

# STATE NEWS WEEKLY SUMMARY CONTINUED

nent endowment.

"The University of Oklahoma is proud to announce that the Kerr Foundation's initial challenge grant has been fulfilled for the University Libraries," said OU President David L. Boren. "These funds have helped to provide much-needed resources for the Libraries, including the purchase of books and special stipends for library assistants. The OU Libraries — the largest library system in the state — are the central resource for our educational mission of teaching and research."

Sul Lee, dean of University Libraries, noted the large number of people who contributed to the challenge grant program, enabling it to be completed slightly ahead of schedule. More than 1,100 individual donors, 67 corporate gifts and 30 foundations helped make the effort a success.

—OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY  
05/23/96

## OU AWARDED \$20 MILLION FOR FAA TRAINING

■(NORMAN) The University of Oklahoma College of Continuing Education has been awarded a 4½-year Federal Aviation Administration Air Traffic Instructional Services contract valued at approximately \$20 million.

Through the award, which continues more than 25 years of partnership between the FAA and OU, the university will assist the FAA in providing air traffic control training by supporting instructional, educational and programming services at the FAA Academy at the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center in Oklahoma City.

OU collaborated with the American Systems Corporation (ASC), another provider of instructional development and delivery services to the FAA to successfully compete for the Air Traffic Instructional Services contract.

The FAA contract marks the third major award to the OU College of Continuing Education since October. Since that time, the College has received a \$19 million award from the U.S. Department of Education to form a regional educational resource center and a \$45 million contract from the U.S. Postal Service to provide instruction and technical assistance at the USPS's sole technical training center in Norman.

With the new contract, educational programs provided by OU will have trained

more than 38,500 air traffic controllers and other FAA personnel since the 1981 initiation of the Air Traffic Instructional Services program. The total awards to OU during this period have exceeded \$200 million.

The FAA Academy is the primary provider of air traffic control training in the United States and a substantive provider of air traffic control training around the world. At the Academy, air traffic controllers of all levels of expertise — from new hire to full performance level to facility managers — are trained with the most innovative instructional methodologies and state-of-the-art equipment available.

The program's training and development services are staffed with air traffic control instructors, instructional systems development specialists, education specialists, computer systems analysts and computer programmers and support and administrative staff. The program also provides consultants from the OU facility and from the Northwestern Kellogg School of Business.

In addition to providing quality air traffic instruction, the university assists the academy in developing and maintaining currency of all FAA resident and field facility training materials. Updated versions are sent periodically to FAA facilities for refresher and on-the-job training conducted at the facility sites.

The OU College of Continuing Education maintains a high involvement throughout the aviation industry. Other programs administered by the college include an aviation program and pilot certification, diversity and quality standards training to FAA employees, global positioning system research, and Partnership 21, an international forum to promote the development of a global approach to civil aeronautics and air commerce. Another effort is a program the college is forming to teach aviation English to aviation industry personnel worldwide.

—OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY  
05/23/96

## ENVIRONMENT

### OFB DIRECTOR SAYS FEDERAL RULES NEEDLESSLY INCREASE COSTS, VICTIMIZE FARMERS

■(OKLAHOMA CITY) Oklahoma Farm Bureau director Charles Sloan testified before a U.S. House of Representatives sub-

committee field hearing investigating the hidden costs of government regulations.

The Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs held a hearing May 20 at Rogers State University in Claremore.

The Farm Bureau director addressed the high costs to farmers resulting from the ban on production of Freon in the United States and Canada.

Sloan told the committee that before Freon production was banned that he and most other farmers could re-charge air conditioning systems on tractors and equipment themselves.

Sloan said that scenario is not applicable today because of the government ban on Freon due to questionable studies linking it to ozone damage.

Sloan pointed out that government action put most fix-it men out of business due to the high cost of equipment. The required equipment includes expensive machinery to re-clean and clean old Freon taken out of units to be repaired.

The farmer told the committee the fix-it shops now have to store old Freon in steel containers due to government regulations. Different types must be kept separate. When a container is full, the fix-it shop must return it to the place of purchase and that dealer gives him an empty container. The Freon then is shipped to be incinerated.

He said the cost of the new coolant is \$13 to \$20 a pound compared to the 98-cents-a-pound cost for Freon.

He suggested that Freon should have been phased out gradually, since most pre-1993 vehicles and farm equipment use old Freon.

"This is what we in agriculture mean when we say compare the cost to the benefit. This is a great problem for us in agriculture because some of these tractors and combines will be around for a long time.

"All my representatives that have been made aware of the problem agree that the government acted in haste, but nothing gets done."

—OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU  
05/21/96

*"A hen is only an egg's way of  
making another egg."*

*Samuel Butler II  
Life and Habit, 1877*