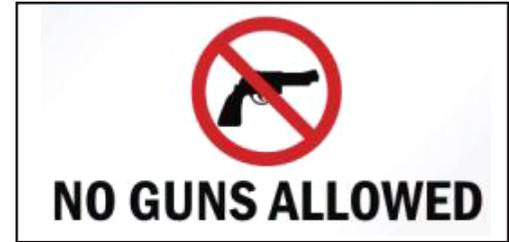


# PIONEER



**Rocking Out:** Tiffane Shorter, bass player for the OCCC Rock Band, shows off her skills during a recent performance. "I learned how to play blues first," the theater major said. "It's much more relaxed [while] rock is more up-tempo, has more of a sense of urgency." The Rock Band class is taught by Justin Mettry (left). *Melissa Sue Lopez/Pioneer*

## OCCC hires must report other work

**KATIE AXTELL**  
Editor  
editor@occc.edu

Although there is no real penalty for not doing so, OCCC employees are required to let the college know if they also are employed elsewhere — in addition to their full-time jobs at OCCC.

That's done by filling out an Outside Employment form, said Human Resources Vice President Angie Christopher.

An open records request

for all forms on file was submitted to the college on Sept. 2.

The 33 forms currently on file show the Health Professions area to have the highest number of people working outside of the college with 12.

Nursing Professor Robin McMurray said a lot of nurses have other jobs outside of teaching.

"We can make a lot more money outside than just teaching," she said.

Next is Social Sciences with six people working a

See **WORK** page 9

## President Steward says state funding continues to look bleak

**OCCC can expect a sizeable reduction in appropriations for FY 2016-17**

**KATIE AXTELL**  
Editor  
editor@occc.edu

Student tuition and fees pay about 45 percent of the cost of an education at OCCC. The rest comes from other sources, mainly state revenue and local property taxes.

Chief Financial Officer John Boyd said OCCC's revenue comes from three primary sources: state appropriations at \$25 million, student tuition at \$24 million, and technical education reimbursement at \$4 million.

Technical education money comes from ad valorem taxes

paid by southwest Oklahoma City residents.

A small portion comes from a combination of other sources, including student store sales and VPAC tickets.

President Jerry Steward said OCCC is expecting a sizeable reduction in state funds for fiscal year 2016-17.

Although he avoided stating a dollar amount, Steward noted that OCCC saw a reduction of almost \$1 million in 2015-16, when the budget shortfall was half of what is expected next year.

He said he sees no way to cope with the loss other than cutting employees from the payroll.

"Last year, the state of Oklahoma had a \$611 million shortfall," Steward said.

"[From that] higher education received a cut of 3.5 percent. That translated to a cut to OCCC of

“This year, all the projections I’m hearing when I talk to legislators is the state’s looking at a \$1 billion shortfall.”

—JERRY STEWARD  
OCCC PRESIDENT

\$891,000.

"This year, all the projections I'm hearing when I talk to legislators is the state's looking at a \$1 billion shortfall.

"If that's the case, higher education will be cut probably substantially more than 3.5 percent, which means OCCC will be cut substantially more than \$891,000. You can see where that leads."

See **MONEY** page 5

## Online program offers 71 languages

**HUNG TRAN**  
Staff Writer  
staffwriter2@occc.edu

OCCC students and staff can learn foreign languages from anywhere — as long as they have a connection to the college library's website.

This is possible through Mango Languages, said System Librarian Dana Tuley-Williams.

"You may not be enrolled in a [language] class, but you may be interested in learning another language," she said.

Tuley-Williams said the program offers instruction in 71 languages.

Based on numbers col-

lected over the last year, she said, the top five most studied languages in Mango are German, Korean, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish (Latin American) and French.

Tuley-Williams said Modern Language professors are having their students practice from home using Mango.

Ginnett Rollins is one of those professors.

"We have a (Study Abroad) group going to Italy to study this summer ...," Rollins said.

"For students who are going to attend that, I am going to recommend that they practice (Italian) using Mango."

TheWorldLanguagesand

See **LIBRARY** page 9

# EDITORIAL/OPINION

**EDITORIAL** | It may be difficult for younger citizens to remember when the U.S. was not the only super power

## State of the world is actually anything but chaotic

For typical freshmen entering college it's probably difficult to remember a time when the U.S. was not considered the world's only superpower. But this dynamic seems to be shifting and was probably always a bit of an anomaly.



**AMAR  
MOLINAS**

The U.S. cold war competitor, the Soviet Union, collapsed in 1991, and Russia and the other former Soviet Republics spent decades picking up the pieces.

China, though it has grown rapidly for many years, has only reached its current status as the world's second-largest economy within the last decade.

Two decades ago, the U.S. conducted the Gulf War successfully after Saddam Hussein invaded neighboring Kuwait in 1990. The U.S. economy and the global economy were relatively healthy.

For a while after the "War on Terror" began, and the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, the U.S. still seemed relatively strong, able to sustain two wars while maintaining economic growth.

Things look a lot different now.

With the global "Great Recession," it became clear that the U.S. could not afford to keep funding two wars that had started to look a lot like the quagmire of the Vietnam War, or the Soviet war in Afghanistan, not the quick "shock and awe" campaigns that were originally intended.

Since the end of the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq in 2011, the dynamics in the region have changed dramatically.

Instead of a stable Iraq held together by a democratic government, the instability in the region has spread.

The so-called "Islamic State" now controls large parts of Iraq and Syria, causing terror and the displacement of more than 11 million people in Syria alone.

Millions of refugees have fled the country. Hundreds of thousands are flowing into Europe. The U.S. has done little more than call in a handful of air strikes to improve the situation.

The most striking thing is the way Russia and Iran, countries that often oppose the U.S., have been able to influence the situation. Both countries have moved troops into Syria to prop up the Syrian government of Bashar Al Assad and Russian planes are now bombing

Syrian rebels supported by the U.S.

This is not the only example of countries pushing back against U.S. influence. China is building man-made islands in the South China Sea and building up its navy to lay claim to the area, and beginning to contest U.S. dominance in international waters.

Russia's involvement in the recent Ukrainian conflict follows a similar pattern. Russia avoided a direct conflict with the U.S. and NATO by denying involvement in Ukraine even as it annexed parts of the country, and flew military jets over Sweden, a NATO member, in an obviously threatening gesture.

The point here is not that the U.S. is weak. With fewer troops in the field, it may actually be in a stronger position to deal with future conflicts. The point is that Russia, China, and other countries are in a position to increase their influence on world events. This may seem like a new trend, but it is really a return to a more normal state of international affairs.

Events like these probably seem distant from the lives of ordinary students in the U.S., but they can have global ramifications.

—AMAR MOLINAS  
WEBMASTER

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR** | Harvard group puts to rest frequent inaccuracies about annual illness

## Flu myths dispelled: vaccine does not cause influenza

**To the Editor:**

There seems to be no shortage of misinformation and bad advice when it comes to dealing with the flu. Here are 10 common myths about the flu.

• **You can catch the flu from the vaccine:** The vaccine is made from an inactivated virus that can't transmit infection. So people who get sick after receiving a flu vaccination were going to get sick anyway. It takes a week or two to get protection from the vaccine.

• **Healthy people don't need to be vaccinated:** Anyone — even healthy folks — can benefit from being vaccinated.

Current guidelines suggest that children ages 6 months to 19 years old, pregnant women, and anyone over age 49 be vaccinated each year. In addition, the flu shot is recommended for healthy people who might spread the virus to others who are particularly susceptible.

• **Getting the flu vaccination is all you need to do to protect yourself from the flu:** Avoid contact with people who have the flu, wash your hands frequently, and consider taking anti-viral medications if you were exposed to the flu before being vaccinated.

