



NORTHERN
Oklahoma College

TONKAWA | ENID | STILLWATER

www.noc.edu

What's Happening

May 22, 2026

NOC Public Information Office 580.628.6444

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Biggs, Love named assistant vice-presidents for finance

Northern Oklahoma College has named Audra Biggs as the new Assistant Vice President for Business Financial Affairs and Rachel Love as the Assistant Vice President for Student Financial Affairs.

The combination of Biggs and Love replace Anita Simpson, who is retiring as the Vice President for Financial Affairs in July.

Biggs is currently the Controller in the NOC Business Office while Love is the NOC Foundation Accountant.

"I am excited to take on this new role as Assistant Vice President for Business Financial Affairs and I want to thank President Diana Morris for the incredible opportunity," Biggs said. "I owe a huge thank you to Anita Simpson, Vice President for Financial Affairs, for hiring me just over 12 years ago and allowing me the opportunity to work under her leadership. I'm proud of what our team has been able to accomplish and eager to accomplish more."

Love began her career at NOC as a Foundation Accountant, a role she held for nearly eight years before taking time to focus on raising her family. She later returned to the college, resuming her work as Foundation Accountant for more than four additional years.

"I'm honored to step into this role and grateful for the trust placed in me," Love said. "After years of working behind the scenes with the

Foundation, I look forward to expanding my knowledge of the college, especially on the student side, and seeing more firsthand the impact we make in students' lives every day."

NOC President Diana Morris thanked Simpson for years of service and welcomed Biggs and Love to their new roles.

"I am incredibly grateful to Vice President Anita Simpson for her 31 years of dedicated service to Northern," Morris said. "Her leadership and stewardship have positioned us incredibly well for the future. Those who have worked closely alongside her are not at all surprised that her departure from this institution has us expanding from one vice president for finance to two assistant vice presidents to take on all her roles."

"I believe this change will allow us to build on the legacy she has created while also making



Audra Biggs

room for continued growth, collaboration, and long-term stability," Morris added. "These two individuals bring complementary strengths that will support NOC's life changing mission as we seek to meet the goals outlined in our 2025-2030 strategic plan."

"I am very proud and happy for Audra and Rachel to begin these new phases in their careers," Simpson said. "Over the past 12 years Audra and Rachel have illustrated their due diligence and commitment to the College in their previous roles. I appreciate them for stepping into leadership roles for the College and wish them the best."

Biggs is a Blackwell High School graduate, attending NOC from 1994-1996. She earned an Associate of Arts in Legal Assisting from Rogers State University in 2006, and a Bachelor of



Rachel Love

Science in Business Administration with an option in Accounting from Rogers State University in 2011.

Biggs and husband Patrick together have five adult children and a two-year old granddaughter.

Love is a graduate of Northern Oklahoma College and Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Rachel holds an Associate degree and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. She graduated with honors and received the Outstanding Accounting Student Award from Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

A lifelong resident of Ponca City, she has been married to her husband, Sean, for nearly 24 years. Together, they have three children, ages 16, 15, and 11.

NOC Closed Monday

All three NOC locations will be closed Monday for the Memorial Day Holiday.

Also, Friday, May 22 is the first of 11 Fridays off this summer.

NOC will go back to the regular work schedule the week of Aug. 1.



NOC Vice President for Financial Affairs Anita Simpson was honored with seven other retirees at the end of the year faculty and staff meeting. Simpson retires after 31 years at the college. (Pictured (L-R): Dr. Rick Edgington, Diana Morris, Anita Simpson, Sheri Snyder (photo by Caroline Hillock/NOC).

Anita Simpson among eight NOC retirees honored at in-service

Northern Oklahoma College honored eight retirees at the May 8 In-Service meeting in Tonkawa.

Retiring employees include Teresa Reich, Mary Ann Moody, Brenda Pennington, Terri Percy, Fred Heath, Shannon Cranford, Gene Long, and Anita Simpson.

The eight retiring employees totaled over 156 years of experience.

“These individuals will be leaving a legacy of progress in their higher education profession,” said NOC President Diana Morris. “They will be remembered for their many accomplishments and contributions during their tenure here at Northern. For that, we wish to congratulate each of them on their retirement.”

