



WOMEN *for* OSU

2012 Spring Newsletter



*None of us can solve all of the world's problems,
But together, we can do amazing things.
All it takes is a commitment that each of us will do our part.*

TRISH HOUSTON PAWL



WOMEN *for* OSU

Mission Statement

Who We Are

Women for OSU is a diverse group of women, both alumnae and friends, who share a passion for inspiring leadership through their support of OSU.

Sponsored by the OSU Foundation, the group is led by a Council of women alumni and friends of the University who have an established giving history to the University.

Our Purpose

Women for OSU is a mechanism to channel passions and strengthen women's connections to the University through their relationship with WOSU.

Our goal is to increase the number of female donors to OSU as well as increase their total giving through the Women for OSU Endowed Scholarship, a prestigious award that recognizes academics, philanthropic, and volunteer activities among OSU's female students. Funds for this endowment are generated through private donations and sponsorships from events, which allow women to become better leaders and educated philanthropists.

Our Strategy

The spring symposium and regional events provide a venue for friends and alumnae to connect or reconnect with one another and the University. The organization provides pertinent information about how women impact philanthropy at OSU and beyond, sharing relevant data and inspirational stories of those who are actively changing the University.

Each year at the symposium, we honor women who are making a difference. Scholarship winners are announced and the group recognizes a Philanthropist of the Year– a known leader in philanthropy at the University who is selected among a group of esteemed peers. Attendees have a chance to discuss with each other their motivations to give and where their passions lie at the University.

Get Involved

To learn more or to join the mailing list for our communication designed specifically for women, please contact:

Debra Engle
OSU Foundation campaign consultant
405.385.5600 or email dengle@osugiving.com

Ann Hargis

First Cowgirl

Being the wife of Burns Hargis has been a personal blessing for more than 40 years. It took on a different aspect when Burns was named president of his alma mater. Consequently, I have the unofficial but powerful position of First Cowgirl. Burns and I both discovered the joy of philanthropy before we even met, with our passion for giving growing over the years. Now our strengthened affiliation with Oklahoma State University provides each of us with many more opportunities to support good causes.

Working with Women for Oklahoma State University is one of the best parts of my position. I am so proud to be part of this amazing group that understands givers receive more than they sacrifice when they help others. You have such lofty goals for us, and you regularly show the combined talent and commitment to not just fulfill but exceed them. Consider the exponential increase in Student Philanthropist of the Year scholarships over the past three years, with that number still growing. That is just a small example of our success at uniting women to lead this community through philanthropy.

For me, the annual Symposium is always one of the year's highlights. It is a privilege to be in the same room with so many successful and interesting women. The energy level is palpable, and I come away from each of these events exhilarated. Though I am not an alumna – I attended a Big 12 school that features a different shade of orange –



I definitely consider myself a Woman for OSU, and through this group I have met many others who fit that title even though they may not have a degree from here. At the Symposium, I have witnessed so many connections between women with varied affiliations with the University, ages, careers, passions, backgrounds and expertise. It is wonderful to see the universality of their commitment to supporting others, which leads to unexpected relationships offering new avenues for success, happiness and fulfillment.

There are not enough organizations designed to benefit society as a whole, but Oklahoma State University is serious about doing exactly that to fulfill its land-grant mission. Women for OSU is one of the best extensions of that mission because our membership is made up of such wonderful souls. Thank you for allowing me to be part of the amazing things you are accomplishing. I can't wait to see what we will do next.

Ann Hargis

Sincerely,
Ann Hargis



visit osugiving.com/women/annhargis for Ann's video interview

When Women

Give Back

As Women for Oklahoma State University shows, there are many women who have a strong passion for leadership and supporting OSU. The group's members each have a unique story about why they give, and even how they do so.

Patricia and Phil Tolbert

have been funding scholarships since 1991. Their two largest gifts endowed the Phil and Patricia Tolbert Scholar Leader Scholarship Fund and the Phil D. and Patricia T. Tolbert Dean's Endowed Scholarship, both for Spears School of Business students.

"My own experience is part of the reason we primarily give in the area of scholarships," Pat says. "When I finished high school, there was no way for me to go to college. Also seeing my own children work and save money to help pay for college, working hard to do something they want to do – scholarships afford students opportunities they wouldn't have otherwise."

The Dallas residents say their favorite part about giving back is meeting the scholarship recipients.

"It is wonderful seeing the students grow over time," she says. "One example is when we first met a student as a freshman at a luncheon and she was so shy. Phil and I were able to see her several times over the years and I don't know how else to say it: she really blossomed and her personality came out. We felt we had a little bit to do with that."



Anne Greenwood

of Stillwater supports a variety of projects at OSU, including being a member of the Friends of the OSU Library. The group spent the past three years renovating a reading room in the Edmon Low Library through an anonymous donor's generosity. They solicited advice from experts before choosing the best paint, lights, chairs, etc., for the room. When the anonymous donor revealed himself at an event, Greenwood was shocked to learn it was her husband, Michael, who is naming the room in her honor.

"It was one of those unbelievable moments," she says. "I burst into tears. I can't believe he did that for me."

This was a really fun project to work on, especially because I always studied at the library when I was a student."



