

What's Happening

August 7, 2026

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Jami Groendyke sworn in at July regents meeting

Northern Oklahoma College Regent Jami Groendyke was sworn in for another five-year term at Wednesday's Board of Regents Meeting at NOC Tonkawa.

Groendyke will serve her second term as a regent.

NOC President Diana Morris is excited that Groendyke chose to serve another term.

"I'm thrilled that Regent Groendyke has chosen to continue to serve in this role," Morris said. "She is an alumnus of NOC Enid and thus has firsthand experience with the impact of a community college education. That knowledge combined with her strong business sense offers invaluable perspective on the Board. I am grateful for her continued leadership as we seek

to provide Life Changing experiences for NOC students."

The swearing in was performed by NOC Regent Andrew Eubank. Other regents include Brad Fox, Sandy Mulligan, and Mike Loftis.

In other business, the board approved the Course Catalog, Student Handbook, Athletic Handbook, and Employee Handbook for the coming academic year.

The board also approved a new HVAC system for the Kinzer Performing Arts Center at NOC Tonkawa.

Vice President for Student Affairs Jason John-

son reported that NOC had 112 athletes make Academic All-American. He said that 37 athletes had 4.0 Grade Point Averages, 30 had between 3.8 and 4.0 GPAs and 40 had between 3.6 and 3.8.

Johnson added that 11 of 12 NOC athletic programs had 3.0 or higher team GPAs and the other had a 2.95.

"We are proud of our athletic programs and their success in the classroom," Johnson said. "It's a tribute to our athletes and our coaches for emphasizing academics to our athletes."

Tonkawa Move-In Week



Aug. 13

9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. -- Move-In Residence Halls

10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. -- Free Aspen Ice Snow Cones with Student ID

8 p.m. -- Volleyball and Ice Cream at Wellness Center

Aug. 14

1:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. -- Maverick Madness
9 p.m. -- Bingo for Supplies at Student Union

Aug. 15

7 p.m. -- Bowling at the Hub Entertainment Center

Aug. 16

3:30 p.m. -- Swim Party at Tonkawa Municipal Pool

Aug. 17

8 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. -- Coffee and Directions at Clock Tower

3:30 p.m. – Quasquicentennial (125 year) Celebration

5 p.m. -- Quasquicentennial Celebration Picnic at Gazebo and Block Party

Aug. 19

8 a.m. -- Coffee and Directions at Clock Tower

Enid Move-In Week



Aug. 13

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. – Move-In Residence Halls
8 p.m. – Volleyball and Ice Cream between Jets Hall and EB Hall

Aug. 14

1:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. – Ready, Jet, Go!

Aug. 15

8 p.m. – Movie Night in Gantz Center's Montgomery Hall

Aug. 16

5 p.m. – 7 p.m. – Pool Party at Enid YMCA

Aug. 17

8 a.m. – Directions Outside Zollars Library
3:30 p.m. -- Quasquicentennial (125 year) Celebration

5 p.m. – Picnic Block Party between Jets Hall and EB Hall

Aug. 18

8 a.m. – Directions Outside Zollars Library



NOC Regent Jami Groendyke is sworn in for another five-year term by fellow regent Andrew Eubank at last Wednesday's regent meeting in Tonkawa.



Kelly Vinson's NOC Enid summer freshman orientation class did their community service on the Enid campus. They pulled weeds in several areas, put down some mulch and planted a couple of new plants in front of Harmon Science.

