



NORTHERN
Oklahoma College
TONKAWA | ENID | STILLWATER

February Edition 1



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Oklahoma College

EST. 1901

WELCOME

The NOC Alumni and Foundation department want to welcome you to our first official newsletter. We will be sharing new information quarterly. The goal of this newsletter is to nurture relationships with alumni, donors, and friends. We will keep you updated on exciting things happening within the Northern family.

Alumni Spotlight

Meet the Morgans!
Read what this alumni couple learned at NOC and what they are up to now.

FINISH READING ON PG. 2



In Your Corner

Get to know members of our Alumni Advisory and Foundation boards. Members are dedicated in the efforts to promote friend-raising and fund-raising at NOC.

FINISH READING ON PG. 4



Alumni Initiatives

Catch up on whats new on our social media pages and website as well as what to expect in the upcoming months.

READING ON PG. 6



Having a Baby?



LEGACY BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Send birth announcement form located on the NOC Alumni website and all photos to Kayla Wooderson, Director of Alumni Relations, through email or text.

Email: alumni@noc.edu

Text: 580.789.0517

Once form is complete and submitted, an NOC Alumni Legacy onesie will be sent to your address. Please take a picture of your precious bundle of joy in the onesie to include in the announcement.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Welcome
Laurel
Wooderson

Born 8.16.21 Stillwater, OK
Big Sister: Hazel

Parents:
Hannah, 2017 Alumna,
and Guy Wooderson.



6 lbs, 15 oz
19.5" Long

"My best memory at NOC was cheering and having my Aunt Karri Morrill be my coach." - Hannah



ALUMNI

SPOTLIGHT

Meet the Morgans!

Ryan, class of 1995, was involved in basketball, Student Council, and the Wesley House while at NOC Tonkawa. Kendra, class of 1996, participated in basketball and the Wesley House at NOC Tonkawa. Both continued their education at Oklahoma State University, with Ryan receiving a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Kendra a Bachelor of Science in Family Relations & Child Development as well as a Master's in Early Childhood Education. Ryan and Kendra live in Tulsa where Ryan currently works as Vice President for Koch Engineered Solutions and Kendra is a Child Development Specialist. Kendra founded and operates a non-profit program, Building All Children. They have been married almost 25 years and have three children. Their two daughters are currently attending Oklahoma State University and their son is a freshman at Jenks Public Schools.



Pictured (L-R) Maggie, Jace, Adi, Kendra, Ryan

We reached out to Kendra and Ryan to hear what they had to say about Northern Oklahoma College.

What is your favorite NOC Memory?

Ryan: *I quickly made many lifelong friends and loved all the home basketball games; we were back-to-back conference champions. I had fun on the Student Council trip to San Antonio. Some of the best memories were just hanging out at the dorms, student union, and gym with teammates and friends.*

Kendra: *I made the greatest friends at NOC. We had so much fun shooting around the gym, eating in the cafeteria, and just hanging out with all our friends. I have many memories from the Wesley House and of course traveling on the bus to and from games. The only regret I have is how fast those two years went at Northern. One personal memory was when Ryan took me back to the Wesley House and proposed to me, knowing that we made many wonderful memories there, and we wanted to have a future together.*

What makes NOC Life-Changing?

Ryan: *NOC had a great culture and wonderful people who had a tremendous impact on me to learn and prepare me for further education and personal growth. Everyone from the administration, instructors, and my basketball coaches truly cared and inspired me to strive to be better in school and athletics. This helped instill in me that the combination of hard work and respecting others by how you treat them is something that I try to live by today.*

Kendra: *NOC changed my life forever! I can never express the gratitude I have for this college. The faculty and coaches believed in me which helped me achieve my goals. They prepared me for the future and helped me transition to Oklahoma State University. Playing basketball for the Lady Mavericks were some of the best memories and I am so thankful for the opportunity to play basketball and attend Northern Oklahoma College!*

“We both are so grateful to Northern Oklahoma College, and it will be a huge part of our life!”

- Ryan and Kendra Morgan -

 **Life changing.**

MAKE A DIFFERENCE



In Your Corner

Get to know NOC's Alumni & Foundation Members



Claye Hammock, NOC Alumni Board Member

Claye Hammock, 2014 alumnus, has served on the Alumni Advisory Board for the past two years. He was a concurrent student at NOC Enid and continued on at NOC Stillwater receiving a degree in Business

Administration. Claye was involved in the President's Leadership Council and President of the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society as well.

Today, he is a CPA at Collins, Butler & Co. in Enid where he practices tax preparation and consulting. Claye lives in Enid with his wife, Kolby, who is a case worker for DHS. He enjoys serving on multiple boards in their community and spends any free time beating Kolby in ping pong.

He says, "I will always be thankful to NOC for all the experiences and quality people that the college put in my life." He believes NOC gives students the ability to get a quality education without taking on a significant financial burden. "In addition, the staff genuinely care about their students and will do anything in their ability to help them succeed, making NOC truly life-changing."

The best advice Claye would give to new alumni would be to get involved and never stop being uncomfortable. "People learn the most when they put themselves in uncomfortable situations rather than taking the easy route."



Linda Brown, NOC Foundation Chair

Linda Brown's love affair with NOC began twenty years ago when she was appointed to fulfill an unexpired term as Regent, replacing the late Senator Bill O'Conner. Linda served an additional fifteen years, in three successive terms as Regent, before deciding that it was time to retire from the Board and encourage new people to become involved in the institution. Linda says, "it was a hard decision." Her passion for the success of students at NOC was as strong as it had ever been. She decided to continue to channel that passion by serving on the NOC Foundation Board where she currently serves as Chair.

