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013.

UCO Math and Science Programs Receive Accreditation

UCO bachelor’s of science degree programs in electrical engineering and mechanical engineering recently were accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission for ABET, the recognized accreditor of college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering and engineering technology. Accreditation demonstrates a program’s commitment to providing its students with a quality education. In addition to these new accreditations, the Computing Accreditation Commission for ABET awarded reaccreditation to the bachelor’s of science degree program in computer science, while the Engineering Accreditation Commission also reaccredited the university’s biomedical engineering and engineering physics programs.

UCO Celebrates Inaugural Freshman Convocation

UCO hosted its first-ever Freshman Convocation on Aug. 17 in Hamilton Field House. The event served as the official welcome for Central’s Class of 2018 to the university’s academic community. Convocation began with a ceremonial walk through Central Gateway, the arch in front of Old North, to signify the start of the students’ journey at Central. Graduates traditionally pass through the gateway as they walk into spring and fall commencement ceremonies. Convocation also included the awarding of more than $2,000 in tuition waivers to four lucky students.

Ryan Sharp Named ‘Outstanding University Jazz Educator’

The Oklahoma Jazz Educators Association recently named University of Central Oklahoma assistant professor of trumpet Ryan Sharp, D.M.A., “Outstanding University Jazz Educator”. A Central faculty member since 2012, Sharp teaches applied trumpet, chamber music, jazz ensemble II and summer jazz camps through UCO’s Oklahoma Center for Arts Education. Sharp will be honored for this accolade at the Oklahoma Music Educator Association convention in January 2015.

Professor Awarded Science Foundation Grant for Supercomputer

The National Science Foundation awarded a $304,745 research grant to Central professor of engineering and physics Evan Lemley, Ph.D., and the university’s Center for Research and Education in Interdisciplinary Computation (CREIC). The grant will fund a cluster supercomputer to be named “Buddy,” a nod to the university’s mascot, Buddy Broncho. A cluster supercomputer allows multiple users to work on problems much larger than any one computer or user could handle alone. “Buddy” will support research and education for students, faculty and staff at the university, as well as researchers across the state.
Dear Friends,

I am excited to share with you the wonderful things happening at the University of Central Oklahoma through UCOvations, the UCO Foundation’s Sept. – May monthly publication.

As a valued Presidential Partner, we hope you enjoy reading about the many accomplishments of our faculty, staff and students. Please remember you can request to receive UCOvations electronically each month by emailing foundation@uco.edu. You also can access the archives of this publication by visiting www.ucogiving.org.

Again, we cannot thank you enough for your sincere generosity and positive leadership for our university. Together, we truly are making a difference.

Thank you for joining us as we create a culture of leading, learning and serving.

Sincerely,

Don Betz
President