



The Oklahoma School of Science  
and Mathematics Foundation  
presents

OKLAHOMA SCHOOL OF SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS FOUNDATION

The logo for Quantum Experience, featuring a stylized yellow 'Q' with two small circles at the ends of its arms, resembling a quantum circuit or a molecular structure.

**QUANTUM  
EXPERIENCE**

**2017**

Celebrating the transformation of student lives  
through advanced academics

*Benefiting the OSSM Faculty Endowment*

Thursday, March 30, 2017

# Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics

Honoring

**Mr. James Vallion**

OSSM Foundation Trustee

2005 - Present

**Mrs. Lou Kerr**

OSSM Foundation Trustee

1994 - Present

**Dr. David Drennan**

Inaugural OSSM Vice Chairman

1986 - Present

and celebrating

**“Awesome” Alumni**

from Classes of 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007, 2012 & 2017

**Keynote Speaker**

**Dr. Geoffrey S. D. Beach**

Associate Professor of Materials Science & Engineering

Principal Investigator, Beach Group Laboratory for Nanomagnetism and Spin Dynamics

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

(OSSM Class of 1993)

**“Designing materials for next-generation computing:**

**Putting a new spin on electronics”**

**Master of Ceremonies**

Mr. Scott Meacham, President & CEO, i2E, Inc.

**Introductions and Remarks by**

Mr. Joel Champlin, Chairman, OSSM Foundation

Mr. Dan Little, Chairman, OSSM

Dr. Frank Y. H. Wang, President, OSSM

## Welcome & Introductions

Joel Champlin  
Chairman, OSSM Foundation

## Invocation

Rev. Sara Marie Bodenstein  
Professor of Mathematics, OSSM (OSSM Class of 1994)

## Dinner

## “Awesome” Alumni Highlights

Scott Meacham  
Master of Ceremonies

## Keynote Address

Geoffrey S.D. Beach, Ph.D.

## Gift Presentation

Dan Little, Chairman, OSSM

## Awards

<b>Mr. James Vallion</b>	<b>Mrs. Lou Kerr</b>	<b>Dr. David Drennan</b>
Mr. Champlin	Mr. Champlin	Mr. Little

## Building the Future

Frank Y. H. Wang, Ph.D., President, OSSM

## Closing

Mr. Meacham

### Quantum Experience STEM Day Program

Tomorrow, March 31, more than 120 middle school students will gather at OSSM to work in teams on engineering design challenges with **AT&T** and **GE Global Research** engineers. After a visit with Materials Science & Engineering Associate Professor and **Researcher Geoffrey Beach, Ph.D. from MIT** about his research in nanomagnetism and spin dynamics—the next generation of computing—competitions will be held based on the projects the students design, build and test. They will be working with electrical circuits and building a simple motor. What a day! The students will have a wonderful time of engagement, challenge and inspiration—Many thanks to Dr. Beach and our partners AT&T and GE Global Research for their generous partnership!

## James W. Vallion

Owner, Trochta's Flowers & Garden Center  
OSSM Foundation Trustee, 2005-Present  
Honoree

James W. Vallion was born December 9, 1930, in Hartshorne, OK, the first of seven children born to Jack and Gladys Vallion. In 1934, the family moved to Panama, OK, where Jim's dad worked as a coal miner. Having only been able to attain a third grade education himself, Jack Vallion wanted all his children to complete high school and go on to college if possible. "If you are educated," he told them, "the world opens up to you."

Valedictorian of his high school class in Panama, Jim won a 4H Club prize of \$50 that got him started at Oklahoma State University. He earned a B.S. in Political Science in 1951 and a M.S. in Political Science in 1954, working all through school in the University's sports cafeteria, among other part-time jobs.

