

NOC regents select three finalists for president's position

With plans to announce its new president in May, the Northern Oklahoma College Board of Regents named its three finalists for the position on Wednesday, April 25, following an executive session during their regularly scheduled regents meeting.

"After narrowing down the strong national pool of applicants in a previous board meeting, the Board of Regents, serving at the presidential search committee, interviewed five highly qualified candidates during this first-round," Chairman Brad Fox, said in a news release. "The Regents are happy to announce the top three finalists who will move forward in the second-round interviews."

The finalists (in alphabetical order) are Dr. Trevor C. Lane, State Specialist and Associate Professor at Washington State University; Ms. Diana Watkins, Interim President and Chief Academic Officer at Northern Oklahoma College; and Dr. Patrick Wilson, Executive Director of Online & Extended Learning at New Mexico Highlands University.

The NOC Board of Regents will conduct in-person interviews with the finalists during an executive session at a May 15 special board meeting on the NOC Tonkawa campus. Finalists will also have an opportunity to tour each campus location that day. The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be Wednesday,

May 22 at 2 p.m. on the NOC Enid campus. The Board plans on announcing the next President for Northern Oklahoma College following an executive session that day.

Dr. Trevor C. Lane

Dr. Trevor C. Lane is an Oklahoma native with 23 years of experience in public higher learning at a tier one community college and research university in multi-campus environments with experience in accessibility, affordability, and student-centric learning. He received a doctorate in education from the University of Southern California, a Masters of Science (MS) from Oklahoma State University, and a Bachelor's of Art (BA) from Drake University.

As a State Specialist and Associate Professor, he has achieved more than \$10.8M in grants, contracts, and extra-mural funding. At Tulsa Community College (TCC) he had a long-standing history over 10 years of success with strategic enrollment management under Dr. Dean VanTrease and Dr. Ric Baser for First Time, Full-Time entering freshman through programs like Tulsa Achieves or Attend College Early (ACE) and serving historically underrepresented populations in a multi-campus environment.

Dr. Lane is a veteran, 4-H and Eagle scout leader, social scientist, and CITI certified researcher with supplemental certifications in Artificial



Dr. Trevor C. Lane



Diana Watkins



Dr. Patrick Wilson

Intelligence (AI) and data analysis. He is a published subject matter expert working at an R1 Carnegie Institute. With national, state, and regional recognition, he is an award-winning state specialist in Community & Economic Development with 10 years of service at Washington State University (WSU), an international institution of higher learning, in Cooperative Extension with the College of Agriculture, Human, & Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS).

Awards include the following:

- Serving on the United Nations (UN) World Food Programme to support global health and food evaluation.

- National Achievement Award: National Association of County Agricultural Agents

(NACAA).

- National Excellence in Tourism Programming
- Team Award for International Agritourism Conference.

- Regional and Statewide Awards for Best Video Presentation: National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA).

- Statewide STEM Champion of the Year (Top 3 Finalist): North Central Washington Technology Association.

Dr. Lane's leadership links citizen-science with action research leveraging the best available knowledge to solve complex economic, environmental, and social problems in tribal and

(See **Finalists** on Page 2)

Finalists

(Continued from Page 1)

rural communities. He is a subject matter expert in agritourism, technology transfer, and small business ecosystems as evidenced in his scholarship and credit or non-credit programs leading to high levels of student engagement or transformative student experiences. Dr. Lane is also working internationally and nationally on “food is medicine” and farm to table initiatives to improve food security and poverty.

Diana Watkins

Ms. Diana Watkins currently serves as the Interim President and Chief Academic Officer for Northern Oklahoma College. A proud graduate of Perry High School, she went on to earn an Honors Program Bachelor's Degree in Secondary English Education at Oklahoma State University where she also earned her Master's Degree in Teaching Learning and Leadership and is currently a doctoral student in Higher Education and Student Affairs.

Watkins began her career in education teaching high school English in Ardmore, Oklahoma. Her move to post-secondary education came in 2000 when she joined the Oklahoma State University Honors Program, now Honors College, as an academic counselor before spending four years as an “early childhood educator,” taking on the role of full-time mom until her daughter began pre-K.