• **The flu is just a bad cold.**

Influenza may cause bad cold symptoms. But in the U.S. alone, 36,000 people die and more than 200,000 are hospitalized each year because of the flu.

• **You can't spread the flu if you're feeling well.**

Actually, 20 to 30 percent of people carrying the influenza virus have no symptoms.

• **You don't need to get a flu shot every year.**

The influenza virus changes (mutates) each year. So getting vaccinated each year is important to make sure you have immunity to the strains most likely to cause an outbreak.

• **You can catch the flu from going out in cold weather without a coat, with wet hair or by sitting near a drafty window:** The only way to catch the flu is by being exposed to the influenza virus. Flu season coincides with cold weather but they are not related.

• **Feed a cold, starve a fever.:** If you have the flu (or a cold) and a fever, you need more fluids.

• **Chicken soup will speed your recovery from the flu:** Hot liquids can soothe a sore throat and provide much needed fluids. But chicken soup has no other specific qualities that

can help fight the flu.

• **If you have a high fever with the flu that lasts more than a day or two, antibiotics may be necessary:** Antibiotics work well against bacteria, but they aren't effective for a viral infection like the flu. However, some people can develop a bacterial infection as a complication of the flu.

The flu is a good example of how medical myths can get in the way of good medical care. When it's flu season, take the necessary steps to stay healthy. That includes separating fact from myth.

—WWW.HEALTH.HARVARD

Oklahoma City Community College  
**PIONEER**

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Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the PIONEER, the college or the publisher.

The PIONEER welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature.

E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The PIONEER will withhold the

author's name if the request is made in writing.

The PIONEER has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be no more than 250 words. Students must list a major. OCCC staff and faculty must list a work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the PIONEER office, located in room 1F2 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, mailed to 7777 S May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included.

The PIONEER ONLINE also can be accessed at <http://pioneer.occc.edu>.

# COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

**WEB REVIEW** | Reviewer makes comparison of OCCC, University of Oklahoma sites

## OU website as bad as OCCC's

Never did I think an organization's web resources could disappoint me more than OCCC's, but the 20 fractions of websites that make up the University of Oklahoma's web pages contain more dead links than a Super Smash Brothers Tournament.

I imagine 20 different Assistant IT Student Resourcer Coordinator of Advanced Support Service Specialists launched 20 different exciting revamps of the same simple programs.

Tax dollars have a way of renting a work crew, specialist parts, rented tools, consultants, and what have you when all you need is a claw hammer and a multi tool, and somehow, still not accomplishing the task.

The beauty of computers and the web is in making life easier, but public entities appear to digitize the bureaucracy, allowing you to develop a deep hatred of the organization from the comfort of your computer.

Now it seems by sheer volume, OU does have more



resources than OCCC, making it somewhat more useful.

However, the failure rate is pretty similar for OCCC and OU when it comes to web features.

Just don't expect it to work and you won't be disappointed.

I mean it's not like it's somebody's job to make these things work.

A public institution would never keep an employee or contractor incapable of doing the job for which they're paid. That would be ridiculous.

When it comes to university webpages, I've come to expect to not expect information. It's like archeology: you dig and dig for just a little tidbit.

So, all in all, that makes OU's website at least more exciting.

**Rating: C**

—GRANT SWALWELL  
PODCASTER/BLOGGER

**EVENT REVIEW** | Area business should reduce overpriced admission

## Orr Family Farm too costly for family

'Tis the season for candy, hayrides and pumpkin patches. It is also one of my top four favorite seasons.

Along with the beautiful blended colors of fall comes the joy I see my son having while finding his way through a corn maze, racing pedal tractors, playing in corn pits and shooting apples through an air-compressed launcher.

I get to wonder at the fun and adventure my 5-year-old finds in everything. Also, he's too busy building hay huts with messy, muddy hands to pay attention to the silent tears of an empty wallet from the overpriced play time at the Orr Family Farm, at 14400 S. Western Ave. in Oklahoma City.

I love fall. I love my son. I love watching my son have fun in the fall festivities that come with the season, but the cost of admissions for pumpkin patches, hay rides and other cahoots makes me hesitate to fill our free time with all the activities.

For just my husband, son and me it cost a grand total of \$55.50 to visit Orr Family Farm on a Saturday. That is \$18.50 per person. No children's prices.

Of course, going on a weekday could have saved

us \$11, but between work and school, we don't have time during our weekdays.

I mean, who really does have that kind of time Monday through Thursday?

Those prices were for the admission plus the corn maze. Without the corn maze the price was \$13.50 per person with the maze being \$10 alone, but what fun would

it be to not get lost in corn stalks?

Plus, we still had to pay separately for the pony rides, animal feed, zipline fee and other activities on site.

I understand they have staff and bills, but the pedal cars are powered by the pain and gain from pumping the driver's legs, basketballs are thrown to the basket by the shooter's own arms and most of the games required little to no expense.

At the end of it, my son had a good time with his cousin and it made for a good family day. I just wish my wallet agreed.

At least the parking was free.

**Rating: C+**

—KATIE AXTELL  
EDITOR



## App users can create own play-by-play

Are you sick of terrible commentating for sports events? I know I am.

To be fair, the play-by-play announcers aren't the problem. The problem is color commentators.

The color commentator population is made up of 99 percent ex-athletes. Of those ex-athletes, 75 percent of them have annoying voices, simply point out the obvious and, worst of all, suffer from blatant homerism. Blatant homerism means they are specifically rooting for or against one of the teams playing in that game, because of personal bias.

I am fine listening to Brad Nessler or Al Michaels do the play-by-play commentary for a game. But listening to Mark May, Cris Collinsworth or Dick Vitale — bless his old heart — is downright painful.

Luckily, if you are sick of terrible commentators, there is an app for you. It's called Rabble TV.

Rabble TV is the app for Rabble.tv, a website that gives you, the fan, a voice. Rabble gives you a chance to call your team's games. You can do it from your phone, while at a sporting event (dependent on your data plan), or you can do it from the comfort of your own home with a professional recording setup.

This gives you the chance to be as biased or unbiased as you choose, without being forced to listen to whatever junk ESPN's commentators give you.

You also can listen to other people call your team's games. Commentators can range in experience from your 12-year-old cousin with a gaming headset, to professional podcast and radio hosts such as Jason Davis from Sirius XM's Soccer Morning, and Andy Ruther and Joe Praino from the popular Dirty Sports podcast.

Hosts can give professional or comedic viewpoints to their broadcasts and can interact with fans through comments. Feedback can help commentators grow in experience.

The only drawback to this app is broadcasts can be delayed from the game time by up to a few minutes because of Internet capabilities. But you can sync up your broadcast if your cable plan allows you to pause the channel.

This free app is definitely worth a download if you want a change in your sports broadcast viewing experience.

—CLAYTON MITCHELL  
VIDEOGRAPHER

**Do you have an idea for a review? Send it to the Pioneer!**

**Email to the Pioneer editor at [editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu)**

# COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

FROM THE VAULT MOVIE REVIEW | Film offers it all — sadness, hope, romance, great soundtrack

## ‘Beginners’ trailer enough to bring tears

So a while back, someone recommended this movie to me called “Beginners.”

I watched the trailer and, at that point, realized I would need to save this movie for a time when I could actually enjoy it, instead of just cramming it in between classes. I say this because just the trailer alone almost made me cry.

The movie focuses on a 38-year-old Oliver, played by Ewan McGregor.

Oliver is trying to come to terms with the fact that his 70-something dad, Hal, played by Christopher Plummer, has just come out as being gay after his wife (Oliver’s mom) died.

The trailer reveals Hal gets cancer, but also finds a younger lover, and re-discovers life through him and their group of gay-pride friends.