MOVE-IN WEEK ACTIVITIES

Thursday, August 13

9:00 am-3:30 pm	Move-In Residence Halls
10:00 am-3:30 pm	Free Aspen Ice Snow Cones with Student ID
11:30 am-1:30 pm	Lunch at Mavericks Café
5:15 pm-7:00 pm	Dinner at Mavericks Café
8:00 pm	Volleyball and Ice Cream at the Wellness Center

Friday, August 14

7:30-8:30 am	Hot Breakfast at Mavericks Café
8:30-9:30 am	Continental Breakfast
11:30 am-1:30 pm	Lunch at Mavericks Café
1:45-3:45 pm	Maverick Madness
5:15-7:00 pm	Dinner at Mavericks Café
9:00 pm	Bingo for Supplies in Memorial Student Union

Saturday, August 15

11:30 am-12:30 pm	Brunch at Mavericks Café
5:15-6:15 pm	Dinner at Mavericks Café
7:00-9:00 pm	Bowling at the Hub

Sunday, August 16

11:30 am-12:30 pm	Brunch at Mavericks Café
3:30-5:30 pm	Swim Party at Tonkawa City Pool / Blinn Park Located on Main Street
5:15-6:15 pm	Dinner at Mavericks Café

Monday, August 17

7:30-8:30 am	Hot Breakfast at Mavericks Café
8:30-9:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:00-11:30 am	Coffee and Directions at Clock Tower Under Canopy
11:30-1:30 pm	Lunch at Mavericks Café
3:00 pm	Quasquicentennial (125 year) Celebration
5:00 pm	Quasquicentennial Celebration Picnic at Gazebo and Block Party

Tuesday, August 18

7:30-8:30 am	Hot Breakfast at Mavericks Café
8:30-9:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:00-11:30 am	Coffee and Directions at Clock Tower Under Canopy
11:30-1:30 pm	Lunch at Mavericks Café
5:15-6:15 pm	Dinner at Mavericks Café

Meal Plan Required for Dining at Mavericks Café

MAVERICKS

125th ANNIVERSARY

1901

NOC NORTHERN Oklahoma College

2026

Renna Bowers named Enid dean of students

Northern Oklahoma College has selected Renna Bowers for the newly created dean of students position at NOC Enid.

Bowers, an Enid native, has served as the Coordinator of Residential Life and Student Accessibility Services at NOC Tonkawa for the past 12 years.

At NOC Enid, Bowers will oversee student conduct and discipline, residence halls and personnel, coordinate campus security, crisis management, and crime reporting.

She will also serve as a campus security authority; coordinate student employment and budget oversight; oversee clubs and organizations, student senate and campus activities; and provide student-centered customer service.

Bowers will also represent student affairs at community, state and regional meetings, serve as liaison between student affairs and other departments, annually compile information for the student handbook and campus calendar, support college activities and special events through attendance and participation on the Enid campus, and participate in the institution's strategic planning process.

Bowers is excited about the opportunity at the Enid campus.

"Throughout my career in higher education, I have been committed to creating an environment where students can thrive academically, socially, personally, and professionally," Bowers said. "My experience working with students, faculty, and staff has provided me with a strong understanding of the challenges students face and the support systems necessary to help them achieve their goals. I have built collaborative relationships across campus and have consistently worked to foster a student-centered culture focused on accessibility, accountability, and student development."

"As a member of the NOC community, I understand the unique strengths and opportunities of our institution," Bowers added. "I value the relationships I have built with students and colleagues and am committed to advancing initiatives that enhance student engagement, retention, leadership development, and campus life. My leadership style is grounded in collaboration, transparency, and a genuine desire to help others succeed."

"As a native of Enid, the opportunity to return home and serve the students of Northern Oklahoma College is especially meaningful," she concluded. "I understand the unique strengths and needs of our communities and recognize the transformative impact that higher education can have on individuals and families. I would be honored to contribute to NOC's tradition of excellence by fostering a student-centered environment that promotes belonging, accountability, leadership, and academic achievement."