Watkins's tenure at NOC began in the Language Arts Department on the Stillwater campus. In 2007 she was named the Distinguished Adjunct Faculty Member for NOC Stillwater. After joining the Language Arts Department full-time in 2007, she was named the Distinguished Faculty Member for NOC Stillwater in 2009. In 2019 she took on the role of Vice President for the Stillwater campus, heading up the NOC/OSU Gateway Program. Extremely passionate about student success, Watkins served on the task force that developed NOC's First

Gen Mentor Program, a program designed to assist students who are the first in their families to attend college. She has presented at numerous conferences, including the National Association of Developmental Education Conference and the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference. Watkins was recently appointed by Chancellor Allison Garrett to the State Regents' Campus Safety & Security Task Force.

A graduate of Leadership Stillwater Class XX-VIII, Watkins served on the Stillwater Public Education Foundation Board of Trustees, and is a member of the Friends of the Honors College at OSU.

Watkins enjoys practicing yoga, running, reading, writing, and attending concerts and theatre performances. Her daughter, Emma, an NOC alumni and recent graduate of Mounty Holyoke College, works as a visitor services associate at the Oklahoma Hall of Fame.

Dr. Patrick Wilson

Dr. Patrick Wilson is a seasoned academic leader and innovator with a robust background in higher education and business. Holding a Doctorate in Educational Technology from Pepperdine University, an MBA with Honors in Finance and Accounting from Regis University, and a Bachelor's degree with Honors in Finance and Economics from Christian Brothers University, Dr. Wilson brings a wealth of expertise to the table.

Currently serving as the Executive Director of Online & Extended Learning at New Mexico Highlands University, Dr. Wilson has been instrumental in establishing and expanding new online degree programs. Over the past five years, he has overseen the successful launch of six fully online programs, accounting for 15 percent of the university's total enrollment. Noteworthy achievements include negotiating a groundbreaking collective bargaining agree-

ment for distance education and supervising four campuses with associated staff.

Prior to his role at NMHU, Dr. Wilson held key leadership positions, including Associate Vice President at Tennessee Technological University and Associate Vice Chancellor at TN eCampus. At TTU, they doubled revenue for online programs in just three years, while at TN eCampus, they managed a team of 35 professionals, overseeing a collaboration of 19 academic institutions and an annual budget of \$56 million.

Beyond his administrative roles, Dr. Wilson has actively contributed to national professional organizations in higher education such as the NC-SARA Institution Advisory Committee and served on the Finance Committee for UPCEA. He has also presented at national conferences like the Online Learning Consortium (OLC) Annual Conference.

With a track record of securing grants from organizations such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Dr. Wilson has demonstrated a keen ability to drive innovation and change within the education sector.

In addition to their leadership roles, Dr. Wilson has served as an educator, teaching a diverse array of courses at institutions such as Regis University and the Community College of Denver.

Driven by a commitment to excellence and a passion for accessible and transformative education, Dr. Wilson continues to make significant contributions to shaping the future of higher education.



Spring concert set for Sunday

The Northern Oklahoma Division of Fine Arts presents the final concert of the 2024 season Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Kinzer Performing Arts Center.

The concert band, college choir, and Madrigal Singers will perform.

NOC's concert band will perform the Slavic Farewell, Phantom of the Opera, 2nd Suite in F, and March of the Cute Little Wood Sprites.

The choir and Madrigal Singers will perform Folk Songs from around the world.

Admission is free, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Redbud Jazz Festival Tuesday

Northern Oklahoma College is hosting the annual Redbud Jazz Festival on Tuesday, April 30.

The annual event is set for the Kinzer Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m.

Bands from Blackwell and Perry High School will be performing at the event.

The concert is free to the community.

Graduation May 4

NOC Graduation is set for Saturday, May 4 at Tonkawa and Enid.

Tonkawa students will graduate at 9:30 a.m. at Foster-Piper Fieldhouse while Enid/Stillwater students graduate at 2:30 p.m. at Briggs Auditorium in Enid.