Linda was raised on a farm in Grant county and graduated from Medford High School. She attended Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, Oklahoma for one year as a first-generation student. Without any financial support or a clear path as to how to accomplish her educational goals, it was easier to give up and enter the work force with a limited education. Linda says, "I was fortunate to secure a position as receptionist for Evans & Associates in Ponca City." She began a forty-seven-year career with the company, elevating from receptionist in 1975 to

President in 2002. "Yes, that is a Cinderella story. I have always known that finding this wonderful company was a once in a lifetime opportunity. Today's student can not and should not "hope" to find that possibility, but rather find their own life-changing opportunity at Northern Oklahoma College," according to Linda.

She believes through her experiences that NOC provides life-changing opportunities every day, for every student that enters our doors. Those opportunities are provided by scholarships, smaller class size, NOC/OSU Gateway Program, three campuses, athletics, a premier performing arts program, online classes, passionate faculty members, flexible class schedules, association with career tech and an ever-present standard of excellence in education.

Linda suggests that students spend time researching all of these life-changing opportunities in order to find what best fits their schedule and needs. She is amazed that scholarship dollars are sometimes still available after the start of a semester; or a student does not understand the flexibility offered by the NOC/OSU Gateway Program in Stillwater; or students are not aware of the opportunity to obtain an associates degree by taking NOC classes at the University Center at Ponca City. "These are life-changing opportunities," exclaims Linda. In addition, she says, "A student has to have the desire to research the choices, and then decide which best fits their needs. We have an amazing faculty and staff who are always available to match needs with opportunity."

Legacy Birth Announcements

Do you have a new little bundle of joy in your family? Are you an NOC graduate? If so, we would love to spotlight your little one in an "NOC Legacy Birth Announcement." All you have to do is fill out the registration form, and we'll send you a onesie as a congratulatory gift from your family at Northern Oklahoma College. Then send us a picture of your baby in the onesie and we'll share it on our sites.

<https://www.noc.edu/development/alumni/legacy-birth-announcement-form/>

We recently welcomed Laurel Wooderson who was born in Stillwater, OK on August 16, 2021. She weighed six pounds and fifteen ounces and nineteen and a half inches long. Laurel is the daughter of Hannah, 2017 alumna, and Guy Wooderson. She has wonderful big sister named Hazel. Hannah's best memory at NOC was cheering and having her Aunt Karri Morrill be her coach.



Welcome Adalynn Lessert

Born 12.16.21 OKC, OK

Parents:
Faith, 2016 Alumna,
and Clayton Lessert.



"My best memory at NOC was playing softball for the Lady Mavs and making lifelong friends!" - Faith

6 lbs, 11 oz
18.5" Long

Welcome Gavin Samuel Owings

Born 3.8.21 Stillwater, OK

Parents:
Allyssa, 2016 Alumna,
& Jeremy Owings



I enjoyed my entire nursing school experience. It was very challenging at times, but the staff and my classmates made it memorable."
Allyssa (Belair) Owings

6 lbs, 12 oz
19.5" Long

NOC names 2022 Distinguished Alumni

Mr. Joe Kreger and Dr. Tara Tucker Vaughn have been chosen as the Northern Oklahoma College Distinguished Alumni for 2022. The announcement was made by NOC Director of Alumni and Community Relations, Kayla Wooderson.

Kreger, NOC Class of 1959, is a two-time Oklahoma State Poet Laureate and entrepreneur currently residing in Tonkawa while Vaughn, NOC Tonkawa Class of 1989, is a registered nurse and serves in the United States Army Reserve residing in Colorado.

The banquet is Saturday, March 26 at the Renfro Center on the NOC Tonkawa campus.

The award recognizes the achievements of former students whose personal lives, professional achievements and community service exemplify the objectives of college.

A complete listing of Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame Award recipients is located on the NOC website at www.noc.edu/alumni. More information about the 2022 inductees along with event tickets will be available in February.

For more information, please contact the alumni relations office at kayla.wooderson@noc.edu or 580.628.6473.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2022

FEBRUARY

20 Scholarship Priority
Deadline

21 Maverick Cheer
Alumni Reunion

MARCH

8 Renfro Endowed Lectureship
Jimmy Webb Live Concert

14-18 Spring Break

26 NOC Alumni & Friends
Reunion/ Hall of Fame
Induction Ceremony

APRIL

7 NOCF Annual
Donor Recognition
Ceremony

30 Commencement
Nurses' Pinning
Ceremony

How to get involved

The Northern Oklahoma College Foundation is a non-profit corporation organized under IRS 501(c) (3), and receives and manages private gifts on behalf of the College. There are a wide range of gift opportunities at Northern. Wherever your interests lie, there is a place for you to contribute and make a difference. We encourage you to check out our website at <http://www.noc.edu/foundation> to view the donor wish list. Development staff are available to assist you with information.

We look forward to another exciting year of being part of Northern's family as well as working together with you to promote NOC, its programs and students. We encourage you to get involved!

Subscribe Now

To Give: Go To www.noc.edu/development/foundation/donation-form

To Unsubscribe: Email alumni@noc.edu

Northern Oklahoma College, the state's first public community college, is a multi-campus, land-grant institution that provides high quality, accessible, and affordable educational opportunities and services which create life-changing experiences and develop students as effective learners and leaders within their communities in a connected, ever changing world.

NOC, a public two year community college, serves 4,200 students on the home campus in Tonkawa, branch in Enid, NOC/OSU Gateway Program in Stillwater, online, and the University Center at Ponca City.

In 2019, NOC celebrated the 20-year anniversary of the Enid campus and a 15-year partnership with OSU for the Gateway Program.

NOC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and offers associate degrees in three general areas: Arts, Science and Applied Science. The associate degree fulfills lower-division course work which is applicable towards a bachelor's degree.

Call (580) 628-6200 for more information about Northern Oklahoma College or visit www.noc.edu.