Reich served NOC two years as the Staff Assistant for Financial Aid; Moody served 10 years

as a Resident Life Director; Pennington taught Social Science 20 years; Percy worked as a Bookstore Assistant 20 years; Heath worked as a custodian 22 years; Cranford was the Human Resources Director for 25 years; Gene Long was Maintenance Assistant Director at NOC Enid 26 years; and Vice President for Financial Affairs Anita Simpson worked at NOC 31 years.

Each retiree’s supervisor said a few words about each retiree listing not only their NOC accomplishments but their personal attributes as well.

Vice President for Enrollment Management Dr. Rick Edgington, Vice President for Community Relations & Development Sheri Snyder, and President Morris spoke regarding Simpson.

(See **Retirees** on Page 3)

MAY EMPLOYEE
Birthday
CELEBRATIONS!

Let's celebrate our amazing team members and wish them a *fantastic* year ahead!

🌟 Aron Bassoff 5/9	🌟 Ian Layne 5/17
🌟 Brad Gordon 5/9	🌟 Heather Merrill 5/18
🌟 Christopher Storm ... 5/10	🌟 Linn Laughrey 5/21
🌟 Mark Tarrant 5/10	🌟 Brodie Salyer 5/21
🌟 Ty Shreck 5/11	🌟 Teresa Walker 5/21
🌟 Mathew Gray 5/17	🌟 Kathy Hannah 5/24
	🌟 EJ Taylor 5/25
	🌟 Janet Jarvis 5/26

Thank you for all you do!

WE APPRECIATE YOU!

Retirees

(Continued from Page 2)

“A hallmark of her tenure was the consistent Clean Unmodified External Audits for many years. During her time as Financial VP, she was responsible for oversight of an Educational & General Budget that increased from \$7.4 million in FY 1999 to \$26.1 million in FY2026 and she increased the Educational & General Fund Reserve Balance from \$680 thousand in FY1999 to \$5 million in FY2026.

She sustained an operating budget over many years with significant decreases in state appropriation funding and maintained budgeting 70% of the operating budget to personnel services by making strives to increase compensation for all employees.

As part of her overall job duties, she serves as

treasurer of the NOC Foundation. During her time the Foundation experienced growth in financial net assets and scholarship awards in the Northern Oklahoma College Foundation. Net assets grew from approximately \$1.1 million in FY1999 to \$38.6 million in FY2026. Annual private scholarships grew from \$28 thousand in FY1999 to \$392 thousand in FY2026.

She will be leaving the College with the highest Composite Financial Indicator Score (CFI) that we've had as an institution and is projecting that the FY2026 calculation at June 30, 2026 will be even higher due to the donation of the McKenzie Scott gift to the NOC Foundation.”

(See **Retirees** on Page 4)



NOC President Diana Morris and NOC Enid retiree Gene Long. (photo by Caroline Hillock/ NOC).



Enroll & Explore!

TONKAWA	ENID	STILLWATER
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
April 14, 2026	April 15, 2026	April 16, 2026
May 5, 2026	May 6, 2026	May 7, 2026
May 12, 2026	May 13, 2026	May 14, 2026
June 2, 2026	June 3, 2026	June 4, 2026
June 16, 2026	June 17, 2026	June 18, 2026
July 7, 2026	July 8, 2026	July 9, 2026
July 28, 2026	July 29, 2026	July 30, 2026
August 4, 2026	August 5, 2026	August 6, 2026



NORTHERN
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Sessions begin promptly at 9 am or 1 pm

Tonkawa
580.628.6668
recruiter1@noc.edu

Enid
580.548.2353
recruiter2@noc.edu

Stillwater
580.628.6904
janet.jarvis@noc.edu

**SCAN
ME!**



For more information www.noc.edu

**REGISTER
ONLINE!**

Life changing.

Retirees

(Continued from Page 3)

Morris, Snyder, and Edgington read quotes from NOC President Emeritus Dr. Joe Kinzer, President Emeritus Tom Poole, and President Emeritus Dr. Cheryl Evans.

“Anita’s official retirement from NOC begins on July 2nd,” Morris said. “I, for one, am extremely grateful she chose to get us completely through “budget season” first. We’re going to

miss her tremendously, but we’re excited for all the family moments ahead as she gets to focus on being Nina to those twelve amazing grandchildren. On behalf of the NOC Board of Regents, the Foundation Board of Trustees, the Executive Council, and all NOC Faculty, congratulations and thank you.”