The Nursing Pinning will be Friday, May 3 in Tonkawa at the KPAC at 7 p.m.



The NOC Digital Media Institute is hosting an open house Friday, May 3 at NOC Tonkawa.

DMI Open House set for May 3

The Northern Oklahoma College Digital Media Institute’s Annual Student Showcase will be held on Friday, May 3, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Wilkin Hall room 108/110.

DMI’s seven graduating students will be showcasing their creative skills in Maya, After Effects, Photoshop, Premiere Pro, and much more.

Visitors are welcome to take a tour, watch demo reels, talk to the students, and enjoy traditional free ice cream floats.

DMI Director Brad Matson said, “The goal of DMI is to furnish students with an expertise skill set required to secure employment within the realm of cutting-edge computer graphics. Over the span of two years, the program centers on artistic methods utilizing contemporary technology. DMI students cultivate the capacity to translate their concepts and visions into various realms of digital media, encompassing 3D modeling, texturing, animation, motion capture, game environment and asset development, visual effects, motion graphics, graphic design, digital filmmaking, video

editing, and audio refinement.”
“This is a great opportunity to expand the awareness to potential employers as well as introducing companies to a talent pool of educated, creative, and driven artists, in addition to exposing talented prospective students to the DMI program and the local educational facilities,” Matson added.

Epic Shorts Student Film Festival
DMI will also be hosting the 16th Annual Epic Shorts Student Film Festival at 4 p.m. in the Wilkin Theatre on May 3.

Eight short student films will be screened that afternoon.

“The film crew handles all the writing, directing, lighting, sound, and the three phases of production. This will be the best festival with quality of films since I started this festival,” Matson said.

There are cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and Audience Choice. All donations and proceeds benefit Diabetes Solutions of Oklahoma (DSOK).

NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE

Spring Concert

NOC DIVISION OF FINE ARTS *Presents*
Concert Band, College Choir *and* Madrigals Singers
SUN | APR. 28, 2024 | 2 PM
Kinzer Performing Arts Center at NOC Tonkawa

FREE ADMISSION | *Children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult.*

Concert Band <i>performing</i> Slavic Farewell Phantom of the Opera, 2nd Suite in F March of the Cute Little Wood Sprites	Choir and Madrigals <i>performing</i> Folksongs from Around the World
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NOC Tonkawa 4.0 students were honored Wednesday night at the Academic Awards Reception. Seven students were honored including Kaitlyn Frieden, Kaylee Meyer, Jayde Perea, Gloria Reyes, Sage Wilcox, Hadleigh Williams, and Anna Willis (photo by Shiloh Martin/Northern Oklahoma College)

Tonkawa Academic Awards presented

Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa students were honored Wednesday night at the Annual Academic Awards Banquet at the Renfro Center.

The following are the awards for 2023-24:

Oklahoma All-USA Academic First Team: Autumn Leist, Allison Green

Outstanding President's Leadership Council Student: Autumn Leist

Academic Athlete of the Year: Keely Hussey

Agricultural Student: Jayde Perea

Livestock Judger: Elizabeth Chambers

Sheep Center: Jayde Perea, Kate Leeper, Sidnie Saville, Emily Stevens

Biology: Raelyn Rodriguez, Ally Riddle, Kaitlyn Frieden

Chemistry: Anna Willis

Outstanding Pre-Engineering Student: Brady Harman

Process Technology: Austin Grossardt

Outstanding Business Student: Landon Harmon

Christine Marshall Accounting Student: Anna Siemers

Gene Dougherty Art Student: Myra Mehojah

Piyush and Lisa Patel DMI Student: Sage Wilcox

JT Burg Scholarship for DMI Student: Travis Chick

Instrumental Music Student: Ally Riddle

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Awards

(Continued from Page 4)