At OSU Jim met Gene Smelser, then assistant basketball coach and part owner of The Townhouse Restaurant in Stillwater. Jim joined Smelser's restaurant and in 1960, Jim and Gene opened ValGene's as partners in Oklahoma City's Penn Square, then the state's largest open-air mall. They branched out in 1967, purchasing Herman's Seafood at NW 16<sup>th</sup> and Classen, and continued to expand into the then new Shepherd Mall and to other locations across Oklahoma City. ValGene's Restaurants became the single largest food operator in the state for some time and ValGene's eateries are still remembered fondly by many today.

In 1980, Jim bought Trochta's Flowers & Garden Center where he still goes to work daily. Passionate about giving back, he has invested himself in the community in many ways over the years. Jim was one of the original organizers of Red Earth and helped Jackie and Barbara Cooper start Red Tie Night. He has supported the Oklahoma City Museum of Art and many other arts efforts in Oklahoma, as well as Girl Scouts and Baptist Hospital in its early years.

Education has been a lifelong passion for Jim—the ideal planted in him by his father. Jim always encouraged his younger siblings to further their education (his sister Maggie became a nurse and one brother a physician), and he is still working on his nieces and nephews! He mentored numerous elementary students over the years and supported the continuing education of many friends and employees. He has remained closely engaged with his alma mater Oklahoma State University and was inducted into the OSU Hall of Fame earlier this year. And at the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics, Jim continues to help impart a truly transformational educational experience to every bright young student who attends the school through his generosity and strong support as a Trustee of the OSSM Foundation.



## Lou Kerr

President & Chair, The Kerr Foundation, Inc.  
OSSM Foundation Trustee, 1994-Present  
Honoree

As an active leader in the community of Oklahoma City as well as the state of Oklahoma, Lou C. Kerr has committed her time and expertise to numerous organizations which correspond with her beliefs and expectations. She served as Vice President of The Kerr Foundation from 1985-1999. In 1999 she became President and in 2004, President and Chair. Her position entails evaluating and allocating funds to non-profit organizations, programs and institutions which enrich opportunities for all Oklahomans with an emphasis on the young.



Lou Kerr has given many years of local and national public service and sits on the Board of Directors of numerous organizations, including Lyric Theatre, University of Oklahoma's International Programs Center and College of Fine Arts. Lou also serves on the Leadership Foundation-International Women's Forum, President's Council for the NPR Foundation, and as a National Trustee for the National Symphony Orchestra. She has previously served on the Women's Leadership Board of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, International Business Forum, the Advisory Council of the Hazel K. Goddess Fund for Stroke Research in Women, Oklahoma Arts Center, The Kirkpatrick Center and the Oklahoma Symphony Orchestra. In 1983 she helped found Red Earth, Inc., which serves at the national forefront of Native American Festivals. Mrs. Kerr was involved as a founder for the Sister Cities, Inc. and the Oklahoma City Public School Foundation. In 2005, Lou was elected as an Honorary Fellow in the National Academy of Public Administration in recognition of her sustained and noteworthy contributions to public administration. Lou served on the Oklahoma Centennial Commission before being elected Chair in 2006. Also in 2006 Lou began serving on the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History Board of Visitors and the University of Oklahoma's College of Nursing Board of Visitors.

As an advocate for education, Lou spends a great deal of her time focusing on programs that serve to educate and stimulate the minds of others. Founder and Chair of the Oklahoma International Women's Forum, Mrs. Kerr has partnered OIWF with Oklahoma State University in a successful leadership program since 1992. She currently serves as a trustee for the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics Foundation, Oklahoma City University, and is on the Board of Visitors for the OU Health Sciences Center, Sansori, United Methodist Foundation for Christian Higher Education, and Partners in Health. She has also served as President of the Oklahoma Health Center Foundation, as an advisory board member for the Oklahoma Breast Institute, as well as on the Truman Foundation Scholars Selection Committee. She was the 2005 Honorary Chair for the Allied Arts Campaign.

