As part of a seven-year regional branding campaign, we at Oklahoma Panhandle State University are excited to introduce our new graphic identity!

The need for one set logo was easily recognizable, as one of the basic components of a strong, institutional marketing-communications effort is a unified graphic identity. As Panhandle State competes for students, funding and donations, the strength of our marketing communications is increasingly important.

In an effort to establish an instant identifier of who we are and what we do, President Dr. Tim Faltyn convened a task force of committee members representing all walks of campus including administration, faculty, staff, students, athletics and alumni. The group worked together to find a visual brand representing the quality, strength, pride, tradition and way of life you can only learn by being part of the Panhandle State family. The entire campus and community were then given the opportunity to offer input on the new logo and branding campaign. A creative and inspired outcome has been reached with the goal to promote unity and connectedness throughout our campus community.

Dean of Business and Technology Joe Breeden described the logo: “The new logo re-invigorates our century-old, distinguished university. It will become synonymous with a university that never rests but always progresses forward.”

Digital files of the Panhandle State logo are available from the Campus Communications Office. Please view our graphic standards at www.opsu.edu before use. If you have questions regarding usage requirements, please call 580.349.1356 or email danae@opsu.edu.

New Look, Same Great Panhandle State!
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Alan Williams is a senior from Guymon, Oklahoma majoring in Health and Physical Education. Chrislyn Dovers is a freshman softball player from Haslet, Texas.

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His wife, his son and his horse have meant the world to him, and now Oklahoma Panhandle State University will hold that same meaning as he steers the reins as the college’s 15th president.

“I am a Christian, I am a husband, I am a dad and I am proud of being an educator,” OPSU President Dr. Tim Faltyn said. “I am the first person in my family to ever graduate high school, much less college. I have a passion for the students in doing so.”

Faltyn replaces Dr. David A. Bryant, who served as OPSU president for 13 years. Although Faltyn carries a different energy than Bryant, he noted they have some similarities.

“One of the things that we share is that we believe that great universities are about people and they are about collaborations,” Faltyn said. “The more we can do that, the better we’re all going to be.”

Faltyn obtained degrees from Central New Mexico Community College, University of Central Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University, as well as postdoctoral training at Harvard University. On top of this, Faltyn is a Carnegie United States Professor of the Year award recipient and is an accomplished author and speaker.

Faltyn was born in Hondo, a small town in New Mexico, where he grew up ranching and farming. He later met Kelly, his wife. After moving to different areas in the state for his education, Faltyn said Texas County’s plains and open pastures are a great place for him and his wife to raise Max, their four-year-old son.

“Growing up as part of a ranching family, this part of the world and this landscape is a lot more like home for Kelly and me,” Faltyn said. “Ranching is in my DNA. I think that understanding the land and the animals helps you to be a better human.”

His wife also has a background in ranching and serves as a pediatrician. As she closes up shop with plans to practice in Texas County, Faltyn is leading OPSU with aims revamping goals. During the time he has served as a president, his operational accomplishments include achieving all-time highs in fundraising, multimillion-dollar campus renovations and national recognitions for increasing enrollment as well as record setting graduate production.

“The primary goal is to advance the Panhandle brand and to claim our rightful place to become the premiere regional university,” Faltyn said. “We have to believe in ourselves enough to know that we are the best and that we deliver the best brand of education.”

Faltyn’s passion for educating flows into his personal and professional life. One of his mentors taught him the meaning of being an educator.

“I love what I do,” Faltyn said. “One of the things that my teacher taught me is that a true educator, regardless of what you do on campus, is somebody who takes responsibility for all learning and a person.”

During his time at OPSU so far, he has witnessed the staff and faculty surrounding the students with care for their success in life, which ties into his beliefs.

“One of my purposes in life is to help people fulfill the promise of their potential,” Faltyn said.
June 1st may have come and gone, but for Oklahoma Panhandle State University President Dr. Tim Faltyn the pace hasn't changed one bit since his first official day of work. Panhandle State’s 15th President hit the campus running and hasn't looked back.

