



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR
THE OKLAHOMA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGES
AUGUST 24, 2022

Notice of this special meeting was filed with the Oklahoma Secretary of State on August 4, 2022.

The Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges met for a retreat in the Conference Room of Karsten Creek Golf Club, 1800 S. Memorial Drive, Stillwater, Oklahoma. The Agenda for this meeting is attached as ATTACHMENT A and considered a part of these minutes.

Board members in attendance: Mr. Jarold Callahan, Chair; Mr. Joe Hall, Vice Chair; Mrs. Blayne Arthur; Mr. Cary Baetz; Mr. Rick Davis; Mr. Jimmy Harrel; Dr. Trudy Milner; Mr. Billy G. Taylor; and Mr. Rick Walker.

Absent: None

Others in Attendance: Mr. Jason Ramsey, Chief Executive Officer; Dr. Kayse Shrum, President, Oklahoma State University and OSU System; Dr. Johnny Stephens, President, OSU-Center for Health Sciences/Interim President for OSU-Tulsa; Mr. Chad Weiberg, Director of Athletics; Mr. Kyle Wray, Senior Vice President for Executive Affairs; and Mr. Jerome Loughridge, Senior Vice President of Operations; Mr. Steve Stephens, General Counsel; Ms. Michelle Finley, Chief Audit Executive; Ms. Jessica Russell, Director of Public Policy; and Mr. Gaylan Towle II, Senior Staff Attorney.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:05 a.m.

1. Discussion related to Board of Regents priorities for the 2022 and 2023 academic year, which will include discussion with Oklahoma State University President Kayse Shrum and possibly other university administrators.

President Shrum discussed record-breaking enrollment at OSU and distributed a handout highlighting the fall semester's enrollment numbers, which is attached as ATTACHMENT B and considered a part of these minutes. She noted OSU's enrollment achievement made headlines in various media sources, including Forbes magazine. There are over 4,668 students in the fall 2022 freshman class.

President Shrum and Mr. Weiberg discussed OSU's involvement in the Big 12 Conference, giving an overview of various information such as the number of playoff teams, ticket sales, and Name, Image & Likeness (NIL). They also discussed the innerworkings of Cowboy Athletics, Cowboy Golf, and Karsten Creek.

(Regent Arthur joined the meeting at approximately 8:15 a.m.)

President Shrum discussed the OSU Research Park and a potential strategy for its development and the desire to create a unique identity for that space while raising funding to further invest in research. She then discussed creating a new position titled Vice President of System Initiatives and its intended impact across the A&M institutions. This person would likely office at OSU-Tulsa but would serve the entire A&M System.

Mr. Loughridge then presented a high-level overview of the draft OSU Strategy for the Regents, which the OSU administration has been developing over the past six months.

2. Updates from Board Staff related to the Executive Office, Office of Internal Audit, and Office of Legal Counsel.

Mr. Ramsey distributed a Board Staff Organizational Chart and Board Staff Bios, which are collectively attached as ATTACHMENT C and considered a part of these minutes. He presented an update about current projects and areas of focus for the Executive Office; Mr. Steve Stephens gave an overview of various areas of interest in the Office of Legal Counsel; Ms. Finley provided a status update for the Office of Internal Audit; and Ms. Russell gave an overview of current legislative issues and provided an update on the upcoming special legislative session.

3. Executive Session, if approved by the required number of Regents present, for the purposes of: (1) considering evaluation/assessment and other information relevant to the employment of institutional presidents, executive leadership team, vice presidents, and deans under the governance of the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges; and (2) Confidential communications between a public body and its attorney concerning a pending investigation, claim, or action pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1).

At approximately 1:05 p.m., Regent Davis moved and Regent Harrel seconded that the Board convene in Executive Session for the stated purpose.

Those voting Aye: Board Members Arthur, Baetz, Callahan, Davis, Hall, Harrel, Milner, Taylor, and Walker. No: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: None.
The motion carried.

Board Staff Members Steve Stephens, Michelle Finley, and Gaylan Towle II were also in attendance at the Executive Session.

Open Session

At approximately 2:14 p.m., Regent Taylor moved and Regent Arthur seconded that the Board reconvene in Open Session.

Those voting Aye: Board Members Arthur, Baetz, Callahan, Davis, Hall, Harrel, Milner, Taylor, and Walker. No: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: None.
The motion carried.

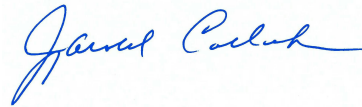
4. New business unforeseen at the time agenda was posted.

None.

5. Meeting adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m.

BOARD OF REGENTS FOR THE OKLAHOMA
AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGES



Jarold Callahan, Chair

ATTEST:



Jason Ramsey, Chief Executive Officer

Certified correct minutes subject to the approval of the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges on September 9, 2022.



Kyla Eldridge, Executive Assistant to the CEO



AGENDA
OSU/A&M Board of Regents
Annual Retreat

August 23-24, 2022*
Karsten Creek
1800 S. Memorial Dr.
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074

Tuesday, August 23, 2022

6:30 p.m. – Reception

7:00 p.m. – Dinner

Clubhouse Dining Hall

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

7:30 a.m. – Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – Annual Retreat Session

Conference Room

Notice of this special meeting was filed with the Secretary of State on August 4, 2022. This is strictly an informal retreat/study session for those Regents who can attend and OSU President Kayse Shrum and spouses/guests. **No Board action will be taken.*

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT ANNUAL RETREAT SESSION:

1. Discussion related to Board of Regents priorities for the 2022-2023 academic year, which will include discussion with Oklahoma State University President Kayse Shrum and other university administrators.
2. Updates from Board Staff related to the Executive Office, Office of Internal Audit, and Office of Legal Counsel.
3. Executive Session, if approved by the required number of Regents present, for the purposes of: (1) considering evaluation/assessment and other information relevant to the employment of institutional presidents, executive leadership team, vice presidents, and deans under the governance of the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges; and (2) Confidential communications between a public body and its attorney concerning a pending investigation, claim, or action pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1).
4. New business unforeseen at time agenda was posted.
5. Meeting adjournment.

