Central Administrator Receives Fulbright

Patricia LaGrow, Ph.D., R.N., associate vice president for Academic Affairs at UCO, will travel to Europe this fall as a Fulbright Scholar. She is one of 11 university administrators in the nation who received a grant for the Fulbright's 2014 International Education Administrators Program in France. While abroad, LaGrow will visit various educational institutions, cultural events and briefings, and will also meet with government officials to learn more about international higher education.

Music Professor Featured in PBS Documentary

UCO professor of music James Klages, D.M.A., was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 1989, only years into his career as the cornet soloist in the United States Marine Band. The illness that ended his career with the USMC, his love of music and journey toward recovery is the subject of Samuel Karp's documentary, “Healed: Music, Medicine and Life with MS.” The film, a decade in the making, premiered on PBS in June and will broadcast throughout the country through the end of 2014.

UCO, Sustainable OKC Form Partnership

A new partnership between Central and Sustainable OKC (SOKC) brings together two of the Oklahoma City metro's biggest supporters of sustainable development, creating opportunities for greater engagement with the community. Through a memorandum of understanding, SOKC was brought under the UCO Foundation nonprofit umbrella. In addition to providing SOKC with meeting space, the organization may use the foundation’s 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. “UCO provides a stable administrative presence as well as a streamlined operations process that allows SOKC to pursue the goals stated rather than spending so much board time on administration. UCO's sustainability and 'green' initiatives are in lockstep with Sustainable OKC, so the relationship between the two is a natural one,” said Tim Tillman, sustainability coordinator at Central.
Green Power Champion

For the fourth consecutive year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has named UCO the Individual Conference Champion of the College and University Green Power Challenge for using more green power than any other school in the Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association. Central uses 26 million kilowatt-hours of wind power annually, making it one of the largest purchasers of green power by a college or university in the nation and the only institution of higher learning in Oklahoma using 100 percent green power.

Endeavor Games Wrap Up

The 2014 UCO Endeavor Games kicked off with the unveiling of the new “Olympic and Paralympic Strength of Mind, Body and Spirit” statue at the university’s Wellness Center. The statue is a smaller replica of the one that sits at the U.S. Olympic Committee Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado. This year’s games welcomed more than 400 athletes and offered 11 sports – archery, track and field, cycling, paracanoe, paratriathlon, powerlifting, sitting volleyball, shooting, swimming, table tennis and wheelchair basketball.

UCO Recognized as ‘Storm Ready’

The National Weather Service recently renewed Central’s certification as a “StormReady University,” recognizing the university for its severe weather preparedness procedures. “UCO’s recertification as a StormReady University shows our commitment to the safety and preparedness of the university community,” said Norman Nieves, emergency management coordinator at Central. StormReady is a nationwide community preparedness program that encourages communities to proactively manage hazardous weather operations using clear-cut guidelines from the National Weather Service.

Metro Interns Call UCO Home

Interns from throughout the country for Chesapeake Energy, the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Select Physical Therapy and the Oklahoma Health Department are calling UCO home for the summer thanks to Central’s new Summer Intern Housing Program. In its first year, the program will house more than 40 students by summer’s end. Several groups have inquired about reserving space for 2015, bringing the anticipated number of interns closer to 100.