Lou chaired the State Capitol Preservation Commission from 1990 to 2009, continuing to serve as a committee member. In 1994 she was appointed to the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women, serving until 2009 when she moved to Advisory Council for the Commission. Other

appointments and selections include the 1983-1988 Governor's Chairperson for the Emergency Heat Task Force and the Oklahoma Mental Health Conference Task Force. She is also a Board member of the International Women's Forum, has served as Vice President of IWF Membership and IWF Development, and Secretary of the IWF Leadership Foundation. Lou was appointed by President Clinton to the 1995 President's Oklahoma City Scholarship Fund Advisory Board, which aided funding scholarships for children who lost parents or were severely disabled as a result of the Murrah Building bombing. In 2008, Lou was nominated to attend the 75th US Department of Defense Joint Civilian Orientation Conference. Her April 2008 tour of the US Southcom area gave her a heightened appreciation of the men and women serving our country.

Lou has received numerous awards for her duty and service to the community. For her service as an advisory board member of the Salvation Army she received the National Others Award. She was inducted into the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women – Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame in April 2013, received the Magnolia Award from the Women of the South in April 2013, the Association of Women in Communication *Byliner* Lifetime Achievement Award in March 2016, and the Langston University's Women in Leadership Award April 2017.

The University of Oklahoma College of Education awarded Lou their Meritorious Service Award in 2012. The Journal Record selected Lou as one of the 2010 "Most Admired CEOs" and for their 2012 Lifetime Achievement award. She received the 2009 Philanthropy Award from the Institute of Interfaith Dialogue in association with the OCU Wimberly School of Religion. She was a 2009 YWCA Embrace Award Nominee and received the 2008 OKAGE James M. Goodman Friend of Geography Award. *Travelgirl* Magazine awarded Lou the Woman of Valor Inaugural Award in 2007. In 2006, Lou was inducted into the Philanthropy World Hall of Fame, received the Plaza District's Urban Pioneer Award for her efforts to develop the area for the relocation of Lyric Theatre, and the Association for Continuing Higher Education Special Recognition Award. Governor Henry issued a Proclamation naming March 2, 2005 as "Lou C. Kerr" Day. Also in 2005 she received the South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce "Native Daughter" award and was named Red Earth's Ambassador of the Year for 2005. Lou has received the 2004 Byliners Award in Philanthropy from the Women in Communications, the International Women's Forum 2003 "Leading Lights" award, the 2004 Girl Scouts – Red Lands Council *Woman of Distinction*, and the 2001 Oklahoma Public Schools Foundation "*Wall of Fame*" Award. Lou was named among Oklahoma's Most Influential Women in 2001 (one of eighteen) by Oklahoma Family Magazine. Oklahoma City University awarded Lou the 2000 Commerce & Industry Hall of Honor Award, and she was given the 1988 Governor's Arts Award for service. She was also chosen as a nominee for the ABC-Five Alive, Five Who Care Award and was a nominee for the President's Volunteer of the Year Award.

Lou has supported every major initiative of the OSSM Foundation during her years as a Trustee. She established the endowed Investigative Research Scholars Program (IRSP) at OSSM, providing intensive mentorship opportunities for rising seniors during the summer, and continues to treat all female OSSM students to attend the Women's Business Leadership Conference each year. Lou continues to look to new opportunities and issues that will enable her to expand her knowledge base and personal experience while continuing to give back unselfishly to what she believes in most; people and the community.



**David Lee Drennan, Ph.D.**  
**Mathematics Educator, 1968-2005**  
**Inaugural Vice Chairman, OSSM, 1986-Present**  
**Honoree**

David Drennan has served as Vice Chairman of the Governing Board for OSSM since 1986, helping define the academics and character of the school. Originally from Fort Worth, TX, Dr. Drennan holds a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics (Minor English) (1963), a Master of Arts in Mathematics (1965), and a Doctorate in Mathematics (1968), all from Texas Christian University. He taught briefly at Jarvis Christian College in 1968 before moving to the University of Oklahoma where he taught an Assistant Professor of Mathematics from 1968-1975.

