

# What's Happening

## January 15, 2021

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## Dr. Cheryl Evans sets June 30, 2021 retirement date

After serving 10 years as Northern Oklahoma College president, Dr. Cheryl Evans announced her plans to retire effective June 30, 2021.

"After much reflection over the winter break, I determined that the timing is right for my personal life and the life of this historic 120-year-old college," Evans said.

"In the back of my mind, I've always felt like 10 years in this role would be enough time to accomplish many goals, but hopefully not enough time to wear out my welcome as the average length of tenure for a college president is about six years."

"I did hesitate this fall as I was initially unsure if I should follow through with my intentions because of the pandemic, but I am comfortable now as NOC has established effective pandemic plan protocols and has found a workable path through this unique time in history," she added.

"I was thrilled to begin work at NOC on June 1, 2011, and it has been a privilege to serve as the NOC President and I was honored to be the first female president in the College's history," she said. "I am a better person for having worked at NOC and having some small part in the school's accomplishments. NOC has certainly been a life-changing experience for me and I will be forever grateful for this opportunity. I intend to be fully engaged until the last day of my employment, and I will continue to

serve NOC at the board's pleasure until the new president takes office, even if that extends past June."

"I appreciate the board members who gave me this opportunity ten years ago and the present Board of Regents, who continue to provide excellent leadership, expertise and support to the College," she added. "I am certain that over the next six months, the board will identify and hire the right person to become the 14th President of this institution. That fortunate individual will be blessed as I have to work with such a talented, caring group of people. I'm confident that our students and employees will continue to successfully persevere to achieve NOC's mission to provide quality, affordable and accessible higher education experiences for decades to come."

Dr. Evans received a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications at Northwestern Oklahoma State University. She finished her Master of Arts in Communication at Wichita State University and her Doctorate in Education at Oklahoma State University. Evans is the thirteenth president since NOC was founded in 1901. Prior to her position at NOC, Evans served seventeen years at NWOSU as an instructor and chair of communication department on the Alva campus then led the University's Enid campus.

With the announcement of her retirement,

President Evans leaves the College a tremendous legacy of academic success, innovation, and growth. Under Evans' leadership during her tenure, the College has:

- Recently undergone a multi-year project with the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system (ERP) that is an important goal from our strategic planning as the last major update was thirty years ago. This student information system is on track to be fully operational by the end of this academic year and the new operating software will provide a powerful tool for students and better data for employees to make more informed decisions in the future;
- Been reaccredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (HLC), reaccredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) for its associate degree program in Nursing, and reaccredited by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) for its associate degree program in Business;
- Increased grant activity across the College. Most significantly the \$1.75 million award for Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institutions which concludes in September 2021 has made a big impact. NOC's application identified a wide variety of activities through three main

initiatives including improved online instruction with Quality Matters training and course certification initiatives and the creation of the Cultural Engagement Center;

- Received national recognition over the past decade being identified in the top 10% of community colleges in the nation four times by the Aspen Institute in Washington DC, as well as receiving recognition from WalletHub, Smart Assets, and top associate degree producer by Diverse Issues in Higher Education;
- Experienced significant growth in the number of associate degrees earned;
- Supported extensive capital outlay for improvement of infrastructure and facilities, including the renovation and restoration of



**Dr. Cheryl Evans**

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# Evans

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NOC's very first structure, Central Hall, which was built in 1901 on the Tonkawa campus. NOC also built new residence halls, Mavericks Hall in Tonkawa and Jets Hall in Enid, and we built the beautiful new NOC Stillwater classroom building on OSU's campus. All of these new construction projects were a direct result of student and employee feedback during town hall meetings while developing our 2013-18 strategic plan. A few other physical plant improvement projects included the Marshall building's Bivens Chapel restoration, and the renovation of cafeterias and student center spaces, the update of electrical and HVAC to save thousands of dollars in utilities; in addition, NOC replaced roofs, refreshed exteriors of older buildings, fixed plumbing, sidewalks, etc. and many other non-glitzy, but very necessary projects to create safe, efficient, and attractive spaces for our students to learn and live;