NOC President Diana Morris and Social Science Instructor Brenda Pennington. (photo by Caroline Hillock/NOC).



NOC President Diana Morris and Custodian Fred Heath. (photo by Caroline Hillock/NOC).

NOC ENID

PLANETARIUM SHOW

Summer Series

Wednesday, June 17
Wednesday, July 8
Wednesday, July 29

All shows begin at
**12 noon at
Mackie Planetarium
Free Admission**

Groups and schools can arrange for a planetarium showing by contacting
Dr. Frankie Wood-Black
580.628.6440 | astronomy@noc.edu

NOC Life changing.



NOC President Diana Morris and Resident Hall Director Mary Ann Moody. (photo by Caroline Hillock/NOC).



NOC President Diana Morris and Financial Aid Administrative Teresa Reich. (photo by Caroline Hillock/NOC).



Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa
June 18, 2026
in Renfro Center

**EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION
BEGINS
MARCH 16
FOR KIDS
3rd-8th GRADE**

Hands-On Training

Practice nursing skills on special manikins just like real nurses do! Listen to a heartbeat, CPR, learn real-life emergency practices, and more.

Come join the fun and learn how to care like a nurse!



3rd-5th Grade
Registration 8:30 am
Camp 9 am-12 pm

6th-8th Grade
Registration 12:30 pm
Camp 1-4 pm

To register or for more information, contact:

Chelsie Taylor

580.628.6679 | chelsie.taylor@noc.edu

or **Rachel Kroemer, MSN, RN**

580.628.6212 | rachel.kroemer@noc.edu

NOC awards service pins

Northern Oklahoma College employees received their service pins at the annual in-service meeting Friday, May 8, at the Renfro Center.

The following received their pins from President Diana Morris.

1 Year Pins

Andrew Caldwell, Maintenance Technician-Tonkawa; Harli Dodge, Director of Prospective Student Services-Enid; Michael Dominguez, Women's Basketball Coach-Enid; Cindy Esch, Information Receptionist-Tonkawa; Craig Esch, Security Officer-Tonkawa; Vanisa Gay, Nursing Instructor-Enid; Rowan Kehn, IT Support Technician-Enid; Brady Kohler, Chemistry Instructor-Tonkawa; Ronald Kuehn, Science Instructor-Stillwater; Dalton Lacy, Custodian-Tonkawa; Kimberly Mathe Cuellar, Business Instructor-Enid; Shelly Mencacci, Vice President for Academic Affairs-Tonkawa; Heatherene Merrill, Psychology/Sociology Instructor-Stillwater; Harley Morton, Administrative Assistant to Financial Affairs-Tonkawa; Stephanie Runyon, Language Arts Instructor-Stillwater; Paul Stokesberry, Maintenance Technician-Tonkawa; Sarah Taylor, Custodian-Tonkawa.

5-Year Pins

Darian Bailey, Retention Specialist/Enrollment Counselor-Tonkawa; Jimmy Dickinson, Science Instructor-Stillwater; Brian Knapke, Maintenance Technician-Tonkawa; Coradino Rosato, Resident Life-Enid; Crystal Smith, Student Support Specialist-Enid.

10 Year Pins

Troy Cochran, Criminal Justice Instructor Tonkawa/Enid; Marie Head, Nursing Instructor-Tonkawa; Kelley Larkin, Assistant Director

of Human Resources-Tonkawa; Wendy O'Neill, Math Instructor-Enid; Cecil Phibbs, Math Instructor-Stillwater; Kyle Smith, IT & Event Support Staff-Tonkawa; Silvia Vazquez, Custodian-Tonkawa.

15 Year Pins

Vickie Crouch, Nursing Instructor-Stillwater; Mary Ann Harris, Science Instructor-Enid; April Heitfeld, Nursing Instructor-Enid; Shannon Lorg, Webmaster-Tonkawa; Alicia Sharp, English/Oral Communications Instructor-Stillwater; Kelly Vinson, Retention Specialist/Enrollment Counselor-Enid.