Dr. Faltyn addressed his Panhandle family during his State-of-the-University speech at the annual faculty and staff back-to-school breakfast on August 15, and one would be extremely hard-pressed to find anyone who left the annual meeting not feeling excited and optimistic about the upcoming school year.

While the June 2016 announcement of a 1.2-million-dollar cut in state appropriations may seem daunting, Dr. Faltyn responded to the initial news saying, “After being on campus, I am convinced we will not just survive; we will thrive.”

He has a vision and focus in response to this unenviable position, and he shared that with the faculty and staff members during his address. Dr. Faltyn's vision includes being recognized as a national leader in regional university excellence while focusing on a number of different aspects including student learning experiences, enrollment management, graduate production, resource development and strategic/budget planning among others.

With a number of new initiatives already in place, including the implementation of a new logo and marketing campaign in July, Dr. Faltyn has specific plans to forge ahead.

Dr. Faltyn articulated that the top priority for the university in this next year is to increase positive student learning experiences for the entire Panhandle family. He emphasized that learning happens everywhere on campus “from the classroom to the cashier counter and from campus police to the cafeteria; we are all responsible for what our students learn.” Building on his point about students, he reminded all the faculty and staff, “the best example we can set is always strive to learn and get better ourselves. The more we expect from ourselves, the better our students will learn.” Other priorities included growing enrollment, increasing external funding and creating a comprehensive strategic plan.

He conveyed a clear plan of action for the faculty and staff members as they look to continue the tradition of excellence at Panhandle State this year. Special thanks were given to Anchor D Bank for providing a delicious breakfast for all those in attendance.

Dr. Faltyn comes to Panhandle State after serving as the President of Connors State University. He was unanimously selected by the A&M Board of Regents upon former Panhandle State President Dr. David Bryant's retirement this past May. He has served in the A&M system in a variety of positions for over 20 years. He earned his Doctor of Education from Oklahoma State University after receiving a Master of Education and his Bachelor of Arts in Public Service at the University of Central Oklahoma.

State-of-the-University Address
McMurphy Named Staff Employee of the Semester

Oklahoma Panhandle State University Comptroller Elizabeth McMurphy was named Employee of the Semester at the annual back-to-school breakfast on August 15. McMurphy has worked in various departments throughout her eight-and-a-half years as a full-time employee at Panhandle State, not to mention the many hours she served as a student worker.

McMurphy can easily be described as an extremely hard worker who does a great job. McMurphy, a Guymon High School graduate, transitioned to the comptroller position this year after serving as the Director of Purchasing with previous positions on campus as the international coordinator and as a recruiter. She has made the transition to her new position smoothly all while playing a very instrumental part in the extremely involved all-campus conversion to a new information system.

While working with the conversion, she has also been working on the 2016-2017 budget and reconciling accounts at the state. McMurphy has still managed to reply to emails and keep the budgeting processes moving smoothly. She stepped up and took leadership of the finance team, which helps with accurate information and reporting. She arrives at work early and works late. She is truly dedicated to Panhandle State and her fellow co-workers.

Director of Human Resources Dana Collins said, “Elizabeth has the commitment to excellence in carrying out job responsibilities by going above and beyond the call of duty. She maintains a positive attitude toward work responsibilities as well as co-workers, and she is always available to help out wherever needed.”

McMurphy graduated in May of 2008 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Administration. She enjoys spending time with family, running, reading and traveling.

McMurphy commented, “As much as I’ve tried to dedicate myself to OPSU, it’s constantly giving back to me in the way of opportunities, challenges, and surprisingly new things around each corner. It’s always changing and evolving for the better. I’ve met lifelong friends here that I know feel the same way about this place. I’m so proud of where we’re at and where we’re going.”

A New Age for OPSU’s Student Senate

During the past year, Oklahoma Panhandle State University’s Student Senate has faced many huge, positive changes. Many of the Student Senate officers of the 2016-17 school year were graduating seniors, leaving some very large shoes to be filled by the rising underclassmen. One of the roles that requires a lot of time and dedication is the Student Body President. This job has been appointed to familiar face Jasmine Brown-Jutras.

