

Distinguished Alumnus 2012

Thomas Poole

Class of 1960

One of the most knowledgeable and respected college administrators in Oklahoma, Thomas Poole began his education in Webb City and Shidler and attended Northern Oklahoma College before earning his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Finance (1963) from Phillips University in Enid. He served as Business Manager at Phillips (1965-1981) and as Vice President for Fiscal Affairs at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College (1981-2008), as NEO Interim President (2008) and then as Special Assistant to the President until March 1, 2009. During his tenure at NEO, he oversaw the construction or renovation of several buildings and, following the flood of 2007, led the restoration of twelve buildings and of athletic fields. He served on numerous associations, committees and councils throughout the state and was instrumental in bringing Oklahoma Boys State to the college. Mr. Poole served as Interim President of NOC (2010-2011 academic year) and secured several gifts to the NOC Foundation. He and his wife, Judy, whom he met while attending NOC in Tonkawa, have two adult daughters.