NOC President Diana Morris said, "This promotion comes as a result of Renna's proven ability to lead with passion and purpose. Her dedication as Tonkawa Coordinator of Resi-



Renna Bowers

(See Bowers on Page 4)

NOC ENID MOVE-IN WEEK ACTIVITIES

Thursday, August 13

9 am-4 pm	Move-In Residence Halls
8 pm	Volleyball and Ice Cream Between Jets Hall and E.B. Hall

Friday, August 14

1:45-3:45 pm	Ready, Jet, Go!
8 pm	Bingo in Montgomery Hall, Gantz Student Center

Saturday, August 15

8 pm	Movie Night in Montgomery Hall, Gantz Student Center
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Sunday, August 16

5-7 pm	Pool Party at Enid YMCA
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Monday, August 17

8 am	Directions Outside Zollars Memorial Library
3 pm	Convocation, Gantz Student Center
5 pm	Picnic and Block Party, Between Jets Hall and E.B. Hall

Tuesday, August 18

8 am	Directions Outside Zollars Memorial Library
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Angelica Garcia to lead women's wrestling program

Northern Oklahoma College has selected Angelica Garcia to lead the NOC women's wrestling program.

Garcia comes to NOC from Amarillo, Texas, where she taught and coached for two years in the Amarillo Independent School District. She has also been involved in the youth wrestling program in Amarillo and worked as a wrestling official.

On the mat, Garcia was a four-time state qualifier, three-time state placer and three-time national qualifier (WCWA/NAIA) at Wayland Baptist.

She is a graduate of Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas, with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree specializing in cybersecurity.

"First and foremost, I would like to thank Athletic Director Alan Foster and President Diana Morris for this great opportunity," Garcia said. "I am incredibly honored and grateful to accept the position of head women's wrestling coach at Northern Oklahoma College.

"Wrestling has been a defining part of my

life," Garcia said. "From competing on the mat to coaching the next generation, this sport has shaped my character, taught me resilience and fueled a life-long passion for helping young athletes reach their full potential. I am humbled by the opportunity to lead a program with such a proud tradition and excited to begin this next chapter."

"As head coach, my vision is to build a cul-

(See Garcia on Page 5)



Angelica Garcia

Bowers

(Continued from Page 3)

dential Life and Student Accessibility Services, combined with her service on several institutional committees, demonstrates a deep commitment to student success that will serve the Enid campus community quite well."

Vice President for Student Affairs Jason Johnson added, "I'm excited to have Renna server as our next Dean of Students for the Enid Campus. She has worked in the Student Affairs Of-

fice as the Coordinator of Residence Life for 12 years and has a wealth of knowledge that will benefit the Enid Campus."

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural business from Northwestern Oklahoma State University and later earned a Master of Education degree from Northwestern Oklahoma State University.



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-Student, Virginia Tech

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Garcia

(Continued from Page 4)

ture that reflects the values wrestling teaches—hard work, discipline, accountability, integrity and selflessness,” she added. “I want our student-athletes to pursue excellence every day, not only on the mat but in the classroom, in the community and in life. Championships are always a goal, but my greatest responsibility is to help develop young athletes into leaders of character who will be successful long after their wrestling careers.”

“I want to thank Northern Oklahoma College for believing in me and entrusting me with the responsibility of leading this program,” she said. “I have also been fortunate to learn from outstanding coaches, mentors, teammates and fellow student-athletes throughout my journey, and those experiences have prepared me for this opportunity. To the wrestlers, alumni, administration and supporters, I look forward to earning your trust and working together to

continue the proud tradition of Northern Oklahoma College wrestling while building an even brighter future.”

NOC Athletic Director Alan Foster is excited for Garcia to take the helm of the program.

“I am super excited to bring Angelica on board as the new women’s wrestling coach,” Foster said. “Her success as a competitor will benefit our student-athletes immensely. She has been involved in women’s wrestling for many years as a competitor, official and coach. I believe our student-athletes can learn a great deal from someone who has been successful in all facets of the sport. Her unique perspective is a tremendous asset, and I look forward to her leading the program to new heights.”

Garcia replaces Jayden Miller, who led the program for two years. Miller is now the head coach at Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa.