An outgoing student and leader, Jasmine is a wise choice Panhandle State. Students and professors who know her would agree that she is motivated and determined in all that she does. She has been involved in numerous school organizations, such as OIL (Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature), SGA (Student Government Association) and NAfME (National Association for Music Educators). Not only does she aid in putting many great ideas into motion for our school, but she also acts as a recruiter, constantly encouraging friends and acquaintances to take part in school events, clubs and organizations.

Jasmine Brown-Jutras is a music major and student athlete for the cross country team. She graduated high school from a very small town called Hermitage, Arkansas. She has been involved in student affairs since high school, saying, “I’ve always liked the idea of being able to be involved in what’s going on around me and finding ways I can help.” She originally came to Goodwell with the same mindset that many college students share: to get as far away from home as possible. She quickly realized that there was much more to this university than she had anticipated, especially after joining SGA and being involved in creating the ultimate college experience for the student body.

Jasmine's biggest goal is to show the rest of the student body what she and many others see—the true beauty of just how united our campus can be. “If I can show them that there are things to do, then I accomplished something,” she states. “There is more to this campus than just going to class and going to your room.” She also wants to see more people involved in Student Senate so that we can really have a great representation of our student body being heard.
Camfield Honored as Advanced Graduate of Distinction

Oklahoma Panhandle State University’s Dean of Agriculture Dr. Peter Camfield was recently selected as an Advanced Graduate of Distinction in the Department of Animal Science at the University of Arkansas. Dr. Camfield was honored at the annual Departmental Awards Banquet on April 20 in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

The Advanced Degree Graduate of Distinction award recognizes University of Arkansas Animal Science alumni with master’s and doctorate degrees who have attained singular professional excellence in the field of Animal Agriculture. The award was established in 1996 and the recipients are nominated and chosen by the University of Arkansas Animal Science faculty. Over 200 people attended the banquet.

Dr. Camfield attended Sul Ross State University to pursue a degree in Animal Science and received his bachelor’s degree in 1989. He earned a master’s degree in Animal Science from West Texas A&M University in 1992 and served as the manager of the university’s meats laboratory and as manager of the beef carcass research center. In September of 1992, he was hired as a meat science researcher for Elanco Animal Health and collected all the meat science research for Elanco from Texas to California. He received his doctorate in Animal Science at the University of Arkansas, under the guidance of the late Dr. Hayden Brown in 1996.

He then moved to OPSU as an Assistant Professor in Animal Science. He advanced from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor in 2000 and was awarded full professorship in 2003. He became Dean of the School of Agriculture in October of 2004.

Dr. Camfield has concentrated his efforts on recruiting and retaining agriculture students, engaging OPSU agriculture alumni and other stakeholders with the goals of the department and improving the educational infrastructure of the department. Dr. Camfield’s goal is that every agriculture graduate of OPSU has a well-rounded education and has a job secured prior to graduation.

Dr. Camfield is married to Carolyn R. Camfield and has three children: Michelle, Garrett, and Zane.

Always an Aggie

Combine his infectious personality with a work ethic that is hard to match and a true care and concern for everyone around him and you can see why City of Guymon Mayor Kim Peterson is easily recognized at the top of Oklahoma Panhandle State University’s extraordinary alumni.

A Guymon native, Peterson grew up going to Panhandle State football and basketball games. It wasn’t unusual to see his family in the college cafeteria enjoying the lunch buffet on Sundays. It was just a natural step for him to attend college in Goodwell after graduating from Guymon High School in 1970. Joining his parents as Panhandle State graduates, Peterson earned a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Arts Education in 1974 while minoring in accounting. Both his sister and younger brother are Panhandle State graduates as well.

Peterson is still just as active with the campus, most recently as a member of the Presidential Search Committee and assisting in the selection of Panhandle State’s 15th President Dr. Tim Faltyn. Additionally, he is currently serving as the chair of the President’s House Fundraising Committee.

“I’m excited for the future of the college. What is good for Panhandle State is good for Guymon and the region.

A member of the Panhandle State Foundation Board of Directors since 2007, Peterson served as the foundation president from 2014-2016.