Gayle Robinson and daughter Jennifer Glenn

led an effort to honor their husband and father, Rob Robinson, who spent 36 years helping students and teachers before retiring as head of OSU's chemical engineering department. The Stillwater natives contacted his former students and faculty members, securing enough donations to endow a scholarship in his name, which he learned Christmas 2010.

"We surprised him, starting with a slide ruler, the 'computer' he initially enrolled in 1955 as a chemical engineering student at Oklahoma A&M, then a beautiful letter from Dean Karl Reid, and ended with a plaque," Gayle says. "He was delighted that he would be part of a 'forever' way to assist students in their pursuits of higher education and a better way of life."

Glenn adds, "I was fortunate to grow up in a family where education was important. My dad was the inspiration and role model for my college teaching career. Having this opportunity to help instill these same values in others is a legacy that is important to us."

Women for OSU believes every woman can be a difference-maker by using her resources to help others. As Glenn, Greenwood, Robinson and Tolbert show, that can be through time, talent, treasure or any combination of the three. If you would like to discuss how you may be able to help, please let us know.

Women for OSU

Spring 2012 Symposium



featuring **Jennifer Buffett**

Thursday April 12, 2012
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
ConocoPhillips Alumni Center

The Women for OSU Symposium educates women about philanthropic planning and empowers them to be difference-makers while giving them the chance to connect or reconnect with one another and the University. This annual sold-out event honors women who are making a difference by celebrating and recognizing the accomplishments and the important role women serve in the community through leadership, compassion and enthusiasm.

The keynote speaker for the 2012 Spring Symposium is Jennifer Buffett, co-chair and president of the New York-based NoVo Foundation, a philanthropic organization focused on creating a more just and balanced world based on cooperation and partnership, primarily through the empowerment of girls and women. Buffett will discuss “The Girl Effect” and the importance of investing in girls and women to create a better world. She will share her personal story and discuss how one of the largest foundations dedicated to girls and women came about.

Buffett’s work in philanthropy began in 1997 when her parents-in-law, Susan and Warren Buffett, gave Jennifer and her husband, Peter Buffett, a small charitable fund. In addition to overseeing NoVo’s strategic direction, she provides leadership and serves on the boards of the Nike Foundation, V-Day, CASEL, BRAC USE, Apne Aap Women Worldwide and Women Moving Millions. In 2010, Jennifer was selected by President Clinton to be a founding member of the Clinton Global Initiative’s young global leaders cohort. She was recently named one of “150 Women Who Shake the World” by Newsweek and The Daily Beast.

Women for OSU will name a new Philanthropist of the Year, recognizing a woman who is making a difference. Also recognized at the event will be the Student Philanthropists of the Year, who will each receive a \$2,000 scholarship. Women for OSU has taken advantage of the Pickens Legacy Scholarship Match, which will help the group to continue to increase the number of annual awardees.



Recap of 2011

Last year's sold-out spring symposium featured keynote speaker **Lisa Ling**, accomplished author and producer. She shared her passion for philanthropy and how it changed her life. Ling is co-executive producer and host of "Our America" on the Oprah Winfrey Network and field correspondent for the Oprah show.

Linda Shackelford, co-owner of TLC Florist & Greenhouses in Oklahoma City, was named Philanthropist of the Year. Shackelford and her husband, Charles, support OSU in many ways, including gifts to the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, OSU-Oklahoma City, OSU athletics and the OSU Alumni Association.



The Women for OSU Endowed Scholarship Fund supported four \$2,000 scholarships last year. From left, Qualla Parman, Alyssa Peterson, Carly Schnaithman and Haley Baumgardner each received the scholarship as a Student Philanthropist of the Year.

Qualla Parman, biosystems engineer senior, is involved with several engineering organizations including OSU Engineers Without Borders and the American Society of Agriculture and Biological Engineers. She also serves on the Student Alumni Board and assists with sustainability projects such as Tailgate Recycling.

Alyssa Peterson, biochemistry senior, has assisted in operating Thanda, which provides support and education for the families of AIDS victims in South Africa.

Carly Schnaithman, agribusiness senior, has leadership experience in community service through the Make-A-Wish Foundation, youth softball, fraternity and sorority philanthropy events, the Human Society, Headstart and the Oklahoma Blood Institute.

Haley Baumgardner, agribusiness senior, is a leader in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. She is active in Make a Difference Day Cleanup, the Oklahoma City Food Bank, the Tulsa State Fair and Enid Relay for Life.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR OSU.

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Bobbie Nofflet, '48, Heritage Society Member



WHO WILL YOU REMEMBER?

Without a valid will or plan, the distribution of your assets is determined by the government. Your last will and testament provides an opportunity to avoid that by documenting your wishes. It is a lasting expression of support and affection for the people and causes you wish to remember.

After taking care of your loved ones, please consider including the OSU Foundation in your will or living trust. It can provide a visible and enduring tribute for our students, faculty and programs.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR OSU.

For more information on creating a bequest or exploring other charitable estate planning opportunities to benefit the College of Arts and Sciences, contact Jason Caniglia or John Strah at 405-385-5617 or visit OSUgiving.giftlegacy.com.