Throughout this, the song “Stardust” by Hoagy Carmichael is playing, just to prove the fact that this is a

*Beginners*

thought-provoking, honest look at life.

Oliver, meanwhile, is a successful graphic artist, but unsuccessful in romantic endeavors.

That is, until he stumbles across Anna at a costume party, played by French actress Melanie Laurent.

The theme of the movie isn’t exactly relevant to someone my age, but it’s a positive message overall about coming together, and how you’re never too old



to start over again, which I liked, since no one really preaches that too much these days.

The movie features a decent amount of dialogue, and is probably not ideal for someone who needs superheroes and explosions in their movies.

It’s a romance, obviously, so if your masculinity is threatened at the mere mention of the genre, you’d better stay away.

There are a few flaws (at least I think so) with the movie, namely that Oliver somehow struggles to accept and realize that a beautiful French girl is head-over-heels for him.

However, the pros far outweigh the cons here, as “Beginners” is perfectly watchable alone, or with another special someone.

**Rating:** B+

—SPENCER GRANT  
SENIOR WRITER

FOOD REVIEW | Fuzzy’s offers a great variety of tasty Mexican fast food

## Taco joint has strange name, great food

I cook a lot at home. A lot. So when I finally do decide to buy something from a restaurant or fast food place, I want it to be magical. I want to take one bite of that meal and the heavens open up to declare that this food — this deep fried, sodium-loaded chicken taco — is good.

Perhaps my expectations are too high.

It doesn’t help when people yammer on and on about how gloriously delicious Fuzzy’s Taco is. Those folks shrivel their noses up at Taco Bell, Taco Mayo and Ricky’s Taco.

Apparently the only taco worth eating comes from a guy named Fuzzy, which made me suspicious at first.

During my visit, I got the egg and cheese breakfast soft taco and the chicken baja taco. The egg and cheese taco did not disappoint.

It was warm and soft, and tasted like the nectar of the breakfast gods. The tortilla was absolutely delicious and unlike competitors, Fuzzy’s didn’t have to load the taco with cheese to give it flavor.

The baja chicken taco tasted completely different than I expected. I honestly didn’t know what to expect with a name like baja.

It was loaded with crispy lettuce, fresh tomatoes, cilantro, perfectly seasoned chicken, and some sort of magical baja sauce.

I think I like this baja stuff.

The restaurant itself is really inviting if you don’t mind



1,000 insanely bright colors plastered over everything (which I happen to love).

They have approximately 34.5 televisions in that place, but the volume was not obnoxious.

The staff was really nice on my visit. Overall, Fuzzy’s runs a good place to eat.

The prices were a little

higher than I normally would pay for Mexican fast-food but they had some decently priced items too.

The fancy nachos run about \$7 but you could split one plate with a friend. Taco Bell isn’t charging \$2 per taco, but I’ll pay that price for a taco that doesn’t taste like dog food.

Fuzzy’s has such a grand variety of Mexican fare that I will definitely be going back to try out something new.

**Rating:** A+

—DARLA KILHOFFER  
ONLINE EDITOR

Have you recently seen a movie, read a book or dined at an area restaurant?

Head over to our Facebook or Twitter page and tell us about it.



[www.twitter.com/OCCCPioneer](http://www.twitter.com/OCCCPioneer)  
[www.facebook.com/OCCCPioneer](http://www.facebook.com/OCCCPioneer)



## TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of Oct. 30  
through Nov. 1  
[www.newyorktimes.com](http://www.newyorktimes.com)

1. The Martian
2. Goosebumps
3. Bridge of Spies
4. Hotel Transylvania 2
5. The Last Witch Hunter
6. Burnt
7. Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension
8. Our Brand Is Crisis
9. Crimson Peak
10. Steve Jobs
11. The Intern
12. Scouts Guide To The Zombie Apocalypse
13. Woodlawn
14. Sicario
15. Pan
16. Truth
17. Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials
18. Jem and the Holograms
19. The Visit
20. The Rocky Horror Picture Show

# Campus police respond to a burning motorcycle

SPENCER GRANT  
Senior Writer  
seniorwriter@occc.edu

A stolen motorcycle, trouble at the duck pond, and a false fire alarm were among reports generated by campus police in recent weeks.

Officer Zachary Andrews was called to investigate a vehicle fire at 8:25 p.m. Oct. 21. When he arrived, the Oklahoma City Fire department was extinguishing the flames on a motorcycle that had been abandoned on May Avenue, east of J. Lee Keels Boulevard.

Oklahoma City police on the scene said the driver had fled to a nearby neighborhood. After running the tag through databases, it was determined

the motorcycle was stolen.

The vehicle identification number on the tag did not match the one on the motorcycle.

The vehicle was taken by Puckett's Wrecker Service around 8:50 p.m.

Two women, age 14 and 47, were questioned recently by campus police after they were seen at the campus retention pond reportedly putting a mother duck and her ducklings in a crate. The incident occurred around 7 p.m. Oct. 23.

The girl, identified as a Pathways Middle College student, and her mother had placed the ducks in an animal crate when Officers P.T. Solinski and Andrews arrived.

The student told the officers

she is in the 4-H program and is knowledgeable about duck care. She said the duck was not native to the area and expressed concern that the ducklings would not make it through the winter.

The women said they had been given permission to remove the ducks but could not recall the name of the person who had given them the go ahead.

Police reached an agreement with the women that the ducks would remain on OCCC property until they were able to provide the officers with that name.

The names of the women were redacted from reports.

Campus Police responded to a fire alarm at about 2 p.m. Oct.

20, in room 2C1 of the Science, Engineering and Math Center.

Biology Lab Supervisor Virginia Hovda told Solinski a black plastic tray had melted in the dishwasher located in the room. The Oklahoma City Fire Department was notified it was a false alarm.

A suspicious man whose information has been redacted from reports, was recently reported to campus police.

Solinski responded to calls at 1:40 p.m., on Oct. 20 from the library.

When approached by police and asked what he had done to cause the employees to call them, the man said he had an odd sense of humor and was sorry if he had offended anyone.

A statement was taken from library staff, whose names had been redacted from reports. The statement also was not included in the report.

Information was redacted from the reports under the direction of Marketing and Public Relations Director Cordell Jordan who said names are redacted "according to OCCCPD Standard Operating Procedures involving information released and information withheld."

To obtain a copy of the procedure, email [cjordan@occc.edu](mailto:cjordan@occc.edu).

To contact campus police, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7747.

For an emergency, use one of the call boxes located inside and outside on campus or call 405-682-7872.

## Money: State budget reductions could mean personnel cuts

Continued from page 1

University of Oklahoma president David Boren has a state sales tax plan to help bring a higher amount of funding to Oklahoma higher education.

Steward said he has no prediction on it yet, but foresees more discussions on the plan in the near future.

The college was able to patch the hole in its budget this year by closing the Aquatic Center, which saved \$280,000 a year.

Other cost-saving measures included added modifications to help OCCC conserve energy and money.

Boyd said about \$1.2 to 1.3 million a year goes to utilities expenses, depending on the seasons.

"I think (have saved) about \$136,000 in utility services when you compare fiscal year 2015 to 2014," he said. "So we're really working hard at trying to conserve our energy ..."

Steward said one of his jobs as president is to try and raise money for the school, whether it comes from federal grants or private donors.

"That money has to come from somewhere," he said. "If

we can't get it from outside sources, I have to go to internal funds and allocate that. For the last four or five years, we've had no substantial increase in our funding.

"Since 2008, maybe 2007, we have had to absorb our mandatory cost increases. Every year things go up for software licenses and all the costs associated with the college.

"We've absorbed those increased costs in our non-personnel budgets for the past five, six, seven years and we haven't had to cut any programs, we haven't had to cut positions, we haven't had to cut out any functions.