- Encouraged private and public partnerships across the institution which has played a big part in the College's success. For example, the Enel Wind Energy partnership and the Autry Technology Respiratory Care program both help students enter the workforce directly. We also enjoy strong long-term relationships with NWOSU with the Bridge Program and with OSU in the NOC/OSU Gateway program. Both of these programs help NOC students successfully transfer to baccalaureate programs;
- Maintained a fiscal responsibility through NOC operations. We have been good stewards of the College's finances, which has helped us survive such challenging economic times; in fact, we were even able to pay off the Enid Campus Bond one-year early because of sound fiscal practices. We have managed to include a few pay increases and maintain some of the best benefit packages and leave programs in the state for our employees. We even found ways to avoid furloughs during the most challenging

times and continued support for professional development. Northern has always been focused on investing in new technology and distance learning equipment through the years, which enabled NOC to respond effectively to the fast transition to the world of virtual learning this past year. Also, through planning, we placed emphasis on institutional research by developing a full-time position that helps with numerous state, federal, and accreditation reporting requirements in addition to creating and publishing the annual NOC Fact Book for the past eight years;

- Experienced significant growth in financial net assets and scholarship awards in the Northern Oklahoma College Foundation. Net assets grew from approximately 5.5 million in 2011 to over 12 million in 2020. We've also seen annual private scholarships increase from just over \$99,000 awarded to 201 students in 2011-12 to \$245,123 awarded to 395 recipients this past year. In addition, we established the Presidential Partners Program through the Northern Oklahoma College Foundation, which in times like this provides much needed enhancements for our students and employees that our college budget is unable to meet;
- Undergone a major branding project that updated our institutional visual images and created the graphic standards guide that helped put Northern forward in a professional, consistent way. The new tagline that evolved from the focus groups "Life Changing" is the Northern experience. An extension of this project was the NOC Wayfinding signage project, which helped identify all of our buildings with clear visible signage in school colors to help new students and visitors get around our campuses.

On leaving NOC, Evans plans to assist her husband Tom's expanding business interests and serve non-profit organizations but mostly spend time playing with her grandchildren, as

well as spending quality time with her family and friends, and hopefully traveling. After her retirement, the Evans plan to split time at their rural home in Alfalfa County and in Tulsa to be near their grandchildren.

"Dr. Evans' leadership and guidance for the past ten years has been impeccable. While Dr. Evans has served as Northern Oklahoma College's 13th president, NOC has been designated in the top 10% of community colleges in the nation, has reached a record number of earned associate degrees, and has enhanced all three campus locations through many building renovations," said Jodi Cline, Chair of the Northern Oklahoma College Board of Regents.

Cline continued, "During this pandemic, we have witnessed her passion for making sure the students, faculty and staff's health and well-being were always at the forefront of every decision. On behalf of the Board of Regents, I can't thank Dr. Evans enough for her countless hours

and dedication given to Northern Oklahoma College."

The NOC Board of Regents will formally approve Evans' resignation due to retirement at the January 25 Board of Regents Meeting to be held on the Tonkawa campus. Chair Jodi Cline stated that the NOC Board of Regents will launch a national search for her replacement.



# Presidential Partner Grant application deadline extended to Jan. 20

The deadline for the NOC Presidential Partner grant applications has been extended to Jan. 20, president Dr. Cheryl Evans said this week.

Through the NOC Foundation, the NOC Presidential Partners Program will provide \$25,000 for mini-grants up to \$2,500 each to any employee group who has an idea that can be implemented to attract or retain students to NOC. This will be a competitive process. Faculty and staff can work with existing program, campus, academic division, staff department or form a group with various areas from across the institution who want to work together.

NOC is looking for pioneering ideas to bring non-traditional students, online students, and traditional freshmen to all of our NOC locations as well as new initiatives to retain our current student population. Development and Community Relations will work with the recruitment/retention committee to review the proposals and select the best ideas to fund and to put those ideas into action. It is Dr. Evans' hope that these grants will empower more employees to try new creative ideas that could help build enrollment at NOC.

