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What's Happening

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Panelists highlight Enid anniversary celebration

Northern Oklahoma College celebrated 20 years at the Enid campus last Thursday with a celebration at Montgomery Hall in the Gantz Student Center.

A large group of NOC administrators, faculty, and staff along with former NOC regents, Northwestern Oklahoma State University officials, Enid area educators and community leaders attended the afternoon event.

Thursday's celebration focused on a panel discussion with four men who were instrumental in making NOC Enid a reality. The panel included Dan Dillingham (Chairman of the Board, Dillingham Insurance), Harold Hamm (CEO of Continental Resources), Dr. Joe Kinzer (NOC President Emeritus), and Bert Mackie (Former Oklahoma State Regent and retired Security National Bank executive).

"We are honored to have a representation of the distinguished leaders whose vision and hard work helped establish NOC Enid and have continued through the years providing support through advocacy, service, and helping raise much needed resources for scholarships and program support," said NOC President Dr. Cheryl Evans. "Each was a key leader in the acquisition of the joint purchase of the former Phillips University."

All four answered questions from NOC President Dr. Cheryl Evans in the panel discussion.

What was each of these men's roles in the acquiring of the Phillips campus?

Dan Dillingham – I was approached by the president of Phillips University to try and save the school and understanding the issues they were facing, that was going to be a challenge. NOC and Northwestern already had a presence here in Enid and it wound up being a natural progression for NOC to bring a larger presence. We wanted to make sure that Northwestern Oklahoma students continued to have an affordable two year education opportunity.

Harold Hamm – I had connections to Phillips having gone to school here but with the issues of the day, we could all see the handwriting on the wall. Fortunately, we were able to work with the folks here in Enid and NOC to make sure this beautiful campus was going to be used. It was an adventure but everyone worked together to make it happen.

Dr. Joe Kinzer – It was quite an experience. We were already serving the Enid community just not many people knew about it. The closing of Phillips gave us more to consider with the possibility of NOC increasing its reach. When we toured the campus, I was amazed at its beauty and it became even more important for us to do what we could to make this happen. Once we acquired the property, we had about 30 days to prepare for fall classes. That was a huge chal-



NOC President Dr. Cheryl Evans moderated a panel discussion last Thursday in Enid celebrating 20 years on the Enid campus. The panelists reflected on the acquisition of the Phillips campus. Pictured (L-R): Dr. Cheryl Evans, Dan Dillingham, Harold Hamm, Dr. Joe Kinzer, Bert Mackie. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)

lenge but our faculty and staff worked tirelessly to get everything ready. Honestly, I don't know how they did it.

Bert Mackie – I had attended the Phillips bankruptcy meetings and everyone was trying to decide what to do. Fortunately, NOC along with the state regent's office and Enid community all

stepped up to continue providing opportunity for students. This campus today looks as nice as it did 55 years ago when I was a student here. I am so glad this facility could remain a college campus.

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Panelists

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What were some of the memories from the acquisition?

Harold Hamm – The determination of those involved stands out to me. So many people were involved but all had the same goal in mind.

Dr. Joe Kinzer - I just remember being on campus and seeing the facilities. When you went through the Marshall Building and the Gantz Center and really all the campus, it was easy to see that the assets were in place.

Bert Mackie – What I remember was the ambition of all the leaders to make this a reality.

Dan Dillingham – When we explored the options, we knew the voters were going to have to approve a sales tax and that was so important. There were over 400 presentations made in the area explaining the plan for the sales tax money.

What was the vision that made NOC and the Enid community successful?

Dr. Joe Kinzer – It wasn't so much my vision but that of our faculty and staff. It was everyone doing what they could do make this work. It wouldn't work without our faculty and staff.

Bert Mackie – The vision started with Dr. Vineyard in Tonkawa. He always wanted to have a footprint in Enid. He knew the numbers that less than 40 percent of Enid graduates were attending college and he believed that NOC could help provide that opportunity as a public college.

Dan Dillingham – Everyone was positive about the process, it was going to be a challenge but everyone worked well together for this common goal.

Harold Hamm – The vision worked at the local level in this area but also at the state level as well. The regents and legislature were willing to do what they could to help make this a reality.

What is their advice for NOC Enid to grow?

Bert Mackie – NOC had done a great job with

limited resources. State funding has gone from 70 percent to 28 percent and keeping that in mind, NOC has done wonders with athletics and cultural activities with limited resources. Hopefully, more funding would mean more programs.

Dan Dillingham – Don't worry about what others are doing, do your own thing. Providing an affordable educational opportunity is what NOC does best.

Harold Hamm – NOC is the cultural center for Enid. Continue to do what you are doing. Build on that and help others realize their dreams of an education.

Dr. Joe Kinzer – Keep on keeping on. Keep developing the partnerships in place in Enid. NOC should mirror the changes we are seeing in the workplace.