"But we've cut the non-personnel cost about all that we can. "So we have to start planning for if we have a cut — what we're going to do."

Steward said if the state revenue picture turns out to be as grim as the projections he's hearing now, the college may have no choice but to reduce staff.

He said he has advised the President's cabinet to think of where those cuts could be.

"I've talked to the cabinet members and I have asked them

to be thinking about if we have to cut a certain percentage of our non-personal budgets, what would you cut?"

"Think about if we have to cut positions — what are the positions that you would say we would cut first? That's very painful."

Steward said the core mission of OCCC is teaching and learning.

He said he uses the mission as the principle to guide him to make the decisions necessary for the school as to what will be cut from the budget.

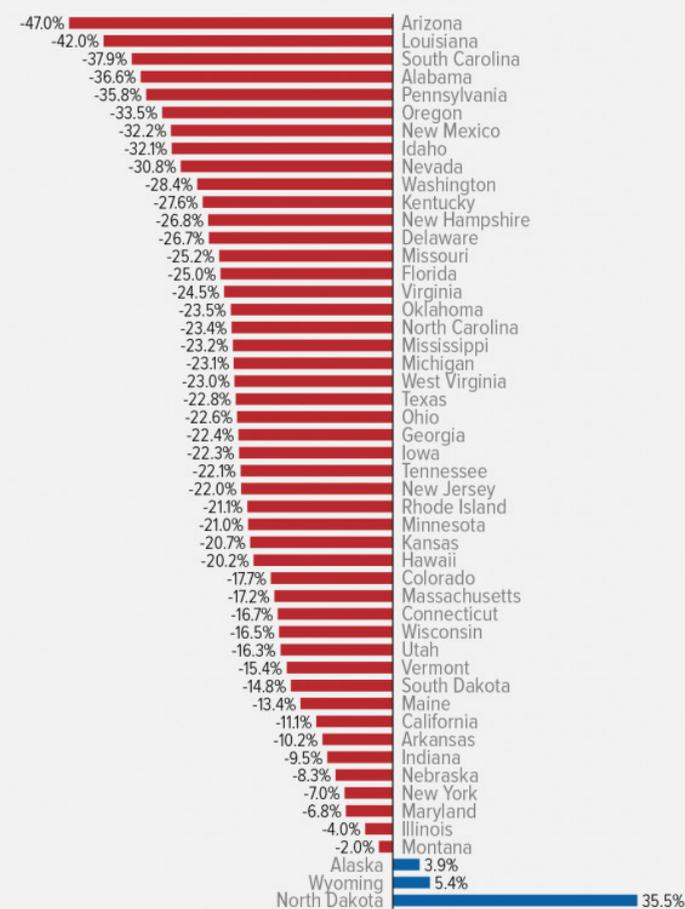
"Of course, we're going to have to reduce our budgets if the state appropriates less money," he said.

"We're going to have to reduce our budgets in some way. There's no realistic chance that the Legislature will give higher education any new money.

"The financial news is not good. Our government leaders say education is the way to increase the value in our state, our paychecks, the number of good paying jobs, the way to elevate the per capita income and make our lives better — but we are actually disinvesting in education."

### State Funding for Higher Education Remains Far Below Pre-Recession Levels in Most States

Percent change in state spending per student, inflation adjusted, 2008 - 2015



Source: CBPP calculations using data from Illinois State University's annual Grapevine Report and the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association. Illinois funding data is provided by the Fiscal Policy Center at Voices for Illinois Children. Because enrollment data is only available through the 2014 school year, enrollment for the 2014-15 school year is estimated using data from past years. Years are fiscal years.

# Students can learn while traveling

TREY BELL

News Writing Student

Oklahoma Study Abroad is a program that allows students to explore the world, while earning college credit at the same time. Oklahoma Study Abroad founder Christian Alyea spoke about the benefits of international travel to a journalism class on Oct. 6.

"We started in 2010," Alyea said. "Our first trip was through OCCC to Costa Rica."

"We offer trips to Central America, South America, all over Europe, India, — and we will be taking a biology trip to South Africa next year."

Alyea is from Oklahoma City and attended Classen School of Advanced Studies for high school. He then traveled to Slovakia in 2005 as a high school exchange student.

He attended the City University of Seattle campus in Slovakia, and returned home in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in business administration, and a desire to spend more time traveling.

"Our goal with all of our travelers is to get them to a city, get them engaged in the city, teach them how to operate and get around, and build their confidence to continue these types of journeys in the



future," Alyea said.

Alyea said the hope is that the students will return for a full semester of coursework at a four-year university.

When asked exactly how "study" fits into Oklahoma Study Abroad, Alyea responded by saying each trip has an educational focus. He said while study abroad can be pricey, there are many forms of financial help.

"The good thing about study abroad is you can use Pell Grants or any type of financial aid," he said.

Alyea said leftover money from scholarships also can be used to help fund the trip.

He said several travelers have used online fundraising programs such as GoFundMe, while other students have gotten companies to sponsor their trips.

Trips range from 10 days up to two weeks, Alyea said.

"You do not have to be a student to participate," he said.

"You can bring friends, you can bring family, even boy-

friends and girlfriends."

Mireya Delgado, Cyber Security major at OCCC, shared her experience of traveling to Italy on an Oklahoma Study Abroad trip.

"It's a wonderful experience," she said. "You meet so many new people and try so many different types of food."

Delgado returned for a trip to Central Europe with an OCCC group this past summer.

Alyea said trip itineraries allow for travelers to explore on their own.

"One thing that's essential is the amount of free time you're given," he said. "It's about creating your own personal experiences."

Alyea also talked about living accommodations. He jokingly asked if anyone knew the difference between the word "hotel" and "hostel."

"The S," he said. "The S stands for social. It's a place where travelers from around the world can socialize, meet each other and have a great place to stay."

News Writing Professor Sue Hinton recounted her own experience with hostels during a study-abroad trip to Rome and Florence.

"Oftentimes you're within walking distance from the nearest grocery store," she said.

"If you want a little more than whole wheat bread and cereal for breakfast, then you can go to the store and buy your own fruit and yogurt."

"Sometimes someone may volunteer to cook dinner. Someone would have the pasta recipe, and someone else would get the salad. Believe it or not, it was some of the best food we'd ever had."

OCCC will offer six study-abroad trips in 2016. Prices include airfare, accommodations, in-country transportation, breakfasts and some dinners, Alyea said. Course tuition and books are not included.

• London for spring break is scheduled March 11 through 20. Participating students will take an Introduction to Theatre class with Professor Brent Noel.

Cost is \$2,700. Noel's email is bnoel@occc.edu.

• Paris is scheduled for May 16 through 25, for an Art Appreciation class with Hinton. Cost is \$2,700. Hinton's email is shinton@occc.edu.

• Rome and Florence, Italy, is May 16 through 26 for a Beginning Italian class with Modern Languages Professor Ginnett Rollins. Cost is \$2,900. Rollins' email is grollins@occc.edu.

• Costa Rica will be the destination for a Spanish Immersion class from May 16 through 29 with Modern Languages Professor Hilde Votaw. Cost is \$1,900. Votaw's email is hilde.m.votaw@occc.edu.

• Ireland will be the destination from May 16 through 29. The course will be Geography-Landscapes of Identity with Geography Professor Julie Rice-Rollins. Cost will be \$2,900. Rice-Rollins can be reached at jrollins@occc.edu.

• Costa Rica and Panama will be the location for a biology class in Environmental Conservation with Biology Professor Sherri Arthur. The dates are July 30 through Aug. 11. Cost is \$1,900. Arthur's email is sherri.j.arthur@occc.edu.

For more information about Oklahoma Study Abroad trips, visit [www.oklahomastudyabroad.com](http://www.oklahomastudyabroad.com).