To be considered for the grant funds, please

complete the short Presidential Partners grant application and attach the additional documentation described in this message including a written narrative that describes how the applicant group would use the funds to bring more students to NOC or help them stay on campus. The narrative should include:

- who your target audience is;
- what you hope to achieve;
- state your specific goal(s); and
- describe how and where you will focus your efforts.

The applicant will also need to provide a budget that lists the costs of the idea and how the group would utilize the funds to help each the goals and which individuals from the group will be responsible for the implementation. This application process is open to any NOC employee group with part-time and/or full-time employees. (Please note the following mini-grant restrictions. Funds cannot be utilized for employee stipends or additional student scholarships.)

Please submit your grant applications to the NOC Foundation no later than 5:00 p.m. January 20.

# NOC Musical set for Jan. 21-24

The Northern Oklahoma College Division of Fine Arts is presenting the smash hit comedy musical, "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change" on Jan. 21-24.

The performances, directed by NOC Musical Theatre Instructor Chad Anderson, are in the Kinzer Performing Arts Center at NOC Tonkawa. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. Thursday – Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday.

The musical comedy is based on the book by

Joe DiPietro, music by Jimmy Roberts.

Seating is limited as NOC is practicing social distancing, face masks are required.

Admission is free, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Parental guidance is suggested for adult themes and language.

The event is also available via live stream at <http://www.noc.edu/noc-events-streaming>.

The event was rescheduled from November.



Food Services

## Cafeteria Menu for January 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

**Monday  
January 18<sup>th</sup>  
Holiday Hours**

**Lunch:**  
Breakfast: 9-9:30am  
Lunch: 12 – 12:45pm

**Dinner:**  
Dinner: 4:45-5:45pm  
Chef's Choice All Day

**Tuesday  
January 19<sup>th</sup>**

BBQ Beef Sandwich  
Fried Pork Chops

Pizza Casserole  
Sour Cream Beef Enchiladas

**Wednesday  
January 20<sup>th</sup>**

Tater Tot Casserole  
Chicken Quesadilla

Lasagna  
Corn Dogs

**Thursday  
January 21<sup>st</sup>**

Fried Chicken  
Meat Loaf

Nacho Bar  
Pulled Pork on Bun

**Friday  
January 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Baked Fish  
Steak Fingers

Chef's Choice

## French Onion Soup @ Lunch

Menu subject to change

All meals served with the following: Vegetable, Starch, Bread (Dinner Roll, Breadstick, etc.), Salad Bar,\* Sandwich Bar,\* Pizza Bar, Assorted

Desserts, Assorted Fountain Drinks, Kool-Aid and Tea (\* = Vegetarian Option Available)

### Dining Hours, Monday - Friday:

|                |                                                               |                |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Lunch:         | 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM                                            | \$8.50 (+ tax) |
| Dinner:        | 5:15 PM – 6:30 PM                                             | \$8.50 (+ tax) |
| Friday Dinner: | 4:45 PM – 5:45 PM                                             | \$8.50 (+ tax) |
| Saturday:      | Breakfast 9:00-9:30am / Lunch 12-12:30pm / Dinner 5:00-5:30pm |                |
| Sunday:        | Breakfast 9:00-9:30am / Lunch 12-12:30pm / No Dinner          |                |

**\*\*10 Meal Card Available to faculty/staff/community members for \$75.00 + Tax\*\***

# NOC Calendar

Jan. 16-Jan. 22

Jan. 17

Residence Halls Open, noon

Jan. 18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday, Offices Closed

Jan. 19

Spring Semester Begins

Free Lunch, BCM, 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., Tonkawa

Runner Girls, Wesley House, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m., Tonkawa

BCM Worship Night, BCM, 7 p.m., Tonkawa

Jan. 20

Final Day to Log On to Online Courses

Free Student Lunch, Wesley House, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa

Free Student/Staff Lunch, BCM (Across from Baseball Field Parking Lot), 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., Enid

BCM Bible Study, BCM, 2 p.m., Tonkawa

Home Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. Cowley, 5:30 p.m.