- Rhoda Sharp Award: Amberlynn Kelly
All-Around Musician: Kira Pendleton
Musical Theatre: Alea Hunt
Technical Theatre: Brenna Leonard
Charlene Bouchard Literature Student: Monet Sue Elizabeth Watson
Elizabeth Totten Creative Writing: Monet Sue Elizabeth Watson
Elizabeth Totten Memorial Journalism: Mallory Riley
- Keely Marshall Journalism: Mallory Riley
Mass Communication: Mallory Riley
Language Arts: Tesia Placker
Math: Joel Crossland
Christine Marshall Outstanding Criminal Justice: Jade Cavanaugh
History: Mark Hodgson
4.0 Student Award: Kaitlyn Frieden, Kaylee Meyer, Jayde Perea, Gloria Reyes, Sage Wilcox, Hadleigh Williams, Anna Willis



NOC Art Students held a Student Artist Exhibit last Sunday at the Kinzer Performing Arts Center. The exhibit is on display through May 7. Pictured (L-R): Amy Smith, Jason McNaughton (faculty), Myra Mehojah, Ariel Calvert, MaeElla Seaboy Clift, Leslee Richardson, Shelby Baker, Brooklyn Loney, Lindzee Hardy, Mohammed Masra, Audrey Schmitz (Gallery Director and faculty).

NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE, TONKAWA

Kinzer Performing Arts Center

2024

STUDENT ART EXHIBITION

IN BLOOM

APR 16 - MAY 7

Artist's Reception

Sunday, April 21

2:00-3:00 pm

MaeElla Seaboy-Clift

Brooklyn Loney

Myra J. Mehojah

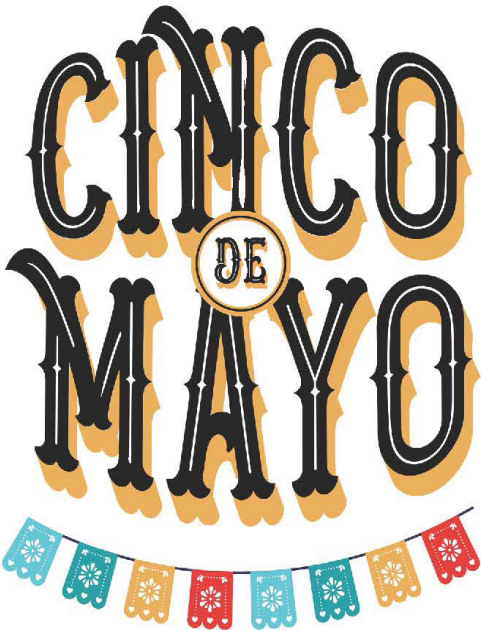


The NOC Sheep Center recently attended the Black and White Sheep Sale in Chickasha, OK. They exhibited and sold six head of Dorset and Speckle-faced wethers and a ewe. In the show portion of the sale NOC had two class winning Speckled-faced wethers. The results of the sale were gross sales of \$9650.00 on the six lambs sold. Those students attending the event and doing all the work to get the consignment ready and shown were the Sophomore student workers at the NOC Sheep Center, Jayde Perea, Sidnie Saville, Kate Leeper and Emily Stevens.

NOC April Birthday



Anita Simpson April 27 Ross Buchanan April 27



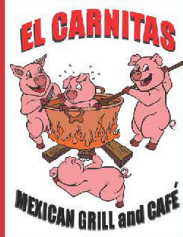
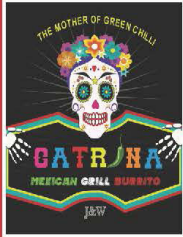
Viva La Raza!
Hispanic Student Club
Invites you in celebration of
Cinco de Mayo to



MAY 3, 2024 | 6-9 PM | DOWNTOWN ENID

Food Trucks • Dancers • Live Music • DJ • and more!
Look for Our Booth!

PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN:

5TH PLACE  Mexican Candy Basket	4TH PLACE  Heydy's Place Homemade Mexican Food	3RD PLACE  EL CARNITAS MEXICAN GRILL AND CAFE	2ND PLACE  CATRINA MEXICAN GRILL BUNNITO	
	\$30 Gift Card Heydy's Place Mexican Restaurant	\$40 Gift Card El Carnitas Mexican Cafe	\$50 Gift Card Catrina's Mexican Grill	FIRST PLACE HANDMADE BLANKET

TO PURCHASE \$5 RAFFLE TICKETS, CONTACT
Dr. Mary Ann McCoy: 580.548.2394 | maryann.mccoy@noc.edu
Raychel Harves: 405.641.0066 | raychel.harves@noc.edu





NOC Rocket Team in Wisconsin April 26-28

The Northern Oklahoma College Rocket Team will be in Wisconsin April 26-28 as part of the 15th Annual First Nations Launch National Rocket Competition. Attending the event are (L-R): Grant Biggers (Enid), Andrew Lewis (Enid), Jayce Daniels (Enid), and Raven Bruce (Tonkawa). Taylor Steven is part of the team but is not traveling.

The team is sponsored by faculty mentors Dr. Frankie Wood-Black and Ken Black. This is NOC's third year to compete in the competition.

The event is sponsored by NASA's Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium (WSGC)

This competition is an opportunity for students attending a Tribal College or University (TCU), a Native American-Serving Nontribal Institution (NASNTI), or who are active members of an American

Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) collegiate chapter at a non-TCU/NASNTI university/college to design, build, and fly a high-powered rocket to be launched at a competition at the Richard Bong State Recreational Area in Kansasville, WI.

The Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium First Nations Launch competition offers Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU), Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions (NASNTI), as well as active American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) collegiate chapters the opportunity to demonstrate engineering and design skills through direct application in high-power rocketry.

The competition requires teams of undergraduate students to conceive, design, fabricate, and compete with high-power rockets.




LAUNCHING ROCKETS BREAKING BARRIERS STARTING CAREERS

NASA completes visit to Enid

Northern Oklahoma College hosted NASA officials on April 9 at the NOC Enid Campus.

As part of NASA Connect Grant “Exploring the Sun and night sky through the lens of the Skywatchers,” NASA program representatives, Ebony Maureen and Caroline Montgomery visited and met with NOC officials.

According to Dr. Frankie Wood-Black, Division Chair for Process Technology; Instructor & Division Chair, Engineering, Physical Science, PTECH, the visit was to review the upgrades to the facilities on the NOC campus which included the installation of the new planetarium computer and optics and the new image processing center, and to meet with students that have been supported and/or impacted by the work with the NASA individuals.

The representatives also observed the planetarium in use as part of the Northern Encounter for Enid High School Seniors. The representative had a chance to meet with six students individually to discuss their projects, and impressions of the program. These students also presented to the Enid High School Students as

part of the events for Northern Encounter.

NOC’s grant is a two-year grant with the period of performance ending July 31, 2024, however, discussions with NASA has indicated that this program is eligible for a one year no cost extension which will allow students to be supported through the 2024-2025 Academic year.

This program has been very successful for NOC as the students are in the process of working with Slooh. Slooh is an international educational organization that allows students to explore astronomy using telescopes in the Canary Islands and Chile, to publish at least three cultural quests based upon the work completed by the students.

Additionally, this program has placed NOC into the National Minority Serving Institution (MSI) database, which has opened up additional research opportunities for NOC students. Discussions with the NASA representatives, has opened up additional opportunities as NOC is going to approach the Science Directorate and work to expand our collaborations.