20 Year Pins

Brian Baird, Nursing Instructor-Stillwater; Michael Machia, Director of Information Technologies-Tonkawa; Sherryl Nelson, Assistant Registrar-Stillwater; Kathleen Otto, Institutional Research & Assessment Director-Tonkawa; Brenda Pennington, Social Science Instructor-Enid; Suzanne Wright, Coordinator of Testing/Academic Advisor/Tonkawa.

25 Year Pins

Leslie Johns, Business Instructor-Stillwater; Cara Beth Johnson, Division Chair/Business-Tonkawa; Brad Matson, Digital Media Instructor-Tonkawa; Dean Percy, Mass Communication/Oral Communications/Radio Instructor-Tonkawa; Teresa Walker, Institute for Tribal Government Director.

30 Year Pin

DeLisa Ging, Language Arts Instructor-Enid

35 Year Pin

Rick Edgington, Vice President for Enrollment Management/Registrar-Tonkawa.



Dr. Rick Edgington - 35 Years



DeLisa Ging - 30 Years



25-Year Pins



20-Year Pins



15-Year Pins



10-Year Pins



5-Year Pins



1-Year Pins



Physical Plant Manager Stacy Burns (left), NOC Enid IT Coordinator Adrian Ibarra (middle) and Criminal Justice Instructor Troy Cochran (right), were recognized as Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges award winners for NOC. (photo by Caroline/Hillock/NOC)

NOC Calendar

May 22
No Classes/Offices Closed

May 25
Memorial Day, No Classes/Offices Closed

May 29
No Classes/Offices Closed

June 1
Begin June Early 4-Week Courses
Summer Tuition/Fees Due

June 2
Enroll & Explore, Wilkin Hall, 9 a.m. – noon,
1 p.m. – 4 p.m., Tonkawa

June 3
Enroll & Explore, Zollars Library, 9 a.m. –
noon, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., Enid

June 4
Final Day to Return Books Purchased for E4
Courses
Final Day to Add/Drop June 4-Week Courses
Enroll & Explore, 2nd Floor Commons, 9 a.m.
– noon, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., Stillwater

June 5
No Classes/Offices Closed



Life changing.

Three NOC employees earn OACC awards

Three Northern Oklahoma College Faculty members received Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges recognized outstanding individuals in three areas: professional staff, support staff, and faculty.

They were recognized by President Morris.

The recipient of the OACC Outstanding Professional Staff award was Physical Plant Director Stacy Burns.

“We all benefit from the work Stacy and his team do here at the college,” said President Morris. “His positive attitude when faced with some challenging tasks is very much appreciated as are his eye for detail and his forward-thinking approach to campus projects.”

This year’s recipient of the OACC Outstanding Support Staff Award is Adrian Ibarra, IT Coordinator on the NOC Enid Campus.

“Whether assisting Faculty in the classroom, in our offices, or working on internal and external campus events, Adrian approaches each individual with a smile (and doesn’t make those of us who are at times technologically challenged feel inept),” Morris said.

The OACC Outstanding Faculty Award this year went to Troy Cochran, Criminal Justice instructor.

“In addition to teaching criminal justice courses and serving as an academic advisor, Troy developed the first micro credentials NOC offers and sponsors an active Criminal Justice Club and currently serves as the National President for the American Criminal Justice Society,” Morris said.



NOC is hosting a Nursing Camp on June 18 in the Renfro Center. Pictured above is a scene from the 2025 Camp. (photo by Dina Kleinmann/NOC)

NOC hosting nurse camp June 18

Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa is hosting the 2nd Annual Nurse Camp June 18 at the Renfro Center.

Grades 3-5 will attend from 9 a.m. – noon while Grades 6-8 will attend from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

The cost is \$25 which includes a t-shirt, goodie bag, snacks, and one-on-one instruction from registered nurses.

Campers attending will learn a variety of skills from current NOC nursing students. Campers will learn how to use crutches, perform rescue

measures such as rescue breathing and CPR, how to stop a bleed, choking prevention and much more. Special appearance by the AirEvac flight team planned between sessions.

The camp this year is sponsored by the NOC Division of Nursing, Integris Health Ponca City, AirEvac, Autry Tech, Respiratory Department, Peak Oilfield, Whiterock Resources, LLC, BAMA Foods, and James & Jennifer Brinkley.

