



| **LEAD** ON

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The University of Oklahoma Presents  
**LEARN** ON

*Ready to return to the classroom for a day?*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20**

You're invited to join the University of Oklahoma, President's Associates and Osher Lifelong Learning Institute for **Learn On**, an exciting day of learning and discovery on the Norman campus during Homecoming Weekend 2023.

Bringing together faculty, researchers and creative minds from across the university, **Learn On** offers an opportunity to choose your courses and be a student for a day.

Hear about the lasting effects of the pandemic, the impact entertainers like Dolly Parton make on American culture, the way Oklahoma weather drives researchers' innovation and so much more.



## CHECK-IN | 8 – 8:30 a.m.

### Oklahoma Memorial Union

Check-in begins at 8 a.m. in the Clarke-Anderson & Will Rogers rooms. A light continental breakfast will be served. Complimentary parking is available in the Oklahoma Memorial Union Parking Garage.

## SESSION ONE | 9 – 10 a.m.

### Paul Bell, Dean Emeritus of the College of Arts and Sciences

#### *The History of US-China Relations: 1776-2023*

Today, after four decades of mutually beneficial engagement, the U.S. and China find themselves at a low point in their relationship, but this is not the first time the relationship has experienced dramatic changes. This session will track those changes to provide an overview of the dynamic relationship between these countries, explain how we arrived at where we are today and envision how the relationship might evolve.

### Kyle Harper, Professor of Classics and Letters

#### *How to Survive a Climate Crisis: A Historical Guide*

Human-caused climate change is one of the great challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Past episodes of natural climate variability can give us perspective on the challenges societies face when confronted with a changing climate. This session will explore the lessons that can be learned from history in facing the environmental and sustainability challenges of the future.

### David Levy, Official OU Historian

#### *How Politics and Religion Brought Chaos to the University of Oklahoma: The Campus Slaughter of 1908*

When the University of Oklahoma was 18 years old, a group of Oklahoma politicians and religious leaders decided that things in Norman had to be changed. Their efforts drew widespread national attention. This session will tell the story of what they did, how they did it and the results of their efforts on the school and its reputation.

### Teri Reed, OU Polytechnic Institute Director

#### *OU's Polytechnic Institute: Preparing Today's Learners for Tomorrow's Workforce*

The new OU Polytechnic Institute in Tulsa is recruiting now to train Oklahoma's next generation of talented computer and information technology professionals. Hear from Director Teri Reed about northeastern Oklahoma's growing need for advanced technology experts and the work the Polytechnic Institute will do to transform the Tulsa region into a technology powerhouse.

### Megan Ellis, Executive Director, The Sooner Nation Collective

#### *Name, Image, Likeness: How a Community-Focused NIL Collective Benefits Student-Athletes and OU*

College athletics is still exploring the possibilities of NIL, a world that offers both uncertainties and opportunities for student-athletes. Learn more about what NIL is and how it works. Discover how a character-driven collective supports student-athletes in becoming the philanthropic business professionals of tomorrow by serving Oklahomans today.

## SESSION TWO | 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

### Jeff Blahnik, Vice President for the Division of Enrollment Management & Executive Director of the Office of Admissions & Recruitment

#### *The College Admission Landscape*

The higher education admission and enrollment landscape has changed dramatically in the last decade and continues to evolve rapidly. Learn more about topics that surround traditional undergraduate populations, including U.S. demographic and enrollment trends, expressing the value of higher education to Gen Z and their parents, competition for students and test optional admission policies.

### Dane McDowell, Instructor, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

#### *Titillating DIY Tips and Tricks to Morph into a Parisian with the Help of Voltaire and Jean-Paul Sartre*

Delightful, witty, sexy? Bien sûr! Arrogant, insolent, irreverent? Oui! So are the Parisians! Learn why no one is better at cultivating the art of seduction and contradiction. They can die for an idea but also joke about it.