NOC Calendar

Aug. 10

Division Chair Retreat, NOC Stillwater, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Coaches Meeting, NOC Enid, 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Aug. 11

Staculty In-Service Meeting, Renfro Center at NOC Tonkawa, 9 a.m. – 3p.m.

Aug. 13

Move-In Residence Halls, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Tonkawa
Move-In Residence Halls, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Enid
Free Aspen Ice Snow Cones with Student ID, 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., Tonkawa
Volleyball and Ice Cream at Wellness Center, 8 p.m., Tonkawa
Volleyball and Ice Cream, Between Jets Hall

and EB Hall, 8 p.m., Enid
Aug. 14
Maverick Madness, 1:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m., Tonkawa
Ready, Jet, Go!, 1:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m., Enid
Bingo for Supplies, Student Union, 9 p.m., Tonkawa

Aug. 15

Bowling, Hub Entertainment Center, 7 p.m., Tonkawa
Movie Night, Gantz Center, 8 p.m., Enid

Aug. 16

Swim Party, Tonkawa Municipal Pool, 3:30 p.m., Tonkawa
Pool Party, YMCA, 5 p.m., Enid

Happy BIRTHDAY!

August Employee Birthdays

EMPLOYEE	BIRTHDAY	EMPLOYEE	BIRTHDAY
Joshua Harris	8/1	Erin McCoy	8/11
Jonathan Monk	8/2	Allan Lester	8/13
Alicia Larson	8/4	Scott Cloud	8/18
Paige Hutsell	8/5	Louis Griffith	8/18
Paul Stokesberry	8/5	Sarah-Felicia Vitale	8/20
Harli Dodge	8/6	Riley Barrick	8/22
Brad Matson	8/6	Bart Allen	8/23
Craig Esch	8/7	Jennifer Hammons	8/26
Todd Ging	8/8	Rachel Kroemer	8/27
Niesha Jones	8/8		
Eugene Young	8/8		
Curtis Parr	8/9		
Kenneth Black	8/10		
Emma Robinson	8/10		
Stephanie Runyon	8/10		

Thomas Owings set to lead NOC livestock judging program

Northern Oklahoma College has named Thomas Owings as the new Livestock Judging coach for 2026–27.

Owings, a native of Huntsville, Missouri, is part of a family business, “Owings Genetics,” a livestock operation specializing in cattle, swine and goats. He grew up in a family deeply involved in the livestock genetics industry, an experience that helped develop his passion for livestock evaluation and the agricultural industry.

He earned an Associate of Science degree from Redlands Community College in El Reno, Oklahoma, where he competed on the nationally recognized Livestock Judging Team.

He then transferred to the University of Arkansas, where he received numerous livestock judging honors and graduated in 2025 with a bachelor’s degree in agricultural education and extension. During his time at Arkansas, Owings was also selected as a member of the inaugural 2025 Top Judge Program.

He is excited to join Northern Oklahoma College as the livestock judging coach.

“I look forward to mentoring student-athletes, building on the program’s tradition of excellence, and helping students develop the knowledge, skills, work ethic and leadership qualities needed for success both in and beyond the livestock industry,” he said.

Owings added that he is honored to join the

NOC family and is eager to invest in the next generation of livestock evaluators while building lasting relationships with students, alumni, producers and industry partners.

“I’m truly honored and humbled to join the Northern Oklahoma College family. Livestock judging has opened countless doors for me, but more importantly, it has introduced me to incredible mentors and lifelong friends,” he said. “I’m excited for the opportunity to help students develop not only their evaluation skills, but also the confidence, work ethic and leadership abilities that will serve them throughout their careers. I can’t wait to get to work and continue building on the proud tradition of NOC Livestock Judging.”

Owings replaces Jennifer Bedwell who led the program six years.



Thomas Owings





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Examples of eligible learning experiences:

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

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Over 40 area students attended the annual Art Adventure Camp at NOC Tonkawa July 13-16. (photo by Ken Crowder).