Also making remarks were Dr. Ed Vineyard, Vice President for NOC Enid who is retiring June 30, current board of regent chairman Chad Dillingham, and Foster Shamburg NOC Enid President's Leadership Council President.

Regent Dillingham said, "Since the purchase of this campus, Northern has worked hard to enhance the educational offerings in Northwest Oklahoma as well as providing the best facilities as possible. I doing so, we strive to preserve the rich history and beauty of the former Phillips University. NOC even retained the names of the buildings to honor the individuals who valued the higher education experience in Enid."

"It is amazing to see how the campus has evolved and become established over the last couple of decades," he added. Every single structure has seen improvements and investment. NOC has invested over \$19 million in capital updates to the Enid campus over the years. I would like to

(See **Panelists** on Page 3)



Current and former regents attended the 20th anniversary event last Thursday. Pictured (L-R): David Trojan, Lynn Smith, Jodi Cline, Chad Dillingham. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)



NOC Administration, faculty, and staff (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)

Panelists

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thank President Evans and our team of NOC employees for their leadership as well as their passion and commitment to Northern Oklahoma College. I would also like to thank the Enid community in believing in our mission and for those community leaders who helped make NOC Enid a reality.”

Dr. Vineyard praised the Enid community for their work in making NOC in Enid a reality.

“As you have heard from our distinguished panel and other speakers, none of our accomplishments happened by chance,” Vineyard said. “It took collaboration with community partners

such as the City of Enid, NWOSU, Autry Tech, the Greater Enid Chamber of Commerce, the Enid Higher Education Council, Vance AFB, and Enid Public Schools to make this campus a reality. We are proud of the number of students who have earned their associates degree and how they have enhanced the local economy through their employment in NW Oklahoma. We are especially grateful for our partnerships with Autry Tech and NWOSU to provide seamless transfer, technical educational cooperative degree programs, and scholarships through the Bridge Program for those students working on

four-year degrees.”

Foster Shamburg, a sophomore from Pond Creek, said he cherishes the relationships he has built as a current student at NOC.

“The support from the faculty, staff, administration, and donors who help build a college experience here that is not like anywhere else and help fill the need for higher education I just want to say thank you,” Shamburg said. “Thank you for hours upon hours of helping young adults like me build lifelong memories. The relationships built right here in Enid, Oklahoma are not like anywhere else. So, if you are ever

driving down the road and the NOC ad comes on the radio I want you to listen closely to the jingle at the end where it says “Life Changing, Northern Oklahoma College” and think of me and remember that Northern Oklahoma College really is life changing.”

Vice President for Community Development Sheri Snyder was emcee for the event

The event culminated a full year of activities celebrating the institution’s 20 years in Enid.



NOC Administration Pictured (L-R): Dr. Pam Stinson, Dr. Rick Edgington, Dr. Cheryl Evans, Anita Simpson, Sheri Snyder, Dr. Ed Vineyard. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)



Retiring Vice President for NOC Enid is pictured with his mother, Imogene and his wife, Susan. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)



Retiring regent Jeff Cowan was honored for eight years of service to NOC at Wednesday's regent's meeting. Pictured (L-R): Regent chairman Chad Dillingham, Jeff Cowan, Dr. Cheryl Evans. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)

Retiring regent Jeff Cowan honored at BOR meeting Wednesday

Outgoing Northern Oklahoma College Regent Jeff Cowan of Ponca City was honored in his final meeting Wednesday afternoon in Tonkawa. A proclamation was read in his honor celebrating eight years of service to NOC.

NOC President Dr. Cheryl Evans thanked Cowan for his service at Wednesday's board of regent meeting.

"Jeff Cowan was an asset to the Board of Regents and to the College for eight years," she said. "His insight and input made a difference for our students. We will miss working with him, but know that he will always be a part of the Northern family."

Before his final meeting, Cowan shared his thoughts on his tenure as a NOC regent eight years ago.

"I was appointed by then Governor Fallin to serve the remaining 3-year term of former regent, Jeff Smith in July, 2011," Cowan said. "I was re-appointed for a full 5-year term in 2104.

Cowan has seen many changes at NOC in his eight years.