Bingo at the BCM, BCM (Across from Baseball Field Parking Lot), 7 p.m., Enid

Jan. 21

Musical, "I Love You, you're perfect, Now Change, KPAC, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa

Jan. 22

Final Day to add Courses

Final Day to Return Books for Full Refund

Home Jets Basketball vs. OnPoint, 7 p.m.

Musical, "I Love You, you're perfect, Now Change, KPAC, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa

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



**NORTHERN**  
Oklahoma College  
TONKAWA | ENID | STILLWATER

**NOC IS PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING. FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED.**

**NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE  
DIVISION OF FINE ARTS PRESENTS**

**THE SMASH HIT COMEDY MUSICAL**

**I LOVE YOU,  
you're perfect,  
NOW CHANGE**

**JANUARY  
21-24, 2021**  
Thursday-Saturday  
7:30 pm  
Sunday 2 pm  
Kinzer Performing Arts Center  
NOC Tonkawa Seating is limited.

**Directed by  
Chad Anderson**

Book and Lyrics by  
**Joe DiPietro**

Music by  
**Jimmy Roberts**

Live Stream  
<http://www.noc.edu/noc-events-streaming>

**FREE ADMISSION**  
children under age 12 must be accompanied by adult.

Parental guidance suggested for adult themes and language.  
Presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals, 235 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10003.

**NOC** Life changing.

# Lady Mavs open season Jan. 20 Dr. Wood-Black edits magazine

The Northern Oklahoma College Lady Mavericks open the 2021 season Jan. 20 when the Mavs host Cowley County at 5:30 p.m. at Foster-Piper Fieldhouse.

The Lady Mavs are under the tutelage of head coach Greg Krause entering his 39th season at NOC Tonkawa. The Lady Mavs suffered a number of injuries in 2020 finishing the year at 3-26.

In a normal year, the Lady Mavs would have opened the season in November but due to Covid-19, the NJCAA season opens Jan. 20.

"It's been a big adjustment," Krause said. "We've tried to keep our routines the same but it's been a challenge. We didn't see our players for 60 days and now we play in two weeks so we are going full go to get ready for our first game against Cowley. We are excited to get started and compete."

The Lady Mavs return five letter winners from 2020 including guards Mia Brown, Celeste Moore, and Caitlin Bailey along with forwards Radina Zhivachka and Lauren Coates. Brown and Moore missed most of last year with injuries.

"We have a solid returning group," Krause said. "Mia (Brown) has a chance to be a special player, she can shoot the ball well and has the ability to make things happen with the dribble. Radina (Zhivachka) is a post player that is very versatile, she can shoot the 3-pointer but can also post up well in the paint. Celeste (Moore) is a tremendous athlete while Lauren (Coates) and Caitlin (Bailey) are solid players."

Krause is also counting on transfer Gavriel Myers.

"She can really shoot the ball," he said. "She'll help us a lot."

Krause also has sophomore Kailynn Belcher as well as incoming freshmen Morgan Live-say, Delaney Reimer, Chloe Brinlee, Travisha

Cogdill, Kaitlyn Clemons, and Morgan Romero.

"They are a good group with a lot of promise," Krause said. "We have a good combination of shooting and playmaking. I think they call all contribute this year. This is the kind of year where everyone is going to have to be ready to go when they are needed."

This year's schedule is 23 games with 18 NJCAA Region 2 games and five non-conference games.

Region 2 games include home and home series with NOC Enid, NEO, Western, Eastern, Redlands, Murray State, and Seminole. Non-conference games include a home and home series with Cowley College and Labette (KS) and Southwest Christian.

Currently, a decision has not been made on fan attendance but games will be available on live stream at <http://www.noc.edu/athleticsstreaming>.

The Lady Mavs assistant coach is Carey Pharriss.

Tip-offs are set for 5:30 p.m.