Currently, Peterson and his daughter Jaime own and operate a restaurant called Hunny’s and a catering business, Kim’s Ribs both of which play a part in the lives of many Panhandle State Aggies as several students work for them. In addition, Peterson has a passion for the Rodeo team and each year he provides the meal for their Top Hand Auction fundraising event.

Peterson and his wife have three children, Jana, Jaime, and Scott as well as eight grandchildren. Jana is a third generation Panhandle State graduate.

Peterson enjoys working and staying busy and developing friendships and relationships.
Athletics

Men’s Rodeo Finishes Third at CNFR

College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR) came to a close Saturday night, June 18. The Casper Events Center was full of athletes keeping their eye on national championships.

Rodeo is often a game of numbers: tenths of a second, dollars and cents, and mere points. OPSU saddle bronc rider Shade Etbauer led the way for the men’s team. Two Aggie bronc riders were on the hunt for a national title. Etbauer was one of only three bronc riders in the nation to cover all four horses. With his score of 72 points in the short-go, he received the Reserve Champion title. Teammate Clay Elliott had some tough luck in the short-go and did not make the eight-second requirement. Despite the misfortune, Elliott ended up fourth in the nation.

Senior Caleb Bullock had a big night in the tie-down roping. The calf roper came into the short-go sitting ninth, meaning he had a lot of ground to make up in order to snag a title. Bullock won the short-go with his quickest time of the week, 9.3 seconds. This run allowed Bullock to move to a fifth-place finish in the average.

Bullock commented on his win in the short round. “It felt good knowing that it was my last run and being able to make it that far and win. I would like to thank Robert for all the help and all he does for the rodeo team.”

Bareback rider Logan Patterson came into the short-go sitting fourth, and bull rider Josh Frost was sitting second, but both bucked off Saturday night. Patterson was able to pull off a ninth-spot finish in the average, and Frost ended up third.

Head Coach Robert Etbauer said, “It didn’t go quite like we wanted it to go toward the end, but they tried hard, and I was proud of them.”

The year ended on a good note for the Panhandle State rodeo team. The men’s team left Casper with a third-place finish.
Weeder Selected as Assistant Women’s Rodeo Coach

The Oklahoma Panhandle State University Rodeo Team has expanded its coaching staff with the addition of Shelbie Weeder to serve as the Assistant Women’s Rodeo Coach. She will join current rodeo coach, Robert Etbauer, and rodeo assistant, Sue Etbauer, to lead the multi-time national championship team.

Weeder is a familiar face on the campus as she earned a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science from Panhandle State while being an active member of the rodeo team.

During her time on the Panhandle State Rodeo Team, Weeder served a two-year term as the Central Plains Region Student Director. This position enabled Weeder to have a better understanding of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association rules, entry system and eligibility requirements; all skills necessary for the new position. She was named the 2015 Walt Garrison Award Recipient. The Walt Garrison Award, given through the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) each year, highlights numerous qualities that are part of the cowboy code of ethics including loyalty, commitment, honesty, perseverance and most importantly, leadership. The award was established in honor of former Dallas Cowboys football player and professional cowboy, Walt Garrison.

The Holly, Colorado native also boasts an impressive résumé inside the arena. Most recently, Weeder was named the All-Around Champion Cowgirl at the Doc Gardner Memorial Rodeo hosted by Panhandle State in Guymon each year. She is also a two-time Kansas High School Rodeo Association Breakaway Roping Champion.

In addition to coaching responsibilities, Weeder will recruit for both the rodeo team and agriculture department.

“I am very honored to return to Panhandle State and continue to be a part of such a prestigious rodeo program. I am looking forward to working with Robert and Sue [Etbauer], and I am excited to see what the future holds for Panhandle State rodeo,” Weeder said.
American Baseball Coaches Association released recipients of the 2015-2016 ABCA Team Academic Excellence Award this week, and the Panhandle State baseball team made the grade as it was listed with over 140 programs across the country.

This award honors high school and college programs that posted a team GPA over 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the academic year. The Aggies were one of 20 NCAA Division II teams recognized and were one of only two teams from the Heartland Conference to receive the award; Rogers State also earned academic honors.

ABCA Executive Director Craig Keilitz commented on the inaugural award stating, “We are extremely proud