

## Music Department



The Music Department recently completed its ten year re-accreditation visit with the National Association of Schools of Music in February 2009.

Dr. Ed Pierce, Joyce Bridgman, and their students showcased their talents at a recent meeting of the Tulsa Accredited Music Teachers Association.

Dr. Scott Quant was a guest clinician and conductor for the West Central Missouri Music Educators Association All District 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor choir. He also was a guest performing artist for the Tulsa Community College Performance Plus Series on April 20, 2009.

This past spring, Richard Sutliff sang the baritone solos in Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the Bartlesville Choral Society and the Signature Symphony. He also led a master class for voice students at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado.

Dr. Cheryl Bocanegra accompanied Dr. Quant performing selections from Hugo Wolf's *Morike Lieder*. She was promoted to Associate Professor, and her piano work entitled *Miniatures* was chosen for performance at the 2009 SCI Region VI Conference (Society of Composers) this past spring. The selection process was extremely competitive, as more than 300 works were submitted by 164 composers representing 36 states and Canada.

ORU's music building, Timko-Barton is looking 'sharp' these days with new paint, new carpet, new tile, updated lighting in the performance hall, and new landscaping. Come see the new and improved Timko-Barton!



## English and Modern Languages Department



The English and Modern Languages Department has successfully completed its merger. Starting this fall, Dr. Robert Skinner will be the Chair of both the Modern Languages and English departments. He is looking forward to this challenging and exciting adventure.

Three study travel trips were completed this summer. Mrs. Christiane Hill led a group of 9 students to Berlin, Prague, and the Alps in May; Dr. Robert Skinner led a group of 7 students on the Grand Tour of France in June and July; and Mr. Carlos Chalé led a group of 21 students to San Juan, Puerto Rico in July.

## Communication, Arts, and Media Department

There have been many exciting changes in the Communication, Arts, and Media Department this summer. The first floor of the LRC is being renovated to house our media faculty; and Student Publications is relocating from the second floor of the LRC to first floor. There will also be a new media classroom and conference room. All of our media faculty (Chris Putman, Cristi Freudenrich, Kevin Armstrong, Mark Labash, Charles Zwick, Even Culp and new faculty member, Laura Sherwood) will have their offices on the first floor. Come down and visit the Media faculty in their new habitat.



Courtney Sanders was awarded the 2009 “Ruth Arrington Outstanding College Theatre Educator Award” by the Oklahoma Speech Theatre Communication Association. This award was created in 1987 in honor of Ruth Arrington, long-time theatre professor at Northeastern State University. Courtney will receive this award at the annual meeting in September. Courtney is starting her fourth year teaching here and has served as Director of Theatre for two of the past three years. We are so very proud that she is part of the faculty.

## History, Humanities, and Government Department

Dr. Michael Hirlinger is joining the History, Humanities, and Government Department. He will be the new Government Professor and Department Chair. The Interim Chair, Jayson Larremore is extremely pleased to find such a highly qualified person to lead the department into the future. Dr. Hirlinger was attracted to ORU because of his deep commitment to the Christian faith and a belief in the importance of educating students in spirit, mind, and body.

Dr. Hirlinger has spent the last twenty years at Oklahoma State University and the University of West Georgia. He has earned tenure and served as Political Science Department Head, Graduate Studies Director, and Director of the Fire & Emergency Management Administration Program. He has won nearly \$1,000,000 in grant funding for research over a 15 year period. At the University of West Georgia, Dr. Hirlinger also served as the founding Executive Director of the Thomas B. Murphy Center for Public Service. The Center employed an interdisciplinary approach to providing significant public outreach assistance and training to government entities, not-for-profit agencies, and community organizations. He has also served as a Public Management Consultant in Oklahoma City and is currently a Research Analyst for the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

Dr. Hirlinger is ready to hit the ground running this semester, and the History, Humanities, & Government faculty are looking forward to his leadership and camaraderie.