MAKING HISTORY

**TOMORROW A
REMARKABLE
CLASS WILL BEGIN
THEIR COLLEGE
EXPERIENCE AT
OKLAHOMA STATE
UNIVERSITY.**

Now — more than ever — students are choosing OSU. With **4,668 freshman students** joining the Cowboy family, this year's record-breaking class dreams as big as the sky. These students are the future of innovation and discovery — with **1,016 joining The Honors College** and **nearly 1,800 exploring STEM fields**.

As the most diverse incoming class in school history, the Class of 2026 will reach new horizons while creating a bright orange world for all.



A RECORD-BREAKING CLASS



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Area schools' Return to Learn plans reflect an endemic



Area near Ukraine nuclear plant hit again; 1973 British Open champion dies; Indian...



Remembering Elvis Presley, Anne Heche dies and the R. Kelly trial | Hot off the Wire...



Stitt campaign taps major donors to build huge financial advantage



New TU captains eager to take on responsibility



Here's who's on the ballots as voters head to



2022 high school football preview



Oklahoma State University is one of several public research universities reporting a record ... [+] GETTY

It's back to campus time, and there's great interest in whether college enrollments will bounce back this fall, after a decade of steady decline that's resulted in a 9% national decrease in undergraduate enrollment, equal to about 1.6 million fewer students.

With concerns about the Covid-19 pandemic easing and institutions ratcheting up their recruitment efforts, college officials are hoping to see a rebound in their numbers, particularly for first-time students. Several institutions - including large research universities, regional institutions, HBCUs, and small liberal arts colleges - have recently reported their preliminary enrollments and are touting some record numbers.

Here's a quick look.

Both of the public research universities in Oklahoma saw record enrollment of first-time students. **Oklahoma State University's** initial numbers show at least 4,668 first-year students enrolled in the class of 2026, an all-time high and an increase of more than 9% over last year's freshman fall enrollment.

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Subject: FW: OSU freshman enrollment hits all-time high
Date: Monday, August 22, 2022 at 4:18:10 PM Central Daylight Time
From: OSU News
To: Cleary, Casey
Attachments: image001.jpg



OKLAHOMA STATE

NEWS RELEASE

OSU freshman enrollment hits all-time high

Incoming class tops previous record by more than 375 students

(STILLWATER, Okla., Aug. 18, 2022) — Oklahoma State University is preparing to welcome its largest, most diverse freshman class in history.

With 4,668-plus first-time freshmen enrolled, the class of 2026 eclipses previous records and represents an increase of more than 9% over last year's freshman enrollment for the fall semester.

The OSU Honors College also set a new enrollment record for the second consecutive year with 3,096 total enrollees. Other notable highlights include online enrollment, which increased nearly 26% compared to last year, and enrollment in STEM programs, which increased more than 11% compared to 2021, besting the previous record established in 2017.

New enrollment of first-generation students has risen more than 7%, and the number of OSU freshmen emerging from the top 5% of their high school class reached a new record, leaping 2% over the previous record established last fall. Transfer student enrollment also saw an increase. Year-to-year retention totals have hit a new high, as well, and OSU has posted its second highest retention rate on record, with nearly 84% of students returning to enroll at OSU and a record number of new students returning for their second year.

OSU's total enrollment for the fall semester is up 4% over last year — 24,692 students — and includes students from all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico and 113 countries.

"We were expecting to have record-setting freshman enrollment this semester, but to surpass the previous record by more than 375 students is truly remarkable," OSU President Kayse Shrum said. "This historic milestone is a testament to the strength of our academic programs, dedicated faculty and staff, and our unwavering commitment to provide a world-class education that empowers our students to learn, grow and succeed. It's a great time to be a Cowboy. With the upcoming release of our new strategy, we're primed to continue to elevate the prestige and impact of our modern land-grant institution to serve the needs of the state, nation and world."

Karen Chen, OSU vice president of enrollment management, echoed Shrum's excitement.

"We're thrilled to welcome this historic freshman class to the Cowboy family," Chen said. "We're celebrating a monumental achievement for freshman enrollment, exceeding the previous record by over 375 new students. We are also excited to recognize the record retention numbers and significant increases in overall student enrollment. There's so much momentum and excitement surrounding the university right now as we continue to explore new ways to enhance our institution, our facilities and academic programs, and, most importantly, the student experience."

Stillwater native and incoming freshman BreAnna Peeper said she's had her heart set on OSU for a long time. Both of her parents attended OSU, and she embraced Cowboy traditions from a young age.

"It's a really beautiful campus and I just love being around OSU," she said.

Even if you're not from Stillwater, she said OSU "just feels like home."

"Everyone's always so nice and welcoming," she said.

Peeper, who plans to major in elementary education, said she's looking forward to being back on campus — this time as a student — and joining the largest incoming class in school history.

"I think that's really exciting to know that so many other people love OSU the way that I do and want to be a part of it," she said.

Incoming freshman Tyler Clayton plans to study engineering at OSU, which quickly rose to the top of his list.

"The reason that I first got interested in OSU was because I had applied to several schools and it just seemed like none of them were really prioritizing or focused on if I was going to do well," he said. "I would email admissions counselors for these other schools and they just weren't really answering me or helping me very much. It was completely different for OSU, and that really got me interested in the school because OSU seemed to put a lot of effort into my well-being and my success at the school."

