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# NEWS RELEASE

OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY

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## **OCU Launches New Academic Year With Matriculation**

**OKLAHOMA CITY**--Oklahoma City University will usher in the 1997-98 academic year with matriculation convocation Sunday, Aug. 17, at 10 a.m. in the University's Bishop W. Angie Smith Chapel.

OCU President Jerald Walker will deliver the ceremony's keynote address, "Joy and Discovery," after which honorary doctorates will be presented to Helen Galloway (doctor of humane letters), Gerald Gamble (doctor of commercial science), Bert Seabourn (doctor of humane letters) and Frances Preston (doctor of music).

**Galloway**, an Oklahoma City resident, is a member of the OCU Board of Trustees, a lifetime member of the Oklahoma City Art Center and a board member of the Delegation for Friendship Among Women. Her involvement with the Delegation for Friendship Among Women, an organization which promotes understanding among women leaders of the world, has taken her to 15 different countries across the globe including Russia, Poland, South Africa and Jordan. She has served as president of the Women's Association, a deaconess at Crown Heights Christian Church and chairman for the United Way Drive, the Salvation Army Citadel Drive and the National Ad Hoc Committee of the YWCA. She has assumed leadership positions in the National Foundation of Polio and with Casady School's book and art fairs. She has been involved with the United Nations Women's Association, the Oklahoma City Zoo Association, the Oklahoma Art League, the Women's Symphony Society and the St. Anthony Hospital Lay Board. Galloway received a bachelor of arts from OCU in 1935. In 1996 she was named the University's Distinguished Goldbug Award recipient.

**Gamble**, president and owner of Gerald L. Gamble Co., Commercial and Industrial Realtors in Oklahoma City, has been active in the brokerage of commercial and industrial properties in the Oklahoma City area for more than 35

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years. He is the 1997 chairman of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and a trustee of OCU and the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation. He is a member of numerous organizations including the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors, the American Society of Real Estate Counselors and the Oklahoma Bar Association. He is a past president of the Oklahoma City Metropolitan Association of Realtors, the Oklahoma Association of Realtors, the Last Frontier Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the Committee of 100. Gamble was named Oklahoma City's Outstanding Young Man in 1974 and Oklahoma's Realtor of the Year in 1986. He served in the U.S. Air Force Reserves and attained the rank of captain. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and a master's degree from Stanford University, and graduated first in his class from the OCU School of Law in 1968.

An Oklahoma City painter and printmaker, **Seabourn** has worked with watercolors, oils, acrylics and graphic media for over 40 years. He exhibits his art throughout the United States and has shown his art in Germany, France, Russia, Taiwan, Singapore, Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia and Ecuador. His paintings are in the collections of President George and Barbara Bush, the Vatican, the National Gallery of China, the American Embassy (London), the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and the President Gerald Ford Library. Seabourn was named Master Artist of the Five Civilized Tribes in 1976 and received the Oklahoma Governor's Art Award in 1981. His monumental 23-foot tall bronze sculpture "Wind Walker" was unveiled in 1986 at Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's State Headquarters Building in Oklahoma City. The artist is published in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in American Art*, *Who's Who in American Indian Art*, *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*, the *Dictionary of International Biography*, the *Reference Encyclopedia of the American Indian*, *Artists of Renown* and *Contemporary Southwest Painters*. He received a certificate in art from Oklahoma City University in 1963.

**Preston** is president and chief executive officer of Broadcast Music Incorporated's New York office. She has been called "one of the true powerhouses in the pop music business" by *Fortune* magazine, and she is affiliated with many professional organizations including the Country Music Association, the Gospel Music Association, the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences Foundation, the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, the Rhythm &

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Blues Foundation and the Rotary Club. She is president of the T.J. Martell Foundation for Leukemia, Cancer and AIDS Research. The Frances Williams Preston Research Laboratory at Vanderbilt University, a cancer research facility supported by the Martell Foundation, is named in her honor. She has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Friar's Foundation Applause Award, the Women's Equity Action League Achievement Award, the American Women In Radio and Television's Outstanding Achievement Award, the Country Music Association's Irving Waugh Award of Excellence and a lifetime achievement award in recognition of her years of support for the Foundation for a Creative America. Preston served as a member of the President's Panama Canal Study Committee and the commission for the White House Record Library during Carter's administration. Recently, she served on Vice President Al Gore's National Information Infrastructure Advisory Council. *Ladies' Home Journal* listed Preston as one of the "50 Most Powerful Women in America" in 1990, and *Entertainment Weekly* placed her second in its Top 10 listing of "The Powers of Country Music" in 1992.

Following the ceremony, a reception for the University's new students, their parents and honorary degree recipients will be held in the chapel's Fireside Lounge.

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