



NEW LABS = NEW LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Students and faculty in the Computing and Mathematics Department had a lot to celebrate on November 8: the introduction of six new labs and a drone arena! These hi-tech facilities were made possible by a \$1.45 million grant from the A. R. and Marylouise Tandy Foundation. The six labs are Game Development, Nanotechnology Research, Artificial Intelligence, Plasma Physics Research, Edge Computing, and Network Administration. When it comes to career preparation, this department's graduates will be ahead of the curve, thanks to the instruction they receive from their dedicated professors and the access they now have to cutting-edge technology and learning experiences.

RIBBON-CUTTING

NEWS



STATE CAPITOL EXPERIENCE

Twenty ORU students representing all classes and multiple majors took part in the November 13-17 Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature (O.I.L.). This mock-government competition is held every semester at the Capitol in Oklahoma City. It gives college students a chance to see how government works, and how to “write, debate, and pass legislation.” Competing against students from 12 other schools, the ORU team won 1st place in Press (Communication senior Stephanie Conchas) and also won the Community Service competition. Other awards included 1st runner-up for Best Senate Delegate (Political Science senior Patrick Humphrey), 1st runner-up for Best House Delegation, 2nd runner-up for Best Freshman Senator (Business Administration junior Katrina Briggs), and honorable mention for Best Freshman House Representative (Political Science junior Isaiah Osei). ORU’s Senate had five bills passed; three also passed in the House. ORU’s House had four bills passed; one also passed in the Senate and was signed by the governor of O.I.L. Becky Mills serves as the faculty advisor of ORU’s O.I.L. delegation.

LAUNCHING NEW BUSINESSES

The final round of the Stovall Center for Entrepreneurship's premier event, The Launch, was held on November 23. The competition began with more than 60 students who had a wide variety of ideas for new businesses. After the first round on October 26, six of the fourteen teams moved on to the finals. First prize of \$5,000 went to Daniel Kringel, a freshman Entrepreneurship major whose "He Has a Name" is "redefining event interaction and community engagement with its NFC (near field communication) iConnect Bracelet." The 2nd- and 3rd-place teams received \$3,000 and \$2,000, respectively. There is also a People's Choice award. Judges are drawn from the business community. The Launch is sponsored by Bob Goshen.





CONTRIBUTION

ORU PANTRY

Operated by ORU Concierge, The Pantry is focused on helping students with specific needs—such as non-perishable food items during school breaks (when on-campus dining options are limited) and weather-appropriate clothing, such as winter coats. You are invited to support this initiative.

YEAR-END GIVING

Time has a way of speeding up near the end of a year. One minute it's October, and then—December! And the days race by. Don't let activities and chores and other commitments prevent you from doing something really special that won't take a lot of time at all: making a [year-end gift](#) to ORU for Phase II of the Whole Leaders for the Whole World campaign. Our students are worth it! And if you're wondering what has already been accomplished in 2024 (and earlier)...this booklet will fill you in. Thank you for supporting ORU! (Year-end gifts can help you at tax time, too. Just sayin'.)



[2024 UPDATE](#)

[MAKE A GIFT](#)



A PERFECT MATCH

Many employers offer a matching gift program as an added benefit to their employees. Does your company do so? You can find out by clicking on the link and entering the name of the company where you work. Matching gifts can double the value of your gifts to ORU...and sometimes, the match is even more than double!

[MATCH FINDER](#)

ALUMNI

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Just a reminder: The Alumni Board is seeking nominations for the annual Alumni of the Year awards. The categories are Distinguished Service to God, the Community, the Alma Mater, and “In Every Person’s World,” and “Rising Servant Leader.” Those who are selected will be honored at the Homecoming Banquet on November 15. **The deadline for making nominations is March 1, 2025.** Use the online form to nominate the graduates of your choice.

[ALUM AWARDS FORM](#)



COMING SOON: ALUMNI BOARD ELECTIONS

In February, all ORU graduates will have the opportunity to vote in the Alumni Association Board of Directors election. There are seven openings to fill. Make sure the Alumni Relations office has your correct e-mail address; that’s how you will receive your unique link to the ballot. The election will begin on February 1 and end on February 28. To read more about the role of the board, click on the link.

[BOARD'S JOB](#)

EVENTS

QUEST DAYS

Prospective students and their parents are invited to come to ORU for the February 13-14 Quest Day event. It's the first of four such events that will take place during the spring semester. Quest Days are packed with news you can use about ORU. Find out more about academics and the Quest Whole Leader Scholarship, take a campus tour, attend chapel, enjoy a luncheon with President Wilson, and go to breakout sessions on a variety of topics (including financial aid). This is a free event.