In 1975, Drennan began teaching with Norman Public Schools to help students develop their math interests at an earlier age. From 1975-2005 he taught at the mid-high and high school level, also serving in administrative roles as Director of Instructional Computing from 1979-1985 and as Data Processing Manager of the Norman Public School District from 1985-1991 and coaching and sponsoring all math competitions. In 1981, Dr. Drennan was asked to design a two-year program to provide greater challenge for gifted juniors and seniors in Norman. The AEGIS Mathematics Program began fall of that year with Drennan serving as program mentor until 2002.

Dr. Drennan has continued a lifetime of learning, completing 32 additional graduate hours in courses from OU's College of Education on topics including public school financing, public school law, curriculum development, sociology of education and measure and evaluation. He has been active in the American Mathematics Association, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Oklahoma Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and in the NEA, OEA and the Professional Educators of Norman. He served on a Peer Review Team for the National Science Foundation and served as a reader for the Advanced Placement Program from 1990-1995.

Drennan was delighted to be named "most influential teacher" by six Presidential Scholars and 13 Academic All-State students from 1983-1999. In 1984 he won the Presidential Award for the Excellence of Teaching of Mathematics and in 1985 & 1986 was a Rickover Science Institute Teaching Fellow. From 1987 through the mid-1990s, Drennan served as Teacher and/or Co-director of Research Science Institute (RSI), a high school research program conducted by the Center of Excellence in Education at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

A member of First Christian Church in Norman since 1968, Drennan has been active with the Norman Jaycees (1970-1975), the Norman Softball Association (1968-1985), served as Deputy Commissioner of the Oklahoma ASA from 1975-1983 and was inducted into Oklahoma ASA Hall of Fame as Commissioner in 1995. He has been a member of Norman Kiwanis since 1990 and has served as a Christmas Store Volunteer since 2005.

David and Sandra will celebrate their 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary this August. They enjoy their two grown children and their spouses and four grandsons.





## Geoffrey S.D. Beach, PhD

Associate Professor, Materials Science & Engineering  
Principal Investigator, The Beach Group  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
(OSSM Class of 1993)

Keynote Speaker & Senator Penny Williams  
Distinguished Lecturer

Geoffrey Beach is an Associate Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at MIT and Chair of Undergraduate Studies. He received a B.S. in Physics from Caltech, a Ph.D. in Physics from the University of California, San Diego, and conducted postdoctoral work at the University of Texas at Austin. In 2008 he joined the MIT Faculty as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering. At MIT, Professor Beach directs the Laboratory for Nanomagnetism and Spin Dynamics, which designs advanced materials for spin-based memory, logic, and emerging applications. He has published more than 70 research papers and presented more than 80 invited talks around the world. His work has been recognized with numerous awards including most recently a Deshpande Center Award for Technological Innovation, the MIT Junior Bose Award for Excellence in Teaching, the MIT Class of 1958 Institute Chaired Professorship, and the Department of Energy (DoE) Early Career Award.

OSSM and the OSSM Foundation was honored to have Dr. Beach deliver a fully academic lecture earlier today to OSSM students and others from the local academic and scientific community as a Senator Penny Williams Distinguished Lecturer. Dr. Beach's academic address was entitled "Sculpting with Atoms: Designing Materials to Solve Emerging Problems"

## Joel Champlin

President, Champlin Resources  
Chairman, OSSM Foundation  
Host

Joel Champlin was born and raised in Enid, OK. He received a Mechanical Engineering degree from Southern Methodist University and a Master's of Business Administration degree from the University of Oklahoma. Joel is the CEO of Champlin Resources and Roaring Fork Energy. He has been actively involved in a variety of nonprofit efforts focusing on education and health care in Oklahoma.

Joel and Kelly have been married for 34 years and are proud parents of four boys, three daughters-in-law (soon to be four) and three grandchildren with hopefully more to come. Joel is deeply honored to have served on the OSSM Foundation Board of Trustees since 1999.