For more information, contact Rachel Kroemer, MSN, RN, at 580.628.6212 or rachel.kroemer@noc.edu.



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Are you an Oklahoma resident pursuing a degree in a high-demand workforce field?

The State Regents Workforce Ready Scholarship program is designed to reduce financial barriers to higher education, support student success, and prepare learners for meaningful careers that strengthen Oklahoma's communities and workforce pipeline.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for the State Regents Workforce Ready Scholarship, applicants must:

- Be an Oklahoma resident enrolled at a public college or university within the Oklahoma state system.
- Be enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student (minimum of 12 credit hours per semester) at an accredited public institution in Oklahoma. *Note: Exemptions to full-time enrollment may apply.*
- Be enrolled in a degree-seeking academic program aligned with a high-demand occupation or an emerging, high-demand field with projected job growth, as determined by the State Regents.
- Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.
- Complete a work-based learning experience that provides real-life or simulated work opportunities allowing students to develop and apply academic, technical, and essential skills.

Examples of eligible learning experiences:

- Apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship
- Clinical experience
- Cooperative education
- Externship, fellowship, or internship
- Job shadowing
- Practicum or residency
- Service learning
- Work-based simulations

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT

Qualified students can earn a one-time scholarship to offset the cost of tuition, fees, and books, with award amounts based on institution type:

Research Universities	Regional Universities	Two-Year Colleges
\$7,000	\$5,000	\$3,000

APPLY TODAY!

Scan the QR code or visit WorkforceReadyOK.org.



QUESTIONS?

DR. LUCIA DICKINSON

Coordinator for Workforce and Economic Development
Email: ldickinson@osrhe.edu | Phone: 405.225.9180



NOC officials traveled to Bri-Steel in Enid to discuss potential internships for students.

NOC faculty tour Bri-Steel in Enid

Northern Oklahoma College faculty recently toured Bri-Steel Manufacturing in Enid to learn more about the company's operations and production processes.

Those attending the visit included Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Shelly Mencacci; Dr. Frankie Wood-Black, division chair for engineering, physical science and process technology; Vice President for NOC Enid Jeremy Hise; and faculty members Kathy Shamburg and Ken Black.

According to Wood-Black, Bri-Steel is seeking to expand its workforce, particularly in engi-

neering, quality assurance and quality control.

"We talked about our engineering, math and data analytics programs," she said. "They are very interested in the data analytics program because it directly applies to their quality programs. We are excited to work with them in the future."

Wood-Black said the group also discussed potential internships and other collaborative opportunities. She added that Bri-Steel officials are expected to tour the NOC Enid campus this summer.

NOC Enid hosts CLIMB workshop May 28

A Creating Lasting Income with Money Basics (CLIMB) workshop is scheduled for May 28-July 16 at Northern Oklahoma College Enid.

Sessions will be eight consecutive Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Gantz Center (Room 100) on the NOC Enid Campus, 100 S. University in Enid.

The program is free but only 20 spots are available. Participants must commit to the entire eight-week program period.

The CLIMB program allows individuals and families to gain confidence in managing money through practical tools and skills for budgeting,

credit management, and goal setting. Participants get hands-on help and learn important skills.

The event is sponsored by the Tri-County Family Resource Center, Rural Health Projects, Inc., and Northern Oklahoma College. The program materials are provided by Familyhood, an Oklahoma Human Services project managed by Public Strategies.

Contact Theresa Sharp, at alicia.a.sharp@outlook.com 580.977.7479 or Sarah Machia at sarah.machia@noc.edu for registration information.

Cost Per Child
\$100
 Commuter Day Camp.
 Total for 3 Days.
 Includes T-Shirt.

Kids should bring a basketball (if they have one).

2026 BOYS BASKETBALL CAMP

JULY 21-23
 Going into 1st-5th | 9am-12pm
 Going into 6th-8th | 1pm-3pm
 NOC Tonkawa, Foster-Piper Fieldhouse
 Concessions will be available for purchase

To Register Contact: Coach Gossett | 630.329.1212
 or Email: Brandon.Gossett@noc.edu

Please make checks payable to NOCF Maverick Men's Basketball Camp and bring with you first day of camp along with form on back.