### Jonathan Nichol, Interim Director of the OU School of Music

#### *Don't Mean a Thing if You Ain't Got That Swing: The Music of Duke Ellington*

Duke Ellington's music is often described as beyond categorization. He possessed an uncanny ability to traverse genre boundaries while composing jazz standards, arranging orchestral compositions and developing multi-movement suites. He empowered musicians always to sound their best and created artistic opportunities for each member of his band. Music composed and arranged by Ellington is still embedded in popular culture and regularly performed and recorded by contemporary musicians. This session will feature the stories behind several of Ellington's most popular compositions, the elements that created the Ellington sound and a live performance.

### Kalyn Prince, Assistant Teaching Professor in First Year Composition

#### *Dolly Parton: An Approach to American Argument*

If there's one thing America can agree on, it's that we love Dolly Parton. In this session, we will study some of Parton's life work and what she can teach us about engaging in respectful and effective arguments.

### Gary Raskob, Senior Vice President and Provost of the OU Health Sciences Center

#### *Bleeding and Clotting: The Link Between Queen Victoria, Rasputin and Rudolph Virchow and How Modern Science is Improving the Lives of Millions*

Our blood is vital to our survival. Disorders causing bleeding, such as hemophilia or abnormal blood clotting, known as thrombosis, are major contributors to death, disability and poor quality of life across the planet. Thrombosis is the underlying cause of one in four deaths globally. This session will review the interesting history of hemophilia and thrombosis and show examples from current biomedical research that will improve the lives of millions.



## LUNCHEON – KEYNOTE PRESENTATION | Noon – 1 p.m.

**Sherri Coale, Former Head Coach, OU Women's Basketball**  
*Life Anchors*

Our lives are shaped by the people we run into along the way. Our connections – family, friends, teachers, mentors – not only impact who we are and the way we do life, they provide us with a network of support that lifts us when we struggle and supports us when we thrive.

## SESSION THREE | 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**George Henderson, Dean Emeritus of the College of Liberal Studies**  
*Learning to Be Humane Human Beings*

Get a glimpse into storyteller and OU professor emeritus George Henderson's classroom as you hear some of the stories he tells his students about his own journey to becoming a caring, constructively critical and authentic person. Attendees will get the chance to experience what Henderson's students called "moments of personal and intellectual growth" as he offers the chance for introspection.

**Cal Hobson, Former President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma Senate**  
*My 60 Year Love Affair...It's Not What You Think!*

In this session, Hobson will discuss his history with his alma mater and the things that have made OU great over the past six decades.

**Kevin Kloesel, Director of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey**  
*Oklahoma's Wacky Weather: When the Weather Chases you!*

Tornadoes in February? Snow in April? And scorching hot the rest of the year? What in the world is going on with Oklahoma weather? Come learn about the world renowned and award winning weather research taking place on the OU campus, as well as a few helpful tips on how you and your family can stay safe when severe weather strikes.

**Chuck Neinas, Former Big 12 Commissioner**  
*College Athletics: Yesterday and Today*

Learn about the history of the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents vs. NCAA Supreme Court — a case that shifted the college sports broadcasting landscape — and discover where the future of college athletics may be going.

**Melissa Stockdale, Professor of History**  
*Toppled Lennons and Francos: Spain, Russia, Ukraine and Monumental Memory 1975-2023*

The United States is not the only country witnessing bitter disagreements over monuments to famous people in public spaces. How do monuments get taken down or not, and who decides? Why does it often take so long, and what happens after removal? How can memory laws help or hinder the process? Comparing the take downs of monuments in Russia, Ukraine and Spain allows us to see what practices work and gain context for understanding our own monumental divides.



**Please register by Friday, October 6**

For accommodations or further information, please contact  
405.325.3488 | [leadon@oufoundation.org](mailto:leadon@oufoundation.org)

*There is a \$50 non-refundable fee due at the time of registration.*