## OCCC student veterans receive above-and-beyond help

ANDREW OUSLEY

News Writing Student

Almost 600 military veterans attend classes at OCCC, said Janis Armstrong, Veterans Services coordinator. The enrollment of veterans indicates that OCCC is a good fit for them, she said.

Classes are offered later in the evening compared to other universities that may not be as flexible in their hours.

OCCC evening classes start at 5:30 and 8 p.m. making it easier for veterans who are trying to balance their work schedule as well as their families.

The Veteran's Services office is located just past the enrollment office on the first floor of the Main Building.

Armstrong said she and her staff handle the veterans' GI Bill benefits, which is basically their

educational benefits.

One of the biggest issues is veterans who need to claim disability and need to be pointed in the right direction, Armstrong said. She said the OCCC veterans office can help.

"We are set up to give them names and numbers to refer them," she said.

Armstrong encourages any military veteran working on getting disability to contact her at 405-682-7527 or at [jarmstrong@occc.edu](mailto:jarmstrong@occc.edu).

One of the places the office refers to is the Veterans Corner in Goldsby, Oklahoma, south of Norman, Armstrong said.

"It is solely volunteers and they will help veterans get their claims started," she said.

Dependents also are a very big factor as well, Armstrong said. These are people who benefit from someone in their family having served in the military.

These dependents vary from children to spouses.

At OCCC, the veterans office handles all affairs with dependents and their benefits from the GI Bill or any other money they may receive.

The GI Bill is money the government pays to veterans based on their years of service.

"It's not [just] veterans but their dependents as well," Armstrong said.

In the Veteran's Services office on campus, there are many veterans working to assist their fellow veterans, Armstrong said.

She said it's a comfortable place where these vets can sit down, and really feel like they are being understood and assisted.

For more information, contact Veteran's Services at [www.occc.edu/veterans](http://www.occc.edu/veterans), or 405-682-1611, ext. 7694.

The office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

# OCCC officials against guns on campus

**LENORA LAVICTOIRE**  
Community Writer  
communitywriter@occc.edu

Virginia Tech University, Minnesota State University, Umpqua Community College and Northern Arizona University all have one thing in common. Each was the site of a college campus shooting.

“No one can guarantee our safety,” said OCCC President Jerry Steward when asked how safe the OCCC campus is.

“In recent months and years, people have even breached the White House, probably the most heavily guarded place in the nation.

“What we can do is be very diligent in doing everything that is reasonably possible to insure the safety of our students, faculty and staff.”

Time Magazine reports there have been 23 shootings on college campuses across the U.S. this year alone.

Steward believes one way to keep the OCCC community safe is not to allow guns on campus except for campus police.

He said Oklahoma higher education groups have been able to defeat proposed legislation to allow weapons on campus for the last eight years.

“The state legislature has the authority to mandate that we allow guns on campus or not,” he said.

“Thus far, we’ve been able to defeat those bills. I hope that we are able to do that again this year.”

Police Chief James Fitzpatrick said he likes OCCC’s weapons policy.

He said only certified police officers are allowed to carry guns on the OCCC campus.

In fact, he said, it goes even further than that.

“No weapons. Not just firearms. Nobody is allowed any ... weapon on campus.”

Steward said it’s critical that legislation never pass that would allow guns on campus.

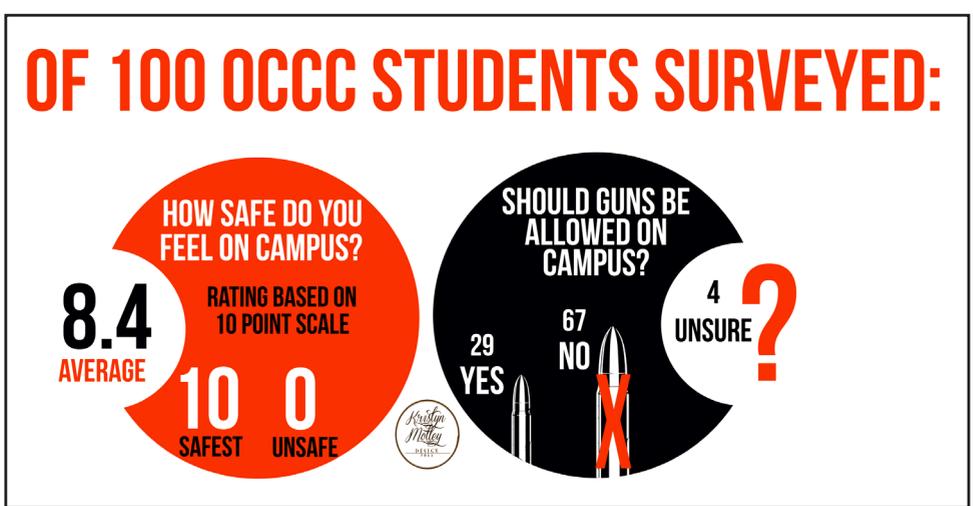
“I believe that having either concealed or open weapons would make all of us less safe, not more safe,” he said.

Steward said he believes having guns on campus would increase the chance of an accidental shooting.

“In a real crisis on campus even well-meaning people might shoot someone that they didn’t mean to shoot.”

Acting Risk Management and Emergency Planning Director Erin Logan said one of the most important ways to help prevent a shooting on campus is to be proactive and look out for each other’s mental health.

She said faculty, staff, and students need to recognize the warning signs so they can de-escalate situations instead of escalating them.



Logan said some of those warning signs include excessive absences, drastic changes in attitude and unusual behavior, dress, or taste.

She said students have access to mental health counseling through Student Support Services while faculty and staff have low-cost or free counseling available through their employee benefits package.

Steward said it takes diligence to keep everyone safe.

He said the campus has a Care Team that helps monitor and treat people who might be at risk.

“If you see something, say something,” he said.

Though safety is a priority, Steward said he does not foresee the campus ever being closed to the public.

Logan agreed, saying the school

prides itself on its open campus being available to the community.

“We don’t have to swipe a card to get into a building,” she said. “Anybody is welcome on our campus.”

Steward said although he feels OCCC is a safe campus, college officials always remain aware.

“If you look at our incidents of significant criminal activity and think about the number of people who are in and out of the campus each day, I think we are a safe campus,” Steward said.

“However that does not mean that we are immune from having a very serious incident ... because that could happen at any time.”

To see the full Time Magazine article, visit <http://time.com/4058669/northern-arizona-university-school-shootings-2015/>.

## SHOULD GUNS BE ALLOWED ON CAMPUS? **Student Voices**



“We don’t need guns. It is not really necessary.”  
—Kyle King  
Nursing Major



“If no one brings a gun to campus, then people won’t use them for the wrong reasons. I just don’t like them.”  
—Zobia Manaf  
Diversified Studies Major



“I think it is our right and within reason. We should be allowed to have that right.”  
—Krista Snow  
Mathematics Major



“I feel like so far it is safe and there hasn’t been issues or situations (where we need guns) to protect ourselves.”  
—Ashley Banks  
Respiratory Care Therapy Major



“I think they should only be allowed for law enforcement or if you have a license.”  
—Miguel Sanchez  
Engineering Major

## SPORTS



**TRX workout:** OCCC Retiree Gary Lombard (left), teaches one of the many strength classes held in the college's Wellness Center. The TRX class, popular among students and faculty members, simultaneously helps in developing balance, flexibility, strength and core stability. For more information about the TRX class or other fitness classes, visit [www.occc.edu/rf/wellness-classes.html](http://www.occc.edu/rf/wellness-classes.html). *Melissa Sue Lopez/Pioneer*

## A little nudge for holiday exercise

IAN MANERA  
Sports Writer  
[sportswriter@occc.edu](mailto:sportswriter@occc.edu)

The holidays are near and OCCC's Recreation and Fitness Department has a plan to keep time-pressed students motivated to work out, said Wellness Center Manager Brooke Dresel.