"Over the course of eight years you would expect some turnover in personnel, and obviously there has been, but overall NOC has done a

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Proclamation

Whereas, Jeffery T. Cowan has served Northern Oklahoma College admirably as a Regent during the years 2011 to 2019, and

Whereas, Regent Cowan has gained the admiration and respect of his fellow Regents for his leadership, his willingness to carry through his task, his approach while dealing with complex issues, and

Whereas, Northern Oklahoma College has benefited greatly from his support, good judgment, and insight, and

Whereas, during his eight years of service to the College, he has shown himself to be dedicated to the ultimate goals of higher education, to the students, the faculty and the staff of the institution, and

Whereas, his leadership was evident during the construction of the new residential housing with Jets Hall and Mavericks Hall in 2016, along with numerous other construction projects and campus facility improvements through the years, including the new NOC Stillwater classroom building completed in 2018, and

Whereas, Regent Cowan's dedication to Northern's Mission helped cultivate academic growth, promoting student success and creating life-changing experiences.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the entire Northern Oklahoma College community recognizes the positive impact Regent Cowan has made for students. It is our wish that Regent Jeff Cowan has knowledge that he will be sorely missed by Northern Oklahoma College.

Furthermore, it is our wish that Jeff and Felecia continue to lead a happy and prosperous life and that they continue in good health as friends of Northern.

Issued this 19th day of June 2019.

Cheryl Evans, President

Regent Chad Dillingham

Cowan

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very good job of retaining quality people,” he said. “There have been changes in the Regent’s Board with the departure of long-time Regents, Linda Brown, Keith James and Lynn Smith over the last few years. Most of the changes that I have seen really relate more to finances. Budget constraints impact many decisions and do force unexpected changes within an organization. The mark of good leadership is not how well one performs during the prosperous times, but rather how well your management team handles the tough times and tough decisions. Dr. Evans and her management team have done an exceptional job over the course of two to three very difficult years.”

Cowan spoke of the challenges facing higher education.

“Maintaining strong enrollment numbers is obviously an important part of the college’s success,” he said. “And the numbers will rise and fall over the passage of time as a result of a lot of outside influences, i.e, the economy, competition, high school graduation rates, etc. NOC has done a really good job of understanding the need to “retain” its students. But really, the big-

gest challenge facing higher education in Oklahoma will continue to be funding, or the lack thereof, and the task of continuing to manage tight budgets. Some progress was made this coming fiscal year and we are hopeful our new governor will continue to support higher education with increased State appropriations.”

What will Cowan remember from his service at NOC.

“I will always remember the friendships that I have made and the people that I have met over the course of the last eight years,” he said. “And certainly, my conscientiousness has been expanded with respect to higher education. For both of these things, I am extremely grateful.

What does Cowan predict for NOC’s future.

“NOC has had a strong history of conservative values and prudent fiscal responsibility,” he said. “That being said, the focus has always been on education. Serving more students and impacting lives is the ultimate motive in the world of higher education. NOC has done that and has delivered a quality product at tuition rates that remain very affordable. I wish the best for NOC in the coming years.”

Life changing.



NOC Calendar

June 24-28

June 24

Begin L6/Online Courses

June 25

Final Day to Add L6/Online Courses
Bookstore Closed for Inventory

June 26

Final Day to Drop L6/Online Courses
Bookstore Closed for Inventory

June 27

Bookstore Closed for Inventory

June 28

No Classes/Offices Closed

For additional information, visit the following links: [NOC Calendar](#), [Maverick Sports](#), [Jets Sports](#)

NOC June Birthdays



Stephanie Scott	June 19	DeLisa Ging	June 23
Terri Sunderland	June 20	Janelle Fetty	June 25
Deborah Garroute	June 21	Tammy Pedigo	June 26
James Howard	June 22	Elizabeth Gonzales	June 29

Current, past Miss NOC's at Miss Oklahoma Pageant in Tulsa

Two current and two former Miss NOC's competed in the Miss Oklahoma Pageant in Tulsa earlier this month.

The two current Miss NOC's were Karli Lovelace (Miss NOC Tonkawa) and Lexi Large (Miss NOC Enid). The two former Miss NOC's were Telara Day and Shelby Love Cargill.

Day represented Tulsa as Miss Riverwalk while Cargill was Miss UCO.

Miss NOC sponsor Shannon Varner said, "The young ladies represented our college with grace, talent and beauty and I'm very proud of them."

In addition to the \$750 scholarship received for each contestant, Large received a \$1,000 OBU scholarship and Shelby Cargill was awarded the Miracle Maker award for being the candidate that raised the most money for Children's Miracle Network.

The competition was held at "The Joint", Hard Rock Hotel in Tulsa with a last minute change from Riverspirit Casino due to flooding.

Miss NOC is sponsored by Shannon Varner and Terri Sunderland



NOC Enid PLC Students assisted with the 20th Anniversary Celebration. Pictured (L-R): Dr. Cheryl Evans, Foster Shamburg, Trent Misak, Grant Dick, Kayleigh Arnold (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)



Two current and two former Miss NOC's participated in the Miss Oklahoma Pageant in Tulsa. Pictured (L-R): Karli Lovelace (Miss NOC Tonkawa), Lexi Large (Miss NOC Enid), Telara Day (Miss Riverwalk), Shelby Love Cargill (Miss UCO). (photo provided)

Life changing.

