UCO's Sasser Receives Prestigious National Family Policy Award
Dr. Sue Lynn Sasser, executive director of the Oklahoma Council on Economic Education and associate professor of economics in the UCO College of Business Administration, was named the 2009 recipient of the Friend of the Family Award from the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences. Sasser was nominated for her work creating policy that mandates personal finance education in public schools in Oklahoma, a policy that became reality last year. She now co-chairs the implementation program, focusing her efforts on teacher training. Past winners of the annual award include elected officials, philanthropists, educators and entertainers including Senator John D. Rockefeller IV and Sharon Percy Rockefeller, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Bill Cosby and Rob Reiner.

UCO Cheerleading Squad Lands Third Consecutive National Title
The UCO large co-ed cheerleading squad brought home their third consecutive national championship at the National Cheer Association/National Dance Alliance Collegiate Championships held in Daytona, FL, in April. The squad, coached by David Owens, defeated collegiate teams from throughout the country, including the University of Michigan, Virginia Commonwealth University and University of North Texas. The UCO Pom Squad, coached by Melissa Linduff, also placed well in the competition, finishing fifth in their division. UCO’s cheer and dance teams have won seven national titles since 2002.

UCO’s Traywick Named Outstanding Mentor of the Year
The National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) recently named Dr. Debbie Traywick, Physical Education Program coordinator and associate professor at UCO, Outstanding Mentor of the Year for her accomplishments as a leader in teacher education. Traywick was selected for her display of role model professionalism and leadership, constantly encouraging her students to get involved in professional opportunities and continually providing exemplary academic and professional preparation advisement to her students.

UCO Advisers Win 2009 OACADA “Best-of-Conference” Award
UCO advisers Camille Kilbourne and Jonnie Machell won the spring 2009 “Best-of-Conference” award at the Oklahoma Academic Advising Association (OACADA) conference for their presentation on advising different generations. OACADA is a non-profit association open to all persons interested in issues related to academic advising at post-secondary institutions in Oklahoma.

Sweet-Darter Named 2009 Oklahoma Outstanding School Psychologist
Dr. Mary Sweet-Darter, assistant professor of psychology in the UCO College of Education and Professional Studies, recently received the 2009 Fay Catlett Award for Outstanding School Psychologist at the Oklahoma School Psychology Association’s spring conference. The award’s purpose is to recognize outstanding Oklahoma school psychology practitioners for their advancement of school psychology and to increase public awareness of the profession. The award recognizes individuals who have provided exemplary services to children and youth and/or practicing school psychologists who spend the majority of their time providing direct services in school settings to students, parents and teachers.

UCO’s Weathers Receives Recognition for Outstanding Service
UCO’s Sharla Weathers, an interpreter specialist with Disability Support Services, recently received both the UCO Three C’s Excellence Award and the Oklahoma Association on Higher Education and Disability (OK-AHEAD) New Professional Award for her outstanding service to the higher education community. Weathers was recognized by UCO as showing excellence in the areas of community, character, and civility through her work ensuring all students’ needs are met in a variety of on-campus environments. Likewise, OK-AHEAD recognized Weathers’s outstanding contributions and leadership to the higher education disability services community.