There will be a drawing with a myriad of prizes starting on Nov. 2 for students who check into the gym to work out, Dresel said.

"The holiday season is busy, and it takes up a lot of your time [to work out,]" she said. "It seems like most people who regularly work out fall off the wagon at this time of year.

"Every time you attend, you get entered into a drawing for prizes. We're just trying to motivate people and keep them encouraged to come in. You get entered each time you check in."

Dresel said the holidays can be very

detrimental to people's workout regimens, because of all of the festivities and stress that goes along with them.

"Everyone is having potlucks or family get-togethers," she said. "And, everywhere you go, you're expected to eat, and if you don't, it's rude. It's just very hard to stay on your path if you have a goal. And, once you lose track of your goal it's very hard to stay motivated."

Dresel said the drawing encourages students to keep up with their fitness goals despite the large amount of stress and the time constraints.

"Through the holidays, there's stress, but depression is also a real issue," she said. "It gets darker earlier, and there's a lot of pressure and stress. It's great to just come down here and be around the positivity and activity."

As of now, the prizes consist of mainly gift cards from various places, Dresel said. She said she plans to add more.

"We're in contact with larger corporations but they take a little bit longer," she said. "Even as the drawing begins, they won't be finalized because I'm still adding more."

Dresel said the drawing is great because students have a chance to win something they can use, not just one specific prize that they may not want.

"Even if you don't get drawn first, there's still motivation to get something because you aren't drawing a specific prize," she said. "You get to pick out of all of the prizes until they're gone. They'll be several winners, not just a few."

Dresel said winners will be contacted when the drawing ends on Dec. 18, just in time for Christmas.

While the holidays are all about doing things for other people, Dresel said, the drawing encourages students to do something for themselves.

"So, you're busy doing things for other people during the holidays, but taking some time for yourself can be very therapeutic."

For more information, call 405-682-7860 or visit [www.occc.edu/rf/](http://www.occc.edu/rf/).

### GETTING TO KNOW:

ELIZABETH  
HOBI  
SPORTS  
ATTENDANT  
SINCE 2011



**Q: What is your job at OCCC?**

A: "I teach dance and fitness classes. I teach for both adults and kids. Basically, I try to offer dance classes that are inclusive for people who are dancers and for people who want to exercise."

**Q: How long have you been at OCCC?**

A: "I started the dance program here as part of my doctoral program back in December of 2011."

**Q: What are some of your hobbies?**

A: "My work is also my hobby. So, everything I do outside of work [involves] some sort of dance. I like ballroom, fitness and cats. Dance, fitness, cats and chocolate. Can't think of anything else."

**Q: What sports/physical activities have you participated in through your life?**

A: "Everything has really involved dance. Cheerleading, dance and fitness for the most part."

**Q: Favorite sports teams?**

A: "I'm a huge Thunder fan. I check out all of the local teams, though."

**Q: What's your favorite part of fitness?**

A: "I love having the music going. As soon as the music plays I'm excited. We're all in it together, and we're all working out and doing something challenging."

**Q: Do you think fitness is important? Why?**

A: "I do think fitness is one of the most important things there is because it's not only good for you, it's really the only fountain of youth we have. It's such a nice stress relief. It really is. When you have regular exercise that is challenging and you get through that, it really makes you feel better and helps you relieve stress."

HAVE SPORTS NEWS?

Email [sportswriter@occc.edu](mailto:sportswriter@occc.edu)

## Library: OCCC students able to access 71 languages online

*Continued from page 1*

Cultures Center on the second floor of the Main Building offers another language-learning program called Rosetta Stone. However, Tuley-Williams said, that is accessible only on the computers in that area.

“... [The Mango Languages program] you can do from everywhere, as long as you can get on the Internet,” she said.

Rollins said she likes the off-campus aspect of Mango as well.

“Rosetta Stone is a great language program but you cannot take it home,” she said.

“Mango, you can do from your home. That is a very big advantage.”

Tuley-Williams said to use the online program, students need to visit the Library website at [www.occc.edu/library](http://www.occc.edu/library), then, under “Other Resources,” choose the link “More.”

From there, choose “Mango Languages.”

There are two ways to access the program from that point, Tuley-Williams said.

First-time users who just want to see how the program operates, can choose the Guest Access mode.

Those who want to use it

more often can create their own accounts at the site.

Tuley-Williams said once a user is logged in, there are a variety of helpful resources.

“They do have grammar and vocabulary ...,” she said. “It is a way to introduce [users] to the basic elements of the languages.”

“There are also advanced courses.”

Tuley-Williams said people gain improvement differently from using the program.

Film and Video Production and Computer Animation major Mitch Cruse said he took a couple of Spanish classes at

OCCC. He said he practiced occasionally with Rosetta Stone at the WLCC.

However, he said, he is going to check out the Mango Languages program.

“It sounds much better,” he said. “You’re able to do what you want to do [at home] and save yourself a drive.”

Deion Harrison, business major, said students could use Mango to help them in their careers.

He said students who learn a second language have an advantage over those who know only one language.

Harrison said he is impressed

with the number of languages the program offers.

“... It is a unique opportunity for students,” he said.

Rollins said to keep in mind that although people can benefit from Mango, it doesn’t replace the need to take language courses.

“With Mango you can reinforce what you learn in class,” she said.

“It is entertaining, it is like a game.”

“It does not replace a class because in a class, you get clarification and explanation. And in a class, you also get real practice speaking.”

## Work: College employees required to report all outside jobs

*Continued from page 1*

second job. That’s followed by the Arts division with five employed outside of OCCC.

Arts Division Secretary Jessica De Arman said she also works as a dance instructor for enjoyment. She said since the classes are held at night, they don’t conflict with her job at OCCC.

Thirteen of the 33 who have filed the form also are employed at other colleges and universities, including the University of Oklahoma, Rose State College, and the University of Phoenix.

Christopher said a few factors come into play as to why employees are required to fill out the Outside Employment forms.

“As a state employee we have to name a primary employer versus a non-primary employer ...,” she said.

“We want to make sure there is no conflict [and] their secondary position doesn’t contradict with their primary

position here.

“Also, for state payroll purposes, [the college has] to have notification if you’re receiving payroll from multiple state agencies. So it’s really a tracking mechanism for the state.”

Christopher said the Affordable Care Act also comes into play with its requirements that employers provide healthcare to their employees.

“There are some issues about dual employment and primary employers, so we need to know if we are the primary employee,” she said. “That triggers our responsibility to offer health care.”

“So all of these factors play into why we’re requiring [employees] to provide some kind of notification to us as to if we are their primary employer.”

Another circumstance is conflict of interest, Christopher said.

If an OCCC employee is hired by an outside company who conducts business with the college, it could cause problems, she said.

“[The OCCC employee] would have had access to the entire building ... and we just felt like that would be a conflict for [the employee] to have outside access to the college in a different capacity.”

As stated in the OCCC Employee Handbook, employees are required to inform their supervisor of any outside employment at the start of each fiscal year, Christopher said.

She said those who do not complete the form at the beginning of the year have the option to fill it out at a later date without any negative impact or penalty.

“It has to be signed by their supervisor and then signed by their president cabinet member, and then it comes to Human Resources.”

“If there is an issue of a conflict, then that does come to me as the vice president of Human Resources to make the determination of whether or not there is a conflict.”

“Then our policy states that in the

event that there is an inherent conflict, then the employee will be given the option to relinquish the other position, relinquish their position with the college or make a determination of how they would like to handle that.”

Christopher said there could be many reasons why OCCC employers seek outside jobs.