Spring 2024 Final Exam Schedule—Tonkawa, Enid and Stillwater Campuses

Monday, May 6	Tuesday, May 7	Wednesday, May 8	Thursday, May 9
If Course is MWF 8:30am WF 8:00am MWF 8:10am MW 8:30 EXAM is 8:00 am—9:50 am	If Course is TR 9:00 am EXAM is 8:00 am—9:50 am	If Course is MWF 9:30 am M 9:00 am MW 9:00 am EXAM is 8:00 am—9:50 am	If Course is TR 7:30 am T 8:00am R 8:00am EXAM is 8:00 am-9:50 am
If Course is MWF 11:30 am MW 11:30 am EXAM is 10:00 am—11:50 am	If Course is TR 12:00 pm EXAM is 10:00 am—11:50 am	If Course is MW or MWF 12:30 pm EXAM is 10:00 am—11:50 am	If Course is TR 10:30 am EXAM is 10:00 am—11:50 am
If Course is MW 1:30 pm MWF 1:30pm EXAM is 12:00 pm—1:50 pm	OPEN	If Course is MWF 10:30 am MW 10:30 am EXAM is 12:00 pm—1:50 pm	OPEN
If Course is MWF 2:30 pm MW 3:00 pm EXAM is 2:00 pm—3:50 pm	If Course is TR 3:00 pm EXAM is 2:00 pm —3:50 pm	If Course is M 3:30pm EXAM is 2:00 pm-3:50 pm	If Course is TR 1:30 pm EXAM is 2:00 pm-3:50 pm
If Course is M 4:30pm MW 4:00pm EXAM is 5:00 pm –6:50 pm	If Course is TR 5:30pm EXAM is 5:00 pm-6:50 pm	If Course is MW 5:30pm EXAM is 5:00 pm-6:50 pm	If Course is TR 4:00pm TR 4:30 pm EXAM is 5:00 pm-6:50 pm
If Course is M 6:00 pm M 6:30 pm M 7:00pm EXAM is 7:00 pm-8:50 pm	If Course is T 7:00pm EXAM is 7:00 pm-8:50 pm	If Course is W 7:00pm EXAM is 7:00 pm-8:50 pm	If Course is R 7:00pm EXAM is 7:00 pm-8:50 pm



NOC Tonkawa Resident Student Life sponsored Exotic Pets on Monday at the Gazebo.

Scenes from NOC Tonkawa Fine Arts “Play in a Day”



NOC Calendar

April 27

Home Jets Baseball vs. Western, 1 p.m./3 p.m.
Away Mavs Softball vs. Seminole, 2 p.m./4 p.m.

April 28

Home Jets Baseball vs. Western, 1 p.m.
College Choir/Band Concert, KPAC, 2 p.m.,
Tonkawa

April 29

Home Jets Softball vs. NOC Tonkawa, 2 p.m./4 p.m.
Away Mavs Softball vs. NOC Enid, 2 p.m./4 p.m.

April 30

Free Lunch, BCM, 11:15 a.m. – 1 p.m.,
Tonkawa
Home Mavs Softball vs. Pratt (KS), 2 p.m./4 p.m.
Redbud Jazz Festival, KPAC, 7:30 p.m.,
Tonkawa

May 1

BCM Lunch, Gantz Center, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., Enid
The Gathering, BCM, 7 p.m., Enid
The Gathering, BCM, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa

May 2

Home Jets Softball vs. Connors, 2 p.m./4 p.m.
Virtual Commencement Practice, 3 p.m.,
Tonkawa/Enid/Stillwater

May 3

Final Day to Withdraw from All Courses
DMI Free Ice Cream Floats, Wilkin Hall 108,
11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa
DMI Sophomore Showcase, Wilkin Hall
Theatre, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m., Tonkawa
Nurses Pinning, KPAC, 7 p.m., Tonkawa
Home Mavs Baseball vs. NOC Enid, 1 p.m./3 p.m.
Away Jets Baseball vs. NOC Tonkawa, 1 p.m./3 p.m.

For additional information, visit the following links: NOC Calendar



Faces of Gateway

"My time at NOC was pivotal in shaping my college experience and subsequent career trajectory. It provided a seamless transition between high school and university, offering a smaller, more supportive environment within the larger OSU campus. This personalized attention facilitated my academic growth and ultimately led to receiving an academic scholarship to OSU. The professors and curriculum at NOC instilled in me the confidence to tackle university-level classes, emphasizing the importance of building connections and attention to detail. Moreover, my experiences traveling abroad with NOC broadened my horizons and taught me valuable collaboration skills. Without NOC, I may not have had the courage to pursue my entrepreneurial endeavors, which have since led to the ownership of two successful companies and a fulfilling career that allows for global travel. I am grateful to NOC for inspiring me to dream big and empowering me to turn those dreams into reality."

— Lauren Johnson
NOC 2008-2010

Life changing.

 **GATEWAY** 
PROGRAM