## Scott Meacham

President & CEO, i2E, Inc. (Innovation to Enterprise)

### Master of Ceremonies

As President and CEO, Scott Meacham leads i2E's efforts to create jobs in Oklahoma through the development of and investment in small businesses with the potential for growth.



Scott also serves as an advisory director for the Crowe & Dunlevy law firm.

He served as the 17th State Treasurer of Oklahoma, an office he held from June 2005 until January 2011. In addition to his duties as State Treasurer, Scott served on the governor's cabinet as Secretary for Finance and Revenue from January 2003 until January 2011.

He formerly served as Chief Executive Officer, General Counsel and Lending Supervisor of First National Bank & Trust of Elk City. He continues to be associated with the bank as a member and secretary of the board.

Scott is a certified financial planner and has also practiced law in Clinton, Oklahoma as a partner in the Meacham & Meacham law firm.

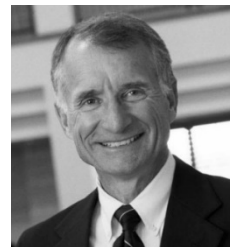
He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the State Chamber of Oklahoma. He also serves on the Board of Trustees and the Investment Committee of the University of Oklahoma Foundation and serves on the Governor's Science and Technology Council.

Scott holds a Bachelor's degree in finance, an MBA and a law degree, all from the University of Oklahoma.

## Daniel V. Little, Esquire

Founding Chairman, OSSM, 1986-Present

In 1986, Dan Little was appointed by Governor George Nigh as the first Chairman of the OSSM Governing Board and was reappointed by Governors David Walters, Frank Keating, Brad Henry and Mary Fallin. With Dan as Chairman of the OSSM Board, which he describes as the best and brightest Board in Oklahoma, and working closely for 22 years with Dr. Edna Manning and four years with Dr. Frank Wang, the Board has provided leadership to turn OSSM from an idea with no teachers, no students and no campus into one of the best academic high schools in the nation, public or private.



Dan graduated with honors from Harvard in 1965 and from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1968. He served as Editor-in-Chief of the Oklahoma Law Review and was selected as Outstanding OU Senior by the Oklahoma Bar Association. Returning to Madill to practice law, Dan established the Little Law Firm which has been ranked among the top 5% of law firms in the nation for many years. Dan also serves as a lifetime member of the Sarkeys Foundation Board of Directors and on the boards of the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, the Oklahoma Nature Conservancy and the OU Law School Board of Visitors. He also served on the University of

Oklahoma Board of Regents from 1978 to 1985 and has been active in many other local and state civic organizations.

Dan is the proud father of Janna, Dana and Molly and grandfather of nine grandchildren and the grateful father-in-law of Paul Ryan, William Jackson and Dr. Mark Alcott.

**Frank Y. H. Wang, Ph.D.**  
President, OSSM, 2012-Present



Dr. Wang joined OSSM as its second president in 2012. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Math from Princeton University in 1986 and his Ph.D. in Pure Math from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1991.

As a graduate student, he co-authored a widely used high school calculus textbook. After graduation from MIT, he went to work for Saxon Publishers, Inc. and later became its President in 1994. Under his leadership, Saxon Publishers grew to become a major textbook publisher, with 250 employees and annual sales approaching \$100 million.

In 2003, Dr. Wang left his position as chairman of Saxon Publishers to pursue his lifelong passion and desire for teaching. He taught at OSSM and OU and started a special after-school program for middle school students in Norman, Oklahoma.

In 2006, Dr. Wang moved to Plano, Texas and ran his own education business, Wang Education LLC. In 2010-2011, he served as a teaching fellow with the Alexander Dawson Foundation Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Dr. Wang has worked with teachers and students in the New York City Public Schools, Los Angeles Unified School District, Chicago Public Schools, Washington DC Public Schools, Dallas Independent School District, and numerous other schools, large and small, public and private throughout the country (as well as in Managua, Nicaragua).