Greg Krause

Northern Oklahoma College Dr. Frankie Wood-Black, Director, Process Technology; Instructor & Division Chair, Engineering, Physical Science, and PTEC recently co-edited a special publication of the Journal of Chemical Education.

The Special Issue, released last week, featured Chemical Education: Methods, Culture, and Green Safety.

Wood-Black also had an article on New Years Resolutions in the Industry Matters publication. Wood-Black's article was one of the most read in 2020.



Dr. Frankie Wood-Black

## NOC January Birthdays



|                |         |                |         |
|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| Suzi Brown     | Jan. 15 | Rick Lowe      | Jan. 28 |
| Ravi Bhambhra  | Jan. 21 | Valerie Wade   | Jan. 28 |
| Janet Hartz    | Jan. 23 | Karri Morrill  | Jan. 28 |
| Kyle Mayo      | Jan. 25 | Bridget Napoli | Jan. 30 |
| Matthew Trudel | Jan. 27 | Audrey Schmitz | Jan. 31 |



# Mavs host Cowley on Jan. 20

The Northern Oklahoma College Mavericks open the 2021 season Wednesday, Jan. 20 when the Mavs host Cowley County at 7:30 p.m. at Foster-Piper Fieldhouse.

The Mavs, under 8th year head coach Donnie Jackson, were 28-4 last year earning an at-large bid to the NJCAA Tournament though the tournament was canceled due to Covid-19.

Normally, the Mavs would have opened the season in November but due to Covid-19, the NJCAA season opens Jan. 20.

"It's been a challenge," Jackson said. "With no games in the fall, we spent more time in the weight room and skill work than normal. The hard part for us is that we had two weeks of quarantine before we left for Thanksgiving so it's been almost two months since we've had our players."

"I know it's going to take some time to put the pieces in place so we have to patient," he said. "I think games could be ugly early because everyone will be trying to find some consistency. Fortunately, everyone is in the same boat."

The Mavs lost NJCAA All-American Demaree King along with Barron Tanner and Deaveon Bankston to graduation but return seven key contributors from the 2020 team.

Returnees include guards Tyrel Morgan and JD Ray along with forwards Avante Lederer and Mark Berry. Post players Malik Crawford, Syrus Grisby, and Justin Wilson also return.

"We have such a good group of returnees," Jackson said. "Tyrel (Morgan, who signed with Jacksonville University) is poised to have a great year but JD (Ray) and Avante (Lederer) both had great falls for us."

Jackson said that Crawford and Berry really came on as well.

"Of our bigs, they both had good falls," Jackson said.

Jackson has freshmen Diondre Alexander, Kevin Sesberry, Nate Goodlow, Dylan McLean,

and Jaylin Oliver along with sophomore transfer Camryn Dennis.

"I like our newcomers," he said. "Nate (Goodlow), Kevin (Sesberry), Dylan (McLean), and Camyrn (Dennis) all have the opportunity to see plenty of minutes. I like to play 10-11 guys so there is playing time available. I'm excited to see how our young guys fit in. They came in this week refreshed and ready to go."

This year's schedule is 23 games with 18 NJCAA Region 2 games and six non-conference games.

Region 2 games include home and home series with NOC Enid, NEO, Western, Eastern, Redlands, Murray State, and Seminole. Non-conference games include a home and home series with Cowley College and Labette (KS) and single games with Collin County and OnPoint.

"Our non-conference schedule is brutal out of the gate with two games against Cowley," he said. "But with an experienced group, I think we can weather the storm. We understand that there may be some rough patches early but by our first conference game, we hopefully will be where we need to be."

Currently, a decision has not been made on fan attendance but games will be available on live stream at <https://www.noc.edu/athleticsstreaming>.

The Mavs are assisted by Ravi Bhambhra. Tip-offs are set for 7:30 p.m.



Donnie Jackson

**BINGO**  
AT  
THE  
BCM!

Donnie Jackson

**WEDNESDAY  
JAN 20TH  
7:00PM**

**NOC ENID BCM  
2108 E MAINE AVE.**

**FREE PRIZES!**