Apart from the personal touch, Clayton said the strength of OSU's engineering programs was particularly compelling, noting that OSU offers exciting research opportunities to underclassmen and access to state-of-the-art facilities.

"When I came to campus for my orientation, I noticed the engineering building is very new," he said. "One of the 'rules' within the engineering department is they like to keep everything as up-to-date as possible. They replace their equipment more often than other schools, and I feel like that really prioritizes the students and opportunities for us to get access to the best facilities for learning."

Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs Jeanette Mendez said a student-focused approach is at the heart of OSU's academic mission. New and cutting-edge facilities, such as the Greenwood School of Music, the McKnight Center for the Performing Arts, the Ray and Linda Booker OSU Flight Center, the Unmanned Systems Research Institute and the forthcoming New Frontiers Agricultural Hall are physical representations of OSU's commitment to provide a one-of-a-kind, hands-on learning experience.

“The land-grant mission calls us to tackle some of society’s most pressing challenges through research and practical applications. That starts with our students,” Mendez said. “Whichever degree path students choose to pursue, they’ll find a home here and a network of support. Our faculty are dedicated and eager to help them explore their passions, learn and thrive. That’s what being a part of the Cowboy family is all about.”

PHOTOS: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjA3uUG>

MEDIA CONTACT: Mack Burke | Associate Director of Media Relations | 405-744-5540
| news@okstate.edu

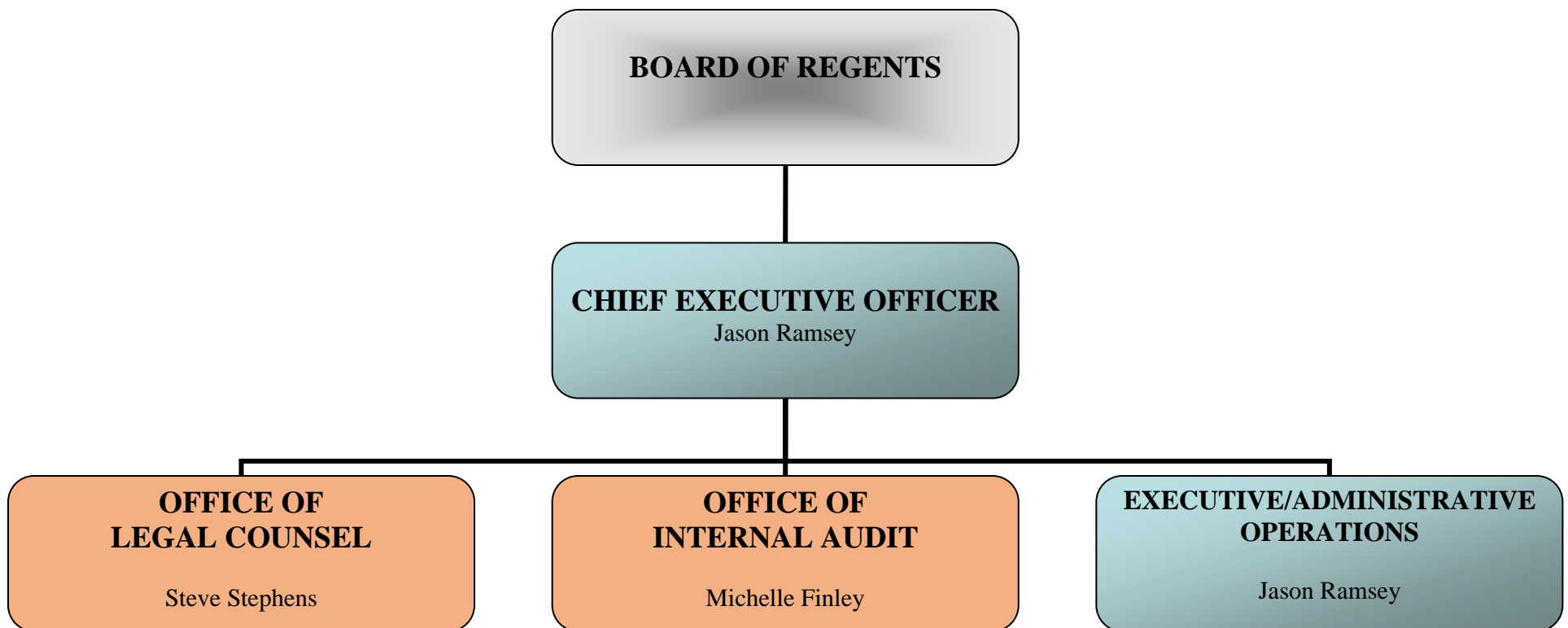
Oklahoma State University is a modern land-grant university that prepares students for success. OSU has more than 33,000 students across its five-campus system and more than 25,000 on its combined Stillwater and Tulsa campuses, with students from all 50 states and more than 100 nations. Established in 1890, OSU has graduated more than 275,000 students to serve the state of Oklahoma, the nation and the world.