**2017 Quantum Experience Awards – Oklahoma Artist Bill Hawk**

Bill Hawk is a practicing Anesthesiologist in Oklahoma City, but in his free time he is a cast glass artist primarily using lost wax casting techniques. He received his training in glass casting from the Studio of the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, New York. Besides casting glass one of his other passions is water gardening. His current glass pieces are casts of actual Victoria Water Lily leaves grown in his own large lily pond. He began with the Victoria because of its beauty and other worldly vein architecture that few have seen. He plans to continue with other botanically inspired designs in the future.



## Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics

OSSM challenges students far beyond the traditional high school model. Everything at OSSM supports students' academics—from the school's residential model, **rigorous college-level curriculum, and largely doctoral-level teaching faculty** to required evening study halls staffed with faculty and absence of cell phones and limited personal internet. Students leap forward in their academic progress, and many OSSM graduates take numerous college credits with them to their chosen institutions of higher learning.

**Math** Pre-Calculus I, II & III; Calculus I & II; Multivariate Calculus; Differential Equations; Number Theory; Probability & Statistics; Linear Algebra; Abstract Algebra; Geometries; Topology; Real Analysis; Foundations of Mathematics; Special Topics in Math

**Biology** General Biology; General Zoology; Vertebrate/Invertebrate Zoology; Embryology; Anatomy & Physiology; Endocrinology; Histology; Genetics; Intro to Neuroscience; Plant & Soil Science; Biochemistry; Botany; Microbiology; Ecology; Molecular & Cellular Biology

**Chemistry** General Chemistry I & II; Organic Chemistry I & II; Biochemistry; Chemical Thermodynamics; Chemistry Olympiad Prep/Directed Study

**Engineering** Robotics Engineering, Electronic Circuits, TEAM+S Competition (extra-curricular)

**Physics** General Physics; Mechanics; Electricity & Magnetism; Thermal Physics Waves & Optics; Intro to Modern Physics; Modern Physics II; Astronomy; Topics in Theoretical Physics

**Computer Science** Intro to Computer Science; Object-Oriented Programming with Java; Data Structures I & II; Operating Systems; Networking; Computer Architecture & Assembly Programming; Special Topics

**Humanities** American Literature; World Literature; Principles of English Composition; American History; Western Civilization I & II; East Asian History; Arab Civilization; Special Topics; Foreign Languages; Fine Arts

**Physical Education**

**Directed Studies**

**Mentorships**

- **Eighty-five percent of OSSM alumni are remaining in scientific, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields for their careers!**
- The fields of study and careers most chosen by OSSM graduates are **engineering** (aerospace, biomedical, chemical, civil, computer, electrical, mechanical, petroleum); **medicine, medical research, and other health sciences**; and **other fields including computer science, technology, education, scientific research, business, and law.**
- OSSM alums are employed in many of Oklahoma's finest corporations, hospitals and technical firms such as AT&T, Artificial Lift Company, Baptist Hospital, Benham Companies, Boeing, Chesapeake Energy, C. H. Guernsey, Cardinal Engineering, Chevron Phillips, Devon Energy, Ditch Witch, Dobson Communications, FAA, Hall Estill, LexisNexis, Mercy Hospital, MidFirst Bank, OG&E, Oklahoma Cardiovascular Associates, Oklahoma Center for Neuroscience, Oklahoma Heart Hospital, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, SAIC, St. John Hospital, Standard Aero, Stillwater Medical Center, Tinker Air Force Base, University of Oklahoma and OU College of Medicine, University of Tulsa, World Telemetry, and many more.
- A full fourth of Tulsa's most successful start-up companies highlighted by the Tulsa World in 2012 were begun by OSSM alumni.
- OSSM students are actively recruited by the finest universities, colleges and technical institutes from across the states; however, more than half choose to pursue their higher education in Oklahoma.
- With just 25 classes graduated and some 60% of OSSM alumni living/working in Oklahoma, **OSSM and its alumni/alumnae are already stimulating some \$40 million each year in economic activity in Oklahoma** and this impact is increasing with every graduating class!



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through advanced academics!*