“I don’t necessarily know if it’s a need or maybe an interest to do something outside of their regular position ...,” she said. “I think it’s interesting because we have a varied group of people ... and we don’t try to regulate that. We just want to make sure we’re in compliance with the law.”

“We’re not trying to run their lives or tell them what they can do.”

“We just want to make sure if they do have outside employment, it does not conflict with their primary employment here at the college.”

For more information, email [angie.r.christopher@occc.edu](mailto:angie.r.christopher@occc.edu).

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# CAMPUS COMMUNITY



**Bidding:** Lisa Ballard, Technology Support Services Assistant, left, and Makenna Smith, Technology Support Services Student Assistant, place bids on items donated by OCCC students and employees for the United Way Silent Auction. “I bid on the Good Night Moon Basket because I will be having my first grandbaby in March,” Ballard said. “I hope I win.”  
*Melissa Sue Lopez/  
Pioneer*

## Leading expert on Syria to speak

**LENORA LAVICTOIRE**  
Community Writer  
communitywriter@occc.edu

The death toll in Syria is estimated at 200,000 people according to a September New York Times story “Death In Syria.” And that estimate is considered low because compiling the number of lives lost is difficult at such a dangerous time in the country.

An even higher number is reported on [iamsyria.org](http://iamsyria.org). Their website has estimated 250,000 plus deaths in Syria.

There are more than four million Syrian refugees registered, said United Nations Refugee Agency reports as of Oct. 19.

The refugees are fleeing the civil war in Syria where parties, including the Syrian government led by President Bashar al-Assad and groups opposed to him, and the militant group known as ISIS—are committing numerous war crimes, said Political Science Professor Sharon Vaughan.

“The human toll and suffering is just stunning,” Vaughan said.

Vaughan said students came to her this fall to ask her what they could do to help those Syrian refugees.

“The first thing I can do as an educator is to get educated about it,” Vaughan said, “... and not just by anyone.”

Vaughan said when she thought of an expert who could educate both her and the students, the first person who came to mind was Joshua Landis, Center



**Joshua Landis**

for Middle East Studies Director at the University of Oklahoma and leading expert on Syria.

Landis will speak at noon on Tuesday, Nov. 10, in the Bruce Owen Theater. His lecture will focus on ISIS and Syria, and the crisis of identity for the refugees, said Student Life Coordinator Travis Ruddle.

Vaughan said everyone could benefit from attending.

“This is a chance for all of us to get educated about Syria and ISIS,” she said.

Vaughan said with so many countries involved in the current crisis, the global impact is huge. She said educating students on global matters is critical to

their education.

“We need to broaden the world for our students and teach them why global issues matter,” she said.

“The more we do of that, the better it is for our students.”

Vaughan said the impact of the so-called Islamic State on Syria’s historical architecture has been devastating.

One such historical site is Palmyra, the ruins of a large city more than 2,000-years-old.

The United Nations cultural agency, UNESCO, has deemed Palmyra a World Heritage site. Since ISIS seized the site in May, they have destroyed many historical artifacts, including two 2,000-year-old temples.

“We’re seeing things that we haven’t seen since World War II,” Vaughan said.

For more information on Landis’ lecture, contact Ruddle at 405-682-7683.

## CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

### Dream Act Oklahoma offering help Nov. 9

Those seeking legal help about the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Act (DACA) can register for a seminar on document organizing from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9, on the third floor of the Main Building in room 3L6. Space will be limited, so participants are encouraged to register beforehand. To register, contact 929-335-3265 or email [carlos@dreamact.org](mailto:carlos@dreamact.org).

### Native American Studies Presentation Nov. 9

Jerry Bread, from the Native American Studies College at OU, will speak at 12:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9, in CU3. Bread will discuss the importance of a college degree and Native American culture, while promoting the Native American studies degree offered at OU. For more information, contact NASA at [nasa@my.occc.edu](mailto:nasa@my.occc.edu).

### GET a job workshop planned Nov. 10

Students can learn valuable skills about landing the right job for them at a Graduation, Employment, and Transfer workshop at noon on Tuesday, Nov. 10, in CU1. For more information, contact the GET office at 405-682-7521.

### Celebrate Veterans Day with OCCC Nov. 11

Active service members, veterans and civilians are encouraged to participate in this year’s Veterans Day Program from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, in CU 1, 2 and 3. Participants will hear from a student and staff veteran speaker about their lives after the military. For more information, contact Travis Ruddle or Kristi Fields by calling the Student Life office at 405-682-7523.

### Guitar quartet to perform Nov. 12

The Los Angeles Guitar Quartet will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12. The quartet consists of four musicians, scholars and authors, John Dearman, Matthew Greif, William Kanengiser and Scott Tennant. For tickets or more information, contact the OCCC Box Office at 405-682-7579 or visit [www.tickets.occc.edu](http://www.tickets.occc.edu).

### GET2Know University of Oklahoma Nov. 12

Students can meet with Sooner faculty members and advisers, learn about degrees and scholarships, and discuss admission and financial aid from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, in CU3. For more information, contact the GET Office at 405-682-7519 or by email at [transfer@occc.edu](mailto:transfer@occc.edu).

### Tuition Waiver applications due Friday, Nov. 20.

Tuition Waiver applications for spring 2016 are available until 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20, in the Financial Aid Office. Students need to attach an Academic Transcript and be enrolled for at least six hours in the spring semester before submitting their application to the Financial Aid Office. For more information, call Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-7525.

**All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to [editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu) or drop by the Pioneer office located in AH 1F2.**

# CLASSIFIEDS

Pioneer classified advertising is free to all enrolled OCCC students and employees for any personal classified ad. Ad applications must be submitted with IDs supplied by 5 p.m. Fridays prior to the next publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

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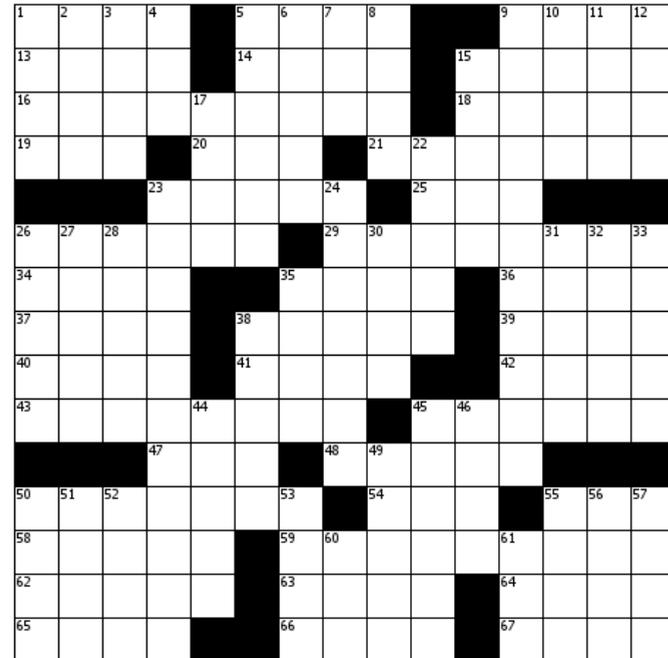
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## WEEKLY CROSSWORD

### Across

1. Style of gold chain
5. Growth period
9. Get one's teeth into
13. Gardner and namesakes
14. Goddess of the moon
15. Born yesterday
16. Where Alice toiled
18. It's sometimes final
19. Debate position
20. Ltd., in the U.S.
21. Painkiller choice
23. Yale, Brown, etc.
25. Head for Vegas?
26. Horseless carriage pioneer Elwood
29. Particles in suspension
34. Ever and \_\_\_\_
35. Spelling of "Beverly Hills, 90210"
36. "Peter Pan" character
37. Kettle covers
38. "... attired in \_\_\_\_ of white" (Shakespeare)
39. "\_\_\_\_ Rock" (Simon & Garfunkel hit)
40. Toast spread
41. Butter units
42. Harrow rival
43. Identical
45. Certify
47. Mercury or Saturn, but not Mars
48. Make good on a loan
50. Jake of boxing
54. Printer resolution abbreviation
55. A real Stoooge
58. Endow, as with a quality
59. Automobile feature
62. Low dams
63. Hearts do it sometimes
64. Modern pentathlon event
65. She was Major Houlihan
66. They love sugar
67. Polanski film



