

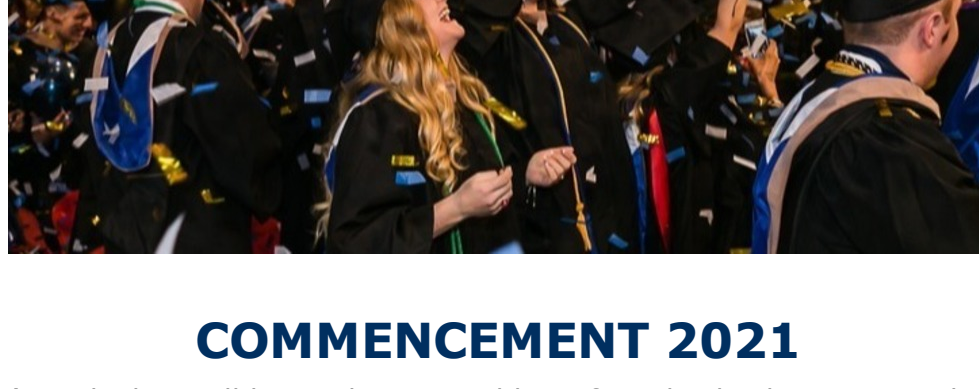
## NEWS FOR THE ORU COMMUNITY



### WELCOME CENTER GROUNDBREAKING!

April 14 was a day of celebration at ORU as ground was broken for the future Welcome Center. This building is the first of four that will be added to the campus through the Whole Leaders for the Whole World campaign. Construction begins in June and is scheduled to wrap up in June 2022. With our 2021 fiscal year ending on April 30, we would be especially grateful to have your support now so that we can finish FY21 and start FY22 strong! Thank you for helping us develop whole leaders through this incredible campaign.

- [GROUNDBREAKING](#)
- [MAKE A GIFT](#)
- [CAMPAIGN DETAILS](#)



### COMMENCEMENT 2021

ORU's 54th class will hear a keynote address from leadership expert John C. Maxwell when they graduate on May 1. The ceremony begins at 1:00 p.m. CDT in Mabee Center. Because this is a ticketed event with limited seating, we encourage you to watch online or on TV. Use the link below to see all of the options.

[COMMENCEMENT](#)



### THE SWEET 16 EFFECT

In March, our Golden Eagles made it to the NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16 for the first time since 1974. As this year's "Cinderella," the team made ORU front-page news just about everywhere. About 258,000,000 people were reached across all media platforms, with 88,000,000 reached on social media alone. ORU trended #1 on Twitter all over the world twice during the tournament. We saw a 640% increase in our social media followers. Not only did we get noticed for basketball—ORU's mission was also broadcast far and wide. Hear some of Coach Paul Mills' comments and see how fans celebrated the team's success.

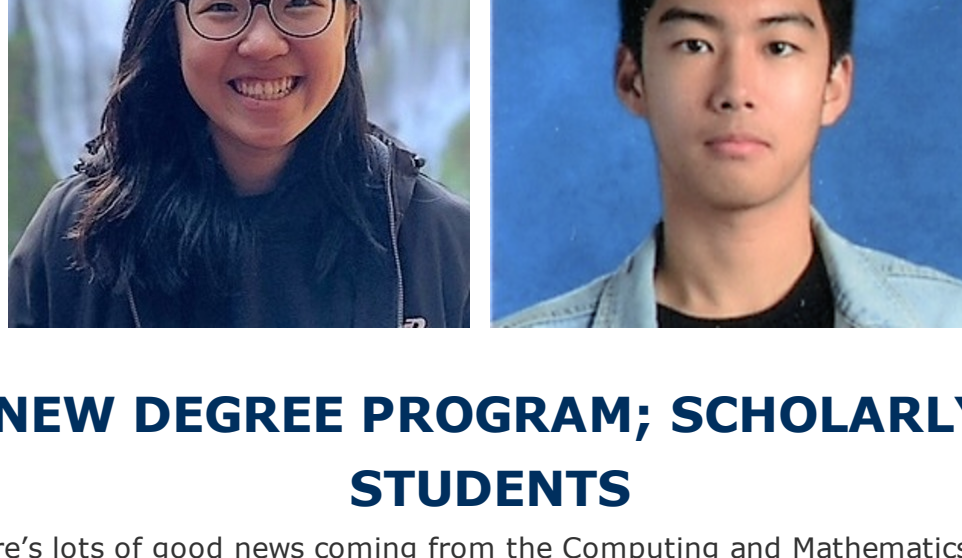
- [COACH MILLS](#)
- [FANS & PLAYERS](#)



### THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

President Wilson wrote a letter to USA Today in response to one of their articles about ORU. He answered the question posed in the headline: "What and who is Oral Roberts?..." The paper didn't publish the letter, but the Christian Post did so on their website.

[PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE](#)



### NEW DEGREE PROGRAM; SCHOLARLY STUDENTS

There's lots of good news coming from the Computing and Mathematics Department. Beginning this fall, the department will offer a new master's degree program in Computer Science. Also of note: The Stanley White Foundation donated \$250,000 to create scholarships and to build the "Stanley White i4 Digital Enterprise Lab." While the lab is under construction, scholarships have been awarded to two students for the Fall 2021 semester. The first Stanley White Scholars are Jinge Mok, a Data Science major, and Gladys Chen, a Mathematics major. Last fall, ORU celebrated the grand opening of another Stanley White Foundation-funded space: a High Performance Computing Lab.

[HPC RIBBON-CUTTING](#)



### RESULTS OF 'THE LAUNCH'

Thanks are due once again to Vast Bank for sponsoring The Launch, a competition that gives aspiring ORU entrepreneurs a chance to present ideas and earn prize money. This year's winning plans included a frozen dessert concept, life-saving ventilators, and a way to boost profits for low-income Guatemalan fishermen.

[LAUNCH RESULTS](#)



### THE 2021 ELI AWARDS

It's that time of year when we recognize the achievements of our student-athletes. At a ceremony on April 16, ORU Athletics honored our student-athletes in categories that included Whole Person Champions, Summit League Player of the Year, All-Academic, and All-American.

[ELI AWARDS](#)

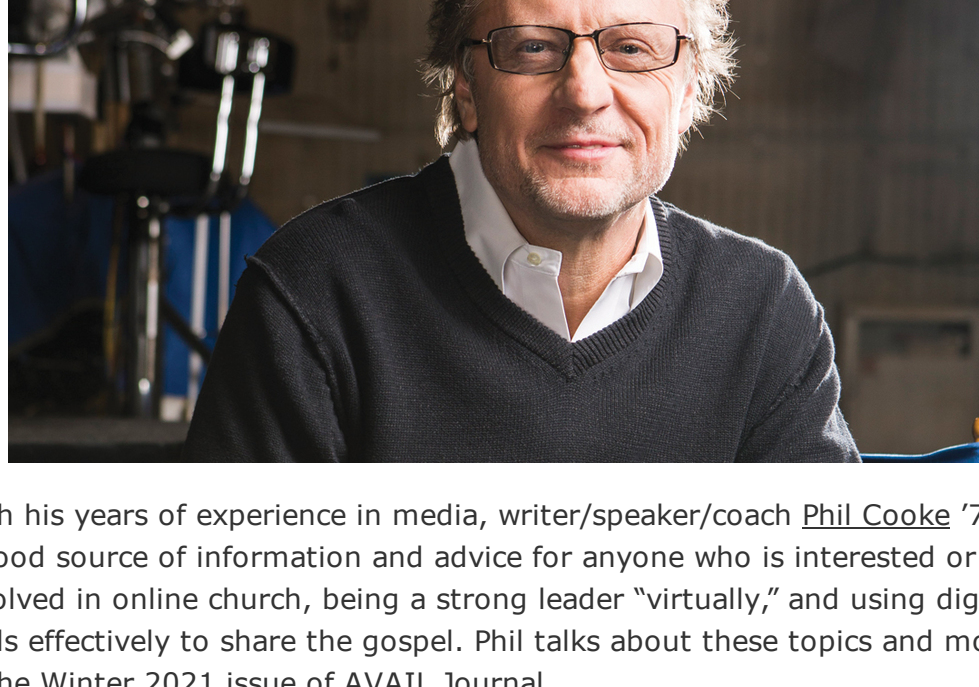
### LOCAL EVENTS



Just a reminder...the Celebration of Life service honoring Coach Bernis Duke will take place in the Mabee Center on Saturday, April 24 at 2:00 p.m. The service will also be livestreamed; use the link below to watch.

[COACH DUKE SERVICE](#)

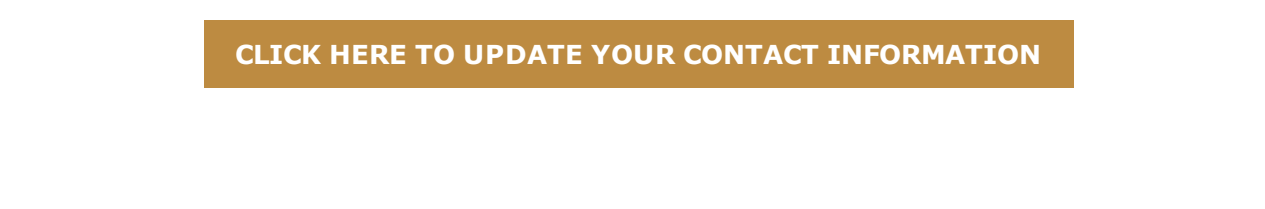
### ALUMNI NEWS



With his years of experience in media, writer/speaker/coach [Phil Cooke](#) '76 is a good source of information and advice for anyone who is interested or involved in online church, being a strong leader "virtually," and using digital tools effectively to share the gospel. Phil talks about these topics and more in the Winter 2021 issue of AVAIL Journal.

[PHIL'S STORY](#)

### STAY CONNECTED. GET INVOLVED.



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