Students attend Art camp at NOC

Approximately 40 students sang, painted, drew, sculpted and made videos, jewelry, ornaments and cartoons during the 35th Annual Arts Adventure summer camp at Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa from July 13-18.

Expert artists Justin Stier, Kellie Rains, Jason McNaughton, Chad Anderson, Brad Matson

and Audrey Schmitz offered unique classes in visual and performing arts for area youth in grades 6-12. This year's camp was directed by Stacie Danks with assistance by Jessica Swain. Apprentices assisting the Artists were Nichelle

(See **Camp** on Page 8)

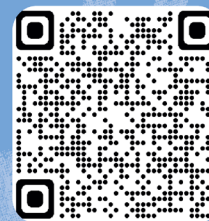


NOC President's Leadership Council attended their annual retreat at Enid on Wednesday. The group heard from NOC President Diana Morris, former PLC members and also from Col. Joshua D. Lundbey from Vance Air Force Base in Enid. (photo by Mallory Kyler/NOC)

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OKLAHOMA



NOC Tonkawa art students visit Arkansas museums in summer trip

Eight students from the Northern Oklahoma College Fine Arts Division joined faculty members Audrey Schmitz, Brad Matson and Jason McNaughton on an overnight trip to tour three fine art museums in Bentonville, Arkansas: Crystal Bridges Museum of Art, The Momen-tary, and 21C Hotel Museum. Highlights of the trip included James Turrell's Skyspace: The Way of Color, 2009; Marisol Escobar's The Bathers, 1961-62 and Anita Field's The Elements of Being, 1997.

The participating students were Neally Lantz, Stillwater; Angel Garcia, Ponca City; Samantha Hill, Ponca City; Kris McDaniels, Ponca City; Trystyn Estes, Newkirk; Delaney Fox, Tonka-wa; Sunday Reynolds, Tulsa; and Danikka Har-dy, Ponca City.

Along with touring the diversity of art held permanently at each museum, temporary ex-

hibits such as Keith Haring in 3-D, America 250 Common Threads, The Machine Behind the Art: Inside JR's Printing Press and The Greatest Wildlife Photographs were experienced. Additionally, students enjoyed exploring outdoor art trails on the extensive Crystal Bridges Museum campus nestled in the Ozarks.

The overnight art experience made possible with the financial support of Masonic and Pres-idential Partners grants.

"None of the students had been to the Ben-tonville before, and for many it was their first time to view high caliber American art "in the flesh," said NOC Visual Arts Instructor Au-drey Schmitz. "Our only regret was that we unable to see everything, but more than one student remarked that they were anxious to re-turn on their own – accompanied by family and friends."



Eight NOC students and three sponsors visited three Arkansas museums this summer. Pic-tured (L-R): Brad Matson, Angel Garcia, Trystyn Estes, Audrey Schmitz, Neally Lantz, Kris McDaniels, Samantha Hill, Danikka Hardy, Sunday Reynolds, Delaney Fox, Jason McNaugh-ton.



NOC Staculty (left) attended the Stillwater Public Education Foundation's Celebrate New Frontiers Event at the incredible new Stillwater High School. Pictured (L-R): Ash-ley Kruse, Luke Kruse, Cassie Firth, NOC President Diana Morris, Ashley Moore, Dr. Marsh Howard.



Life changing.

Camp

(Continued from Page 7)

Alley, Sam Anderson, Isabelle Danks, Saman-tha Hill, Terri McNaughton and Dianne Smith.

Classes offered this year included Cartooning, Digital Escape Room, Drawing Fundamentals, Black Light Painting, Figure Drawing, Jewelry and Ornament Making, Musical Theatre, Stage Makeup, Video Production, and Dragon Eyes Sculpture.

Students showed off their work Thursday night during an Open House Showcase for family and friends.