Central Wins Grand Award for ‘Success Central’ Video
The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) awarded UCO the Southwest District IV Grand Award in the film/video category for its “Success Central: I Made It” commercial. CASE District IV includes universities in Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico and Mexico. The annual competition highlights outstanding marketing campaigns of universities across the country. To view Central’s winning video, visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXXL4llnmSQ.

UCO Wins ‘Green Power Partnership’ Award from EPA
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced UCO is the 2009-2010 Individual Conference Champion for using more green power than any other school in the Lone Star Conference. The award recognizes the school that has made the largest individual purchase of green power, generated from renewable sources, within a qualifying conference. Beating its conference rivals by purchasing 26 million kilowatt-house (kWh) of green power, Central currently receives 100 percent of its energy from wind power, helping to reduce the environmental impacts associated with the campus’ electricity use.

ACM@UCO ‘Rocks’ Bricktown with First Year Concert Celebration
It was a final exam unlike any other. The Academy of Contemporary Music at UCO celebrated the end of its first academic year with an “ACM@UCO Rocks Bricktown” event on May 6. In celebration of the event, Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett declared May 6, 2010 ACM@UCO day. More than 35 music acts made up of ACM@UCO students performed at several Bricktown venues throughout the evening, including the Bricktown Brewery, Bricktown Live, and Maker’s Straight-up Lounge.

UCO and OKCPS Partner to Prepare Teachers for Urban Classroom
Central and Oklahoma City Public Schools are partnering to prepare future teachers for success together through the Urban Teacher Preparation Academy (UTPA), a new, innovative program viewed by many as a possible change accelerator. The program places selected upper-level Central education majors in OKCPS elementary, middle and high schools for a yearlong clinical teaching experience, followed by a two-year induction process. The program also includes professional development for the OKCPS teachers and administrators serving as mentors for Central students. The first cohort of nine Central students have been selected and placed in district schools beginning in the fall 2010 semester, including Linwood Elementary, Taft Middle School and Capitol Hill High School.

UCO Cheerleading Squad Wins Fourth Consecutive National Title
UCO’s cheer and pom squads brought home a lot of hardware from the 2010 National Cheer Association/National Dance Alliance Collegiate Championships, held April 7-11 in Daytona, Fla., with the large co-ed cheerleading squad winning their fourth consecutive national championship and the small co-ed cheerleading and pom squads each placing second. The cheer squads, coached by David Owens, both also won the highest crowd scores in their competitions against collegiate teams from throughout the country. Coached by Rachel Hendricks, this is the first time the pom squad has placed nationally since 2006. UCO’s cheer and dance teams have won eight national titles since 2002.

UCO Math and Science Student Wins Regional Research Award
UCO College of Mathematics and Science undergraduate student Xander Rudelis received top honors for his research at the Oklahoma-Arkansas sectional meeting of the Mathematical Association of America (MMA) in Siloam Springs, Ark. Rudelis’s won first place for his research presentation titled “Knot Theory and Braid Computation.” Rudelis is a junior in high school and enrolled in classes concurrently at UCO. Established in 1915, the MMA is the largest professional society that focuses on mathematics accessible at the undergraduate level.