### Down

1. Water-skier's apparatus
2. Page-bottom direction
3. \_\_\_\_ Alto
4. Squiggly shape
5. Russian pancakes
6. Gold weight measure
7. Part of a countdown
8. Winepress residue
9. Nightclub regulars
10. '50s audiophile's purchase
11. With neither side ahead
12. No longer are
15. Knobby
17. Market plunge
22. Kukla's puppet pal
23. English legal societies
24. Kid's vehicle
26. Angelic circles
27. Old-womanish
28. Song of the Alps
30. Planetarium sights
31. Livid
32. Major-\_\_\_\_ (chief stewards)
33. Hardly any
35. Sussex streetcar
38. Here and there?
44. Appeases hunger
45. Granny Smiths
46. Kite stabilizer
49. King's proclamation
50. Alcindor and Wallace
51. From the top
52. Year of Columbus's fourth voyage
53. Taj Mahal's site
55. Engage in self-pity
56. Rock group?
57. Just makes out
60. Published
61. Type of paint



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# Texting while driving could cost \$100

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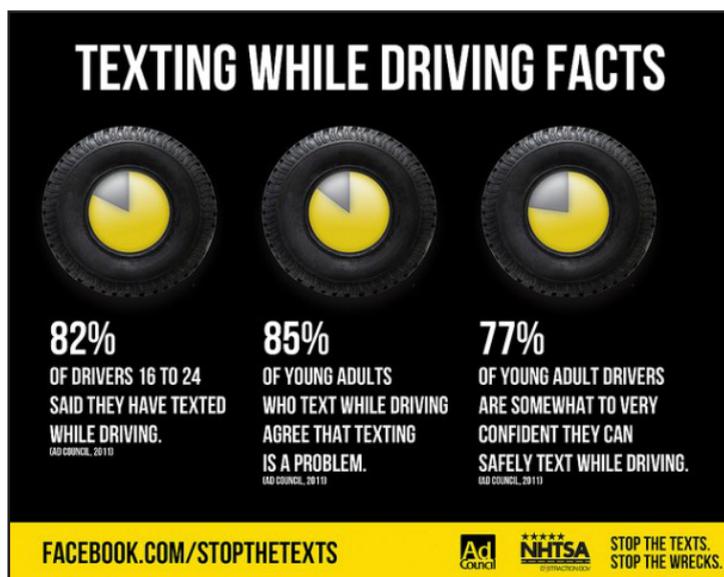
Drivers who text, post to social media, or enter an address into their GPS while driving could now face a \$100 fine, said Oklahoma Safety Council Executive Director Dave Koenke.

Under the Trooper Nicholas Dees and Trooper Keith Burch Act, officers can pull over drivers who are manually entering text information into their cell phones, Koenke said.

Koenke said the law will be strictly enforced. He said even pushing one button on a phone while driving could result in being pulled over.

The bill was signed into law in May 2015 and went into effect Nov. 1, according to oklegislature.gov.

It is named after two troopers who were struck by a vehicle while investigating an overturned tractor-trailer, a press release from Gov. Mary Fallin



states. Dees died at the scene and Burch was hospitalized. The driver who struck the two men was using a smartphone at the time.

In part, the bill reads: "It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle on any street or highway within this state while using a hand-held electronic communication device to manually compose, send or read an electronic text message while the motor

vehicle is in motion."

Koenke said drivers can do anything that is voice activated, including voice-activated texting, bluetooth and hands-free calling.

Drivers also can hold a phone while talking although, he said, that is discouraged.

Under the new law, surfing the web, posting to social media, emailing and selfies are illegal while driving.

Koenke said because it's a

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—DAVE KOENEKE  
OKLAHOMA SAFETY COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

primary law, those texting don't have to be driving unsafely or involved in an accident to be pulled over and fined.

"... If the car is weaving, typically going slow — those are signs that someone is using a cell phone and probably not paying attention to the road," he said.

Koenke said while most drivers wouldn't think of closing their eyes for four and a half seconds while at the wheel, that's the average time it takes to read or write a text — and that's all it takes for minds to disengage.

"You're choosing to put your-

self in harm by not wearing a seatbelt," he said.

"If you're texting, you're putting everybody else in harm because you're all over the road, not paying attention."

Koenke said although texting at a stoplight is legal, he discourages it.

"It's real tough to put that phone down when you're typing away and the light turns green," he said.

"You take your foot off the brake, you touch the accelerator and you're considered moving."

Koenke said no points will be taken from driver's license and there are no court costs associated with the fine. He also said police officers do not have the right to take your phone.

He said if you suspect someone may be texting and driving, report it by calling 911 or calling the Oklahoma Highway Patrol at \*55.

To read House Bill 1965, visit oklegislature.gov.

## Soup contest, bake sale, silent auction on calendar Nov. 11

ERIKA CRISTINA FIERRO  
News Writing Student

For \$3 customers can enjoy a bowl of homemade soup and a dessert for lunch Wednesday, Nov. 11, while helping fund scholarships for OCCC students.

This event will be located in front of the Communications Lab on the first floor of the Main Building.

Librarian Tricia Sweany said the Faculty Association will be serving soup from 11 a.m. until they sell out, as part of its annual Soup and Bake Sale and Silent Auction.

"We have eight or nine soups entered in the contest," said Sweany, event co-chair.

News Writing Instructional Assistant Ronna Austin said this is her second time entering the soup contest. She plans to add variety to the offerings by addressing the dietary needs of those vegetarians who also forego dairy products.

"I just became a vegan a year and a half ago, and I'm pretty excited about entering a vegan soup," Austin said. She will be making a Vegan Massaman Curry.

"And I am not holding back. My soup will be spicy," Austin said.

Physics Professor Tad Thurston seems to be the cook to beat at the soup contest. Thurston won the Faculty Association's chili cook-off earlier this spring.

Thurston has more than a handful of wins under his belt.

"But who's counting?" Thurston asked.

What is the secret to Thurston's contest-winning recipe?

"The original soup was actually something brought by friends to a Halloween party as a sort of dip for breadsticks," said Thurston in an e-mail interview. "I found out later that it was first a soup recipe from a family-owned Louisiana restaurant."

Over time Thurston has modified the recipe to include readily available ingredients.

The Faculty Association usually raises more than \$1,000 during the soup sale and silent auction each fall, said librarian and event co-chair Ann Raia.

"Typically, we award anywhere from five to eight scholarships to students with the funds from the soup sale and silent auction," she said. "The number of scholarships we award each semester varies depending on the funds raised."

Sweany said they will have a credit card machine for those who don't have cash. The Silent Auction and Bake Sale begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m.

Sweany said the faculty have donated some good items.

"We have an iPad mini, a Sooner box filled with different OU gear, jewelry, and more really good items



up for bid in the auction," she said.

Items begin as low as \$10 and go up from there, she said. This is a great opportunity to get started on some Christmas shopping for friends and family, or to buy an early gift for yourself.

High bidders do not need to be present to win.

Students who want to help the cause may donate baked goods, Sweany said.

Contact co-chairs Tricia Sweany prior to the sale at 405-682-1611, ext. 7416, or Ann Raia at 405-682-1611, ext. 7468, if you'd like to donate to support the Faculty Association scholarship fund.

Scholarships will be awarded to students in December.