By the Numbers — Historic Enrollment Records

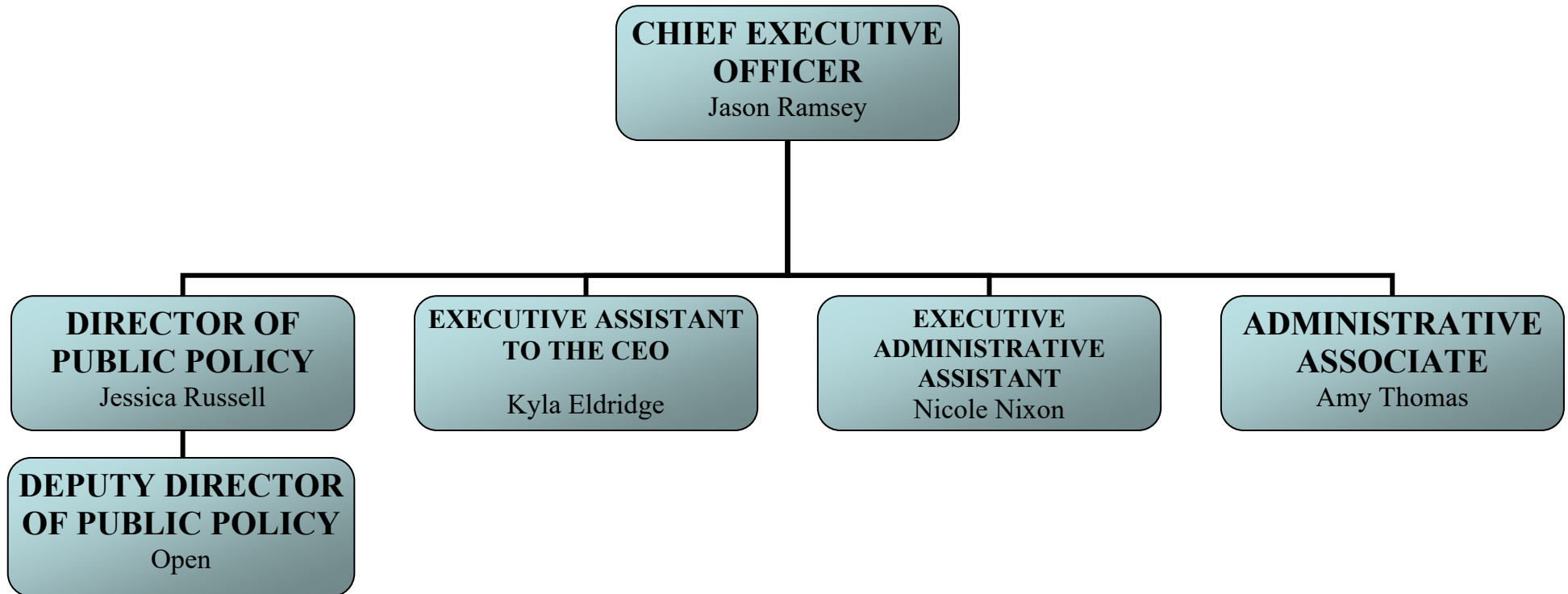
- More than 4,650 new freshman students
- More than 1,700 new students in STEM fields
- More than 3,000 honors students
- More than 1,000 incoming honors students
- More than 900 new freshman students with a 4.0 GPA or better in high school
- More than 600 new freshman students graduating in the top 5% of their class
- More than 560,000 community service hours for incoming freshman class

**BOARD OF REGENTS
FOR THE OKLAHOMA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGES**

2022 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS
900 N. Portland Ave. Oklahoma City, OK 73107

