

NEWS FOR THE ORU COMMUNITY



Commencement 2022

Can you believe that ORU celebrated the graduation of its 55th class on April 30? It's true! President Wilson announced that this was ORU's largest-ever class: 919 degree candidates. Some were alumni who had completed an additional degree. We tip our mortarboards to everyone who worked so hard to graduate on this day!

RECAP VIDEO

FULL SERVICE

NEWS

PUTNAM EXAM

What's known as the world's most difficult math exam is a challenge that some ORU students tackle each year. When the scores from the December 2021 Putnam Exam were released in March 2022, there was good news for ORU. Our students ranked in the top 50% of those who took the test. The median score was 4 out of 120. ORU freshman Caleb Alons scored an impressive 10.



THE PUTNAM

NEW E-RENA VENUE

Now open: ORU's E-Rena! This gives esports athletes a dedicated space for training, collaboration, and team development. Located in what was originally the Fireside Room, the E-Rena provides competition spaces, training areas, and technological upgrades.



E-Rena



Sean Everhart, Dr. Peter Kuzmich, Russell Evans, Gary Brown, Robert Tull Jr., Tracy Houston, Brooke Asiatco, Robert Barron, Holly Moore, Stuart Greaves, President Wilson, Mark Sterns, LaDonna Osborn, Brad Thomas, Camella Binkley, Joann Webster, Victor J. Cardenas, Sterling Brackett, Michael Cardone III

NEW TRUSTEES

At April's Board of Trustees meeting, it was announced that several new members are being added to the board. They are: Cassie Byram, Reggie Dabbs, Bishop Faith Emmanuel Benson "FEB" Idahosa II '94, Daniela Freidzon McCabe, and Gary Nelson. Gordon Helm '75, '78-MBA, who served on the board several years ago, is returning for another term.



MILITARY-FRIENDLY SCHOOL

Once again, ORU has earned the title of "Military Friendly School" through a Military Friendly® survey. The university continues to invest time and resources into providing outstanding services to veterans and their dependents. The new Welcome Center will house a "Veterans Experience." [View Back](#), Lieutenant Colonel (Army, Retired), is ORU's Military Liaison.

GOLD LEVEL

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

We're making very good progress with the [Whole Leaders for the Whole World](#) campaign! Construction on those four new buildings is moving right along. The [Welcome Center](#) will be the first to open; that happens in August. We want to thank everyone who responded to our end-of-fiscal-year appeal. You're a blessing! We are now oh-so-close to reaching the \$77 million campaign goal. You can help put us over the top by making a generous gift today.



CONTRIBUTE

EVENTS



QUEST DAYS

Prospective students who want to see all that ORU has to offer are invited to attend a Quest Day with their parents. The day includes a campus tour, a close-up look at academics, and information about ORU's premier scholarship: the Quest Whole Leader Scholarship. Upcoming dates are June 3, June 24, and July 22.

QUEST INFO

ALUMNI

Jonathan Forrest '11, '14 is the new Director of Counseling Services for ORU.

JONATHAN



Jonathan Forrest '11, '14



Paul Martin '81

Paul Martin '81 is the new Chief of Development for Hope Media Group. He has decades of experience in donor development and business development in both radio and digital media. WAY Media and Hope Media Group announced earlier this year their intent to merge into one media organization.

PAUL



Tennelle Nickel '01



Don Prescott '02

Wealth Advisors **Tennelle Nickel '01** and **Don Prescott '02**, based in Medford, OR, have joined SilverTree Wealth Partners within the Raymond James Financial Services network.

TENNELLE & DON



Jessica Spencer-Gardner '06

Jessica Spencer-Gardner '06 is the new head coach for women's basketball at Ponte Vedra High School in Florida.

JESSICA

Kent Waide '87, the former owner of Ruby Concrete Company in Madison, KY, has been inducted into the National Concrete Masonry Association's Hall of Fame.

KENT



Kent Waide '87

ATHLETICS

NEW WBB COACH

The women's basketball team has a new head coach: Kelsi Musick. She comes to ORU from Southwestern Oklahoma State University, where she served 13 seasons as head coach and led the Lady Bulldogs to the NCAA Division II National Championship game in 2019.



Coach Kelsi Musick

COACH MUSICK

GREAT GOLFERS



Sarah Bell



Kiana Oshiro

It was quite a year for the women's golf team. They won three tournaments—the most since 2013-14—and finished second at the Summit League Championship (they finished in third the year before). Most impressive of all: two golfers, Sarah Bell and Kiana Oshiro, earned the honor of playing in the 2022 NCAA Women's Golf Regional in Stillwater, OK, which took place May 9-11.

CHAMPIONS

#2000

ORU Baseball's May 2 victory over Air Force Academy wasn't just the team's ninth road victory in a row. It was the 2,000th victory in program history!

MILESTONE



Tim Johnson, Director of Athletics

THE YEAR'S BEST

The 2022 ELI Awards were presented at a banquet on April 18 as ORU Athletics honored student-athletes for their excellence in the classroom, community, and competition. The 2021-22 Whole Person Champions were Max Abmas, Juan Arias, Isaac Coffey, Sakira LaCour, Kent Jo Lippe, and Olexandra Nahurska. Other awards were also handed out, including Breakout and Comeback Athletes and team MVPs.

ELI AWARDS

SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Add another accolade to Max Abmas's list. He was named the division I-AAA Athletics Directors Association Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Max is a Mathematics major (Pre-med/Health concentration) with a 3.7 GPA. During the 2021-22 season, he averaged 22.8 points per game, had a .850 free throw percentage, and led the team in scoring (685 points).



Max Abmas

MAX

ETC.

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When you make a gift to ORU, your receipt will come via e-mail. If you'd prefer a paper receipt, please fill out [this form](#).

DID YOU KNOW?

Michael Mathews, Vice President for Technology and Innovation, was one of the Top 50 Technology Professional Award winners at the [2022 OnCCHN Icon Awards](#), announced on April 26. The awards recognize the top technology professionals in the world. Criteria include "Exhibit exceptional leadership," "Innovate in their role/career," and "Made strong contributions to their professional community through thought leadership."



Michael Mathews