[QUEST INFO](#)



UPCOMING ORU THEATRE/DANCE/MUSIC

The Peggy V. Helmerich Media Arts Center will be a busy place next spring. The Theatre Department will present three shows: "The Play That Goes Wrong" (Bridgman Theatre, Feb. 13-15 and 20-22), "Twelfth Night" (Lewandowski Black Box Theatre, March 26-30), and "Godspell" (Bridgman Theatre, April 24-26). The Spring Dance Concert is set for April 10-12 in the Lewandowski Black Box Theatre. In

music, there are currently two productions scheduled in the Bridgman Theatre: the Spring Choir Concert (April 9) and the Spring Orchestra Concert (April 11). Tickets will be available for online purchase three weeks before each event.

AT THE MABEE CENTER

Mabee Center has two acts coming in that will keep toes tapping. On April 4 at 6:00 p.m., “Blippi: Join the Band Tour” will be in Johnston Theater. This fun-for-the-whole-family “Tour” will “explore what makes music, including sounds, rhythms and instruments, through all your favorite Blippi hits.” On May 31, fans of ABBA won’t want to miss “Arrival from Sweden: The Music of ABBA.” Beginning at 8:00 p.m., this 10-12-piece band will be on stage with a performance that has often been recognized as the world’s greatest ABBA show ever.

BLIPPI

ABBA



ATHLETICS

TOP 25!

The women's basketball team has been making waves this season. With a 6-2 record (as of Dec. 12)—including a Mayor's Cup victory and a hard-fought overtime win against Montana State—the team made the College Insider Mid-Major Top 25 list, coming in at #23.



ABRAHAM

MAJOR AWARD

He's been running rings around the competition all season. And now, **Abraham Chelangam** has been named the Summit League Cross Country Runner of the Year. He's the first Golden Eagle to earn this distinction on the men's side since Jonah Lagat did so back in 2008.

NEW STAFF

ORU Athletics has hired Joe DeBerry to serve as Senior Associate Athletic Director/Major Gifts. He is tasked with raising resources that will elevate all of ORU's athletic programs. His background includes several entrepreneurial ventures, community outreach, and fundraising at the collegiate level. SJ Tuohy is the new Deputy Athletic Director for Development. He comes to ORU from the



JOE

SJ

University of Central Florida, where he was the Executive Director of UCF's official NIL (Name, Image, Likeness) collective.



TICKETS

DIAMOND DINNER

The Diamond Dinner is an event that benefits ORU's baseball program. There will be both a live and a silent auction. Make plans to attend this Friday, January 31 event at the Glenpool Conference Center (12205 S. Yukon Ave., Glenpool). Watch for more details on social media and at oruathletics.com.

HALL OF FAME

Congratulations to the ORU Athletics Hall of Fame's Class of 2025: **Sasha Wells** (multi-award-winning and record-setting track & field athlete, 2017-21), **Rhonda Fowler** (longest tenured Athletic Administrator in ORU history), **Mike Carter** (Athletic Director, 1994-2021), and the **1978 Baseball College World Series team** (first team in ORU history to advance to the Series)! The induction ceremony is set for Saturday, February 1 at 10:00 a.m. in the North Lobby of Mabee Center. All are invited to attend. The honorees will be recognized again that night



during halftime of the ORU vs. Kansas City game, which begins at 7:00 p.m.

TICKET INFO



SCHEDULE

2025 BASEBALL SCHEDULE

“Diamonds are forever,” says an old song. We don’t know about the gemstones, but one thing we do know: ORU’s J. L. Johnson Stadium will be shining bright on Opening Day. The renovations will be done and players and fans are sure to enjoy all of the additions and upgrades to this 1970s-era stadium. Make plans to be here on February 14 when the Golden Eagles face the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff. Game time is 3:00 p.m. Another season, another chance to win another Summit League championship—and, we hope, another trip to the College World Series!

ETC.

Please fill out [this form](#) if you’d prefer to receive a paper receipt when you make a gift to ORU rather than a receipt via e-mail.

DID YOU KNOW?

Burnout is real! So what causes it? How does chronic stress hurt you? How can you recover from it? Get some timely insights by listening to this GEB America podcast with Dr. Jonathan Hoover, author of "Stress Fracture: Your Ultimate Guide to Beating Burnout."



BEAT THE BURN



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