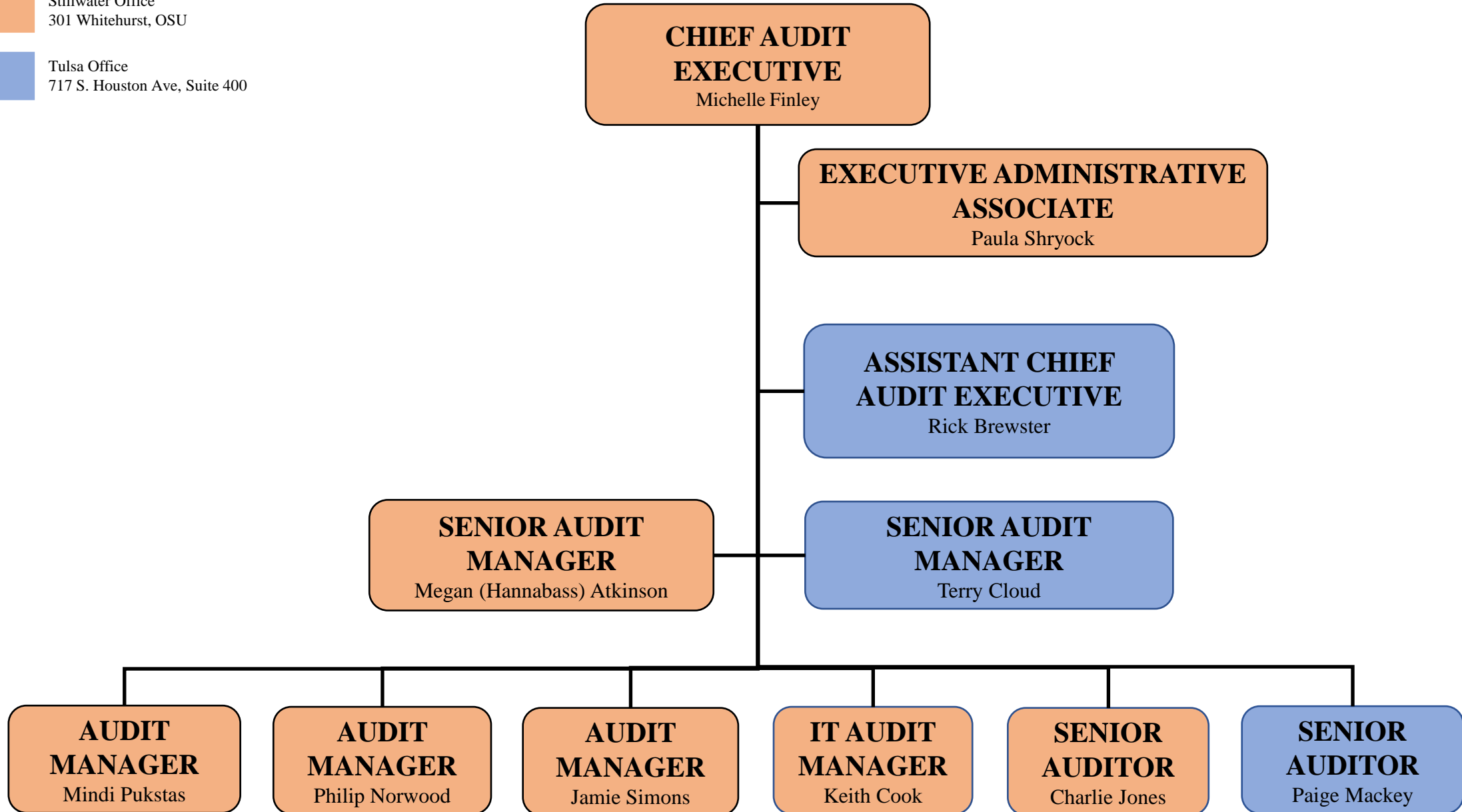


OFFICE OF INTERNAL AUDIT

Updated: 5/24/2022

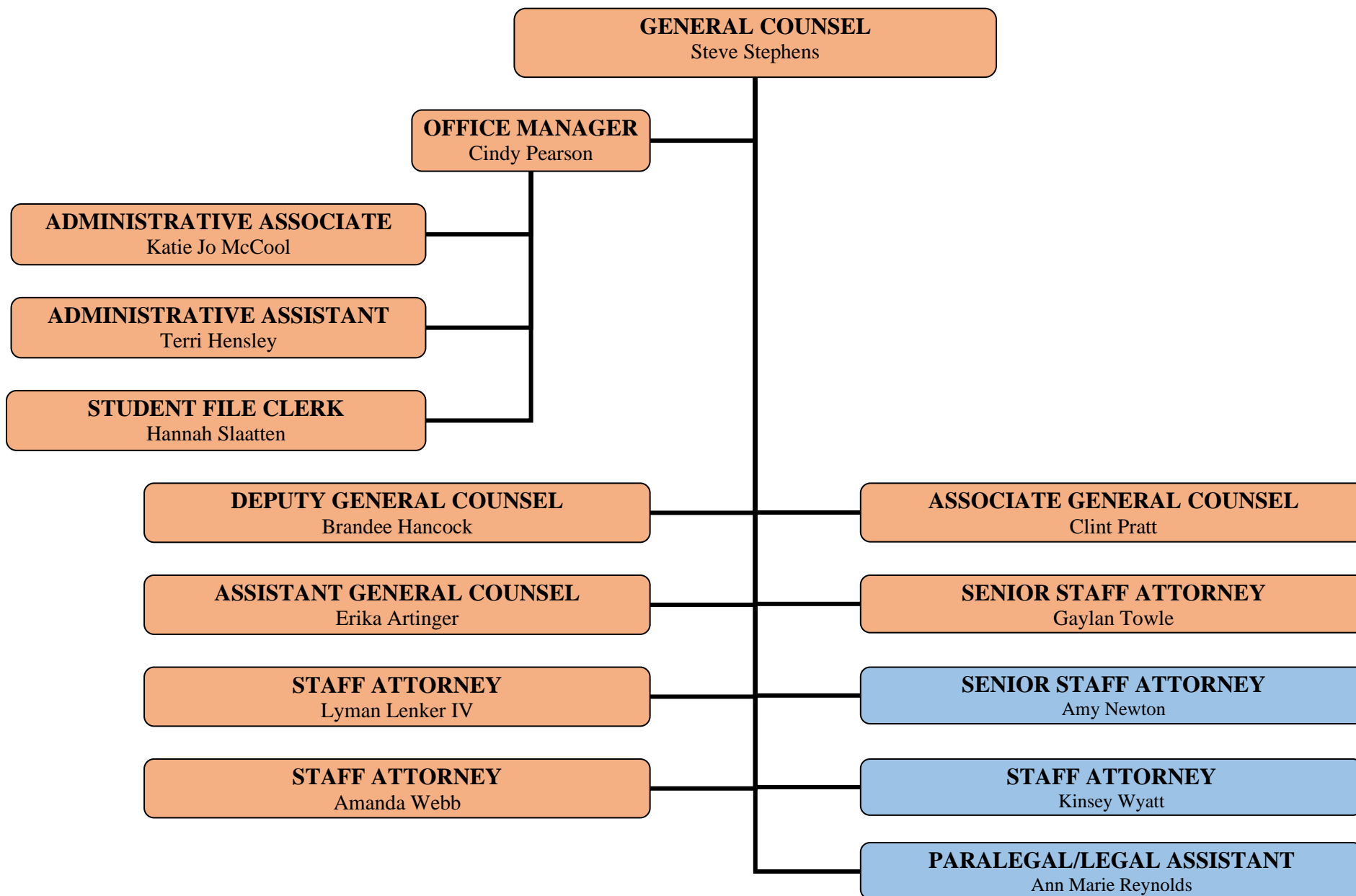
 Stillwater Office
301 Whitehurst, OSU

 Tulsa Office
717 S. Houston Ave, Suite 400



OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

- Stillwater Office
5th Floor – Student Union, OSU
- Tulsa Office
1111 W. 17th St., A-427, OSU-CHS





Bios for Executive Office Staff

Jason Ramsey is Chief Executive Officer of the A&M Board of Regents and has served in this capacity since 2012. He initially joined the Board Staff in 2003 and previously served as Director of State Government Relations and Policy Analyst. Prior to joining the staff of the Board of Regents he served on the staff of the OSU Alumni Association, former Governor Frank Keating, and former U.S. Senator Don Nickles.

Jason is a graduate of Leadership Oklahoma and Leadership Edmond. He served six years on the Oklahoma Christian School Board including one year as Chair, as President of the OSU Alumni Association OKC Metro Chapter, and as a board member for Junior Achievement of Greater Oklahoma City.

Jason received a Bachelor of Science degree from Oklahoma State University (where he was recognized as the Top Senior by the Department of Political Science) and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Oklahoma. He and his wife, Natalie, have two children and live in Edmond.

Jessica Russell is the Director of Public Policy for the A&M Board of Regents. She grew up in Bells, TX, a small town on the Texas and Oklahoma border. She attended Oklahoma State University where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics. Upon graduation, she worked in Washington D.C. for the United States Senate. Since returning to Oklahoma, Jessica has worked for the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. She joined the Board Staff in 2012. Jessica resides in Edmond with her husband, Jordan, and three kids, Jackson, Elsie Kate and Wesley.

Kyla Eldridge is the Executive Assistant to the CEO and began working for the Executive Office in 2014 after working for nine years at a CareerTech. She graduated from Rose State College with an Associate of Arts in Psychology as a non-traditional student in 2016. She was born and raised in Jones, Oklahoma, where she currently resides with her husband and two sons.

Nicole Nixon is an Executive Administrative Assistant and resides in Oklahoma City with her husband and their cat and dog. She graduated from Cameron University in 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Nicole has been with the Board office since October 2018. In her spare time, she likes to read, watch musicals, and play the occasional video game.

Amy Thomas is an Administrative Associate and joined the Board office in May 2021 after five years with a real estate consulting firm. Born and raised in Edmond, Oklahoma, she graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Arts in English-Literature in 2014. Amy is happily married and resides in Yukon with her husband and their dog.



Bios for Office of Internal Audit

Michelle Finley is the Chief Audit Executive. She joined the Office of Internal Audit in 2014. She has 26 years of experience in higher education, in which she has held several executive positions, including Chief Audit Executive and Executive Vice President/Chief Financial Officer at a private university and Chief Audit Executive at two public higher education systems.

Michelle is a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) and a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). She served on the Internal Audit and Compliance Monitoring Committee of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. She is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and was awarded the Jim Cobb Member of the Year for the Oklahoma City Chapter, where she served as president and member of the Board of Governors. She is also a member of the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA) and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE).

Michelle was a presenter at the 2019 Fall Annual National Conference of ACUA. She currently serves on two national committees for ACUA: Governance Taskforce and Audit Conference Planning. She serves as a peer reviewer for the Institute of Internal Auditor Quality Assurance Reviews of other higher education systems. Michelle holds a Bachelor of Business in Administration, Accounting, and has graduate work towards a Master of Business Administration.

Rick Brewster is the Assistant Chief Audit Executive and has been with the Office of Internal Audit since 1990, when he helped to establish the Tulsa branch office. He has 32 years of audit experience in higher education, where he currently leads the Tulsa Internal Audit Office and serves OSU-CHS and various A&M institutions. Rick is a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in the state of Oklahoma and a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). He is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and has previously served as the Audit Chair for the Tulsa Chapter. Rick is also a member of the Oklahoma Society of CPAs (OSCPA), the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA), and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE). He serves as a peer reviewer for the Institute of Internal Auditor Quality Assurance Reviews of other higher education systems. Rick holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Accounting.

Terry Cloud is a Senior Audit Manager and joined the Office of Internal Audit in 2015. He has 26 years of audit experience in higher education, aerospace, hospitality, entertainment, and healthcare. Terry is a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) and a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). He is an active member of the Tulsa Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), where he has served as 1st Vice President and President and is currently serving on the Board of Governors. Terry is also a member of the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA), the Association of Healthcare Internal Auditors (AHIA), and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE). Terry holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Accounting.



Bios for Office of Internal Audit

Megan Hannabass is a Senior Audit Manager and joined the Office of Internal Audit in 2015. She has 16 years of auditing experience in higher education and state government (in the areas of finance, compliance, operations, performance, investigations, and procurement). She is a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE). She is also a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA). Megan is an alumna of Oklahoma State University. Megan holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Finance, with Minors in Economics and International Business

Keith Cook is an IT Audit Manager and joined the Office of Internal Audit in 2019. He has 19 years of experience, including three years of auditing in higher education and 16 years as a financial and business analyst in the healthcare, aerospace and defense, and telecommunications industries. Keith is a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE). He is a member of the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA), serving on the national Data Analytics Kickstarter Committee. He is also a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and ISACA. Keith is an alumnus of Oklahoma State University and holds a Master of Business Administration, Finance; a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Management; and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Management Information Systems.

Philip Norwood is an Audit Manager and joined the Office of Internal Audit in 2017. He has nine years of auditing experience in higher education and public accounting (in the areas of oil and gas, municipalities, and tax preparation). Philip is a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in the state of Oklahoma. He is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA). Philip served over nine years in the U. S. Navy as an aviation electronics technician aboard the USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier and at various naval bases. Philip is an alumnus of Oklahoma State University and holds a Master of Science, Accounting, and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Accounting.

Mindi Pukstas is an Audit Manager and joined the Office of Internal Audit in 2015. He has 10 years of auditing experience in higher education and public accounting (in the areas of oil and gas and coal). Mindi is a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in the state of Oklahoma and a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). He is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA), and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE). Mindi is an alumnus of Oklahoma State University and holds a Master of Science, Accounting, and a Master of Science, International Studies.



Bios for Office of Internal Audit

Jamie Simons is an Audit Manager and joined the Office of Internal Audit in 2019. She has 23 years of experience, including four years of higher education auditing, a summer audit internship with a public auditing firm, and the accounting and benefits manager in her family's pharmacy business. Jamie is a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in the state of Oklahoma and a member of the Oklahoma Society of CPAs (OSCPA). She is a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE). She is also a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA). Jamie is an alumna of Oklahoma State University and holds a Master of Science, Accounting, and a Bachelor of Science, Chemical Engineering.

Charlie Jones is a Senior Auditor and joined the Office of Internal Audit in 2020. He has 14 years of experience, including two years of higher education auditing and five years as controller/comptroller in higher and private education. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE). Charlie is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA), as well as an associate member of the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants (OSCPA). Charlie holds a Master of Business Administration, Accounting; a Bachelor of Business Administration, Finance; and a Bachelor of Science, Accounting.

Paige Mackey is a Senior Auditor and joined the Office of Internal Audit in 2020. She has four years of auditing experience in higher education and public accounting. During her university studies, she held multiple internships in public accounting firms, as well as one in our own office. Paige is a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in the state of Oklahoma. She is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA), and the Association of Healthcare Internal Auditors (AHIA). Paige is an alumna of Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College and Oklahoma State University. She holds a Master of Science, Accounting; a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Accounting; and an Associate of Science, Business Administration.

Paula Shryock is an Executive Administrative Associate and joined the Office of Internal Audit in 2013. She has 27 years of administrative and editorial experience. Paula has been a music educator in the Oklahoma public school system and has served as the choir director for a number of churches. She currently serves as music director for a local church and is active in the Stillwater Community Singers. She has previously served 12 years as the Production Editor for a botanical journal. Paula is an alumna of Oklahoma State University and holds a Bachelor of Music Education, Vocal.

Antoinette Begay is a Student Audit Intern and began her internship in the spring of 2022. She is from Window Rock, Arizona and has previously worked in retail finance. Antoinette is working on her master's in accounting at Oklahoma State University where she is an active member of Beta Alpha Psi, currently serving as President. Antoinette is an alumna of Oklahoma State University and holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting & Finance.



Bios for Office of Legal Counsel

Steve Stephens is General Counsel for the Board of Regents and has served in that capacity since November 2013. He graduated from Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1980 and from the University of Oklahoma College of Law with a Juris Doctor degree in 1983. Prior to serving as General Counsel, he was a partner in the Oklahoma City office of Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey & Tippens, P.C., where he worked for 30 years as a trial lawyer. He has a wide range of experience, having represented both plaintiffs and defendants in Bet-the-Company and complex litigation matters in various State and Federal courts. He has successfully defended claims of insurance bad faith, oilfield environmental damage, computer contract breaches, construction product defects, business torts, engineering malpractice, deceptive pricing, tenure denial and putative class actions. He also represented numerous higher education, corporate and individual plaintiffs asserting claims of breach of contract, negligence, conversion, fraud, personal injury, wrongful death, product liability and professional negligence obtaining million-dollar verdicts or settlements in more than 20 cases. Additionally, he represented several nationally prominent coaches, athletes, and athletic venue owners in a variety of litigated matters. He uses that background to actively assist in the various higher education lawsuits that are handled by the Board's Office of Legal Counsel. While in private practice he held an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell and was recognized by numerous other rating services, including being recognized in 2014 by Best Lawyers in America as a "Lawyer of the Year" in construction litigation for the State of Oklahoma and receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award for the State of Oklahoma by America's Top 100 Attorneys. Steve's wife, Terri, is also an OSU graduate as are their three adult children, Luke, Shelby, and Chad.

Brandee Hancock received her Bachelor of Arts from Oklahoma State University. She then received her J.D. with honors from the OU College of Law in 2012, where she was a Floyd and Martha Norris Fellow, Comfort Scholar and Frank Elkouri Scholar and the recipient of three American Jurisprudence awards. Brandee was part of the championship team in both the 1L Moot Court Competition in 2010 and the Calvert Moot Court Competition in 2011, where she was also named Best Speaker. She and her teammate also placed third nationally in the ABA National Law Student Tax Challenge in 2012. Brandee served as Assistant Articles Editor of the Oklahoma Law Review and was named to the Order of Barristers. After practicing as an associate with Ellis & Ellis in Stillwater, Brandee joined the Office of Legal Counsel for the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges in June 2014, where she serves as Deputy General Counsel. Brandee served as Treasurer of the Payne County Bar Association in 2014 and as President in 2015. Brandee has co-authored several articles which have been published in the Oklahoma Bar Journal on topics including Title IX and liquidated damages in coaching contracts. She received the Impact Award from the Oklahoma College Student Personnel Association in May of 2017.

Clint Pratt graduated *magna cum laude* from Oklahoma State University in 2003 with a degree in Journalism and Broadcasting and a minor in Marketing. After graduation, he attended the University of Oklahoma College of Law and received his Juris Doctor in 2006. Upon graduating from law school, Clint spent a brief stint with a small business litigation firm in Tulsa before accepting a position as a felony prosecutor in Cleveland County, Oklahoma. As a prosecutor, Clint managed an extensive caseload, tried



Bios for Office of Legal Counsel

multiple jury trials and played an integral role in the development of one of Oklahoma's first mental health courts. Clint served as a Cleveland County Assistant District Attorney from 2007 until 2014, when he joined the Board of Regents' Office of Legal Counsel. As Associate General Counsel, Clint assists the various institutions governed by the Board with a wide array of legal issues, with his primary area of focus being litigation. Clint and his wife Jenny, a kindergarten teacher, live in Stillwater and have two children, Grayson and Penelope.

Erika L. Artinger, J.D., Ph.D., is an Assistant General Counsel and joined the Board of Regents' Office of Legal Counsel in 2018. Dr. Artinger's principal areas of responsibility in the Office of Legal Counsel are intellectual property and transactional matters, including: licensing, intellectual property portfolio management, sponsored research, general contracting, and other transactional counseling and advice. Prior to joining the Office of Legal Counsel, Dr. Artinger was an associate in the Silicon Valley office of Foley & Lardner LLP, where she concentrated on patent prosecution and other intellectual property matters. Dr. Artinger earned her B.S. in Microbiology, Immunology, & Molecular Genetics from the University of California, Los Angeles and her Ph.D. in Genetics from Dartmouth College. She graduated from Boston College Law School in 2016. Dr. Artinger is currently licensed to practice law in Oklahoma and before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. She resides in Edmond with her husband, Dr. Kevin Fuller, and their daughter Elinor.

Gaylan Towle II received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Oklahoma State University in May 2012, where he graduated *summa cum laude* and received the Delta Sigma Pi Golden Key Award for graduating with a 4.0 grade-point average. Gaylan then received his Juris Doctor from Oklahoma City University School of Law in May 2016, where he graduated *magna cum laude*. During law school, Gaylan was a member of the Oklahoma City Law Review, Phi Delta Phi Legal Honor Society, and William J. Holloway American Inn of Court. Gaylan also received notable recognitions, including the Ernest L. Wilkinson Award for Excellence in American Indian Law and multiple CALI Awards for academic excellence in Legal Research and Writing, Contracts, American Indian Law, and Employment Discrimination. After law school, Gaylan practiced for over two years as an associate with Crowe & Dunlevy in the firm's Oklahoma City office, where he was a member of the Labor & Employment Practice Group with a focus on matters related to employment discrimination and wrongful discharge, wage and hours disputes, workers' compensation, and immigration. In October 2018, Gaylan joined the Office of Legal Counsel for the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges, where he currently serves as Senior Staff Attorney.

Amy Newton is a Senior Staff Attorney housed on the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences campus. She joined the Office of Legal Counsel in 2018. Amy attended Oklahoma State University as an undergraduate and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Sciences. She attended the University of Tulsa College of Law and graduated in 2017 with a J.D., as well as an LL.M. in Natural Resources Law. In her position at the Office of Legal Counsel Amy specializes in health law related issues



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and also handles general higher education related matters that arise at OSU-CHS. She lives in Tulsa with her husband and two dogs.

Kinsey Wyatt joined the Office of Legal Counsel in 2020, where she serves as a Staff Attorney on the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences campus. Prior to joining the Office of Legal Counsel, Kinsey practiced as an associate at a law firm in Midland, Texas. She obtained a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Accounting, from Oklahoma State University in 2012, graduating *summa cum laude* and received her J.D. from Southern Methodist University's Dedman School of Law in 2016. While in law school, Kinsey was on the Dean's List and served on the Executive Board of the SMU Science and Technology Law Review. Kinsey is admitted to the State Bar of Oklahoma and Texas and focuses her practice on employment, healthcare, and other issues specific to higher and graduate medical school education. In her spare time, Kinsey enjoys spending time with her husband, Andrew, and dogs, Boss and Pippa. She also enjoys socializing with family and friends, reading, and watching OSU sporting events.

Lyman Lenker joined the Office of Legal Counsel for the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma A&M Colleges in 2020, where he currently serves as a Staff Attorney. To date, he has worked on a variety of legal matters, including non-litigation disputes with third parties, contract reviews, subpoena responses, and open records requests. Lyman earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration: Economics from Oklahoma State University in 2014. He then attended the University of Oklahoma College of Law where he participated on various competition teams earning a Top Speaker award and served as a Director on the Board of Advocates. Upon graduation in 2017, Lyman joined Miller & Johnson, a civil litigation firm in Oklahoma City, where he represented both plaintiffs and defendants in a variety of legal matters. During this time, he also became certified to create and teach continuing education courses for insurance adjusters. He also served on the Board of Directors for Inspired by Others from 2017 to 2020. Lyman currently resides in Stillwater, where he enjoys any outdoor activity and staying engaged with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.

Amanda Webb is a Staff Attorney and joined the Office of Legal Counsel to the Board of Regents in December 2021. Amanda assists the various institutions governed by the Board with a wide variety of legal issues, with her primary focus being on real estate and transactional matters. Amanda received a Bachelor of Business Administration with majors in Economics and Finance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in December 2006. Before attending law school, Amanda worked as an Assistant Manager at several Walmart Stores in Southern Wisconsin. Amanda received a J.D., with distinction, from the OU College of Law in May 2015, where she was a Frank Elkouri Scholar and recipient of an American Jurisprudence award in Contracts. While at OU Law, Amanda served as a Note and Comment Editor for the American Indian Law Review. Following law school, Amanda practiced as an associate attorney at DeBee Clark, PLLC, formerly DeBee Gilchrist, PC, focusing on business transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and business tax planning. Amanda lives in Stillwater with her husband, two sons, two dogs, and cat.



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Cindy Pearson has worked for the Board's Office of Legal Counsel since February of 2000. She started in the office as the receptionist and has been promoted over the years to her current role as Office Manager. In that role, she is responsible for managing the daily administrative operations of the office. During her office tenure, Cindy has seen the office grow from four attorneys to nine. Cindy and her husband, Wade, are proud graduates of Oklahoma State University. They have three sons, one of whom will graduate from OSU this December.

Katie Jo McCool is an Administrative Associate and began working for the Office of Legal Counsel in July of 2017. She grew up in Cushing, OK, where she graduated high school before joining the Payne County District Attorney's Office as the Restitution Coordinator for 7.5 years. She now resides in Stillwater with her son, Brooks, and their 3 cats.

Ann Marie Reynolds is the paralegal with the Office of Legal Counsel on the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences campus. Ann graduated from Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and then received her master's degree in education from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. After teaching middle school for 10 years and becoming fascinated by the intersection of law and education, she attended the University of Cincinnati, Clermont College and received a certificate in paralegal studies. After an internship with a Cincinnati firm focused on school law, she returned to Oklahoma to be closer to family. Once in Tulsa, she worked for a private law firm in Tulsa specializing in employment law and insurance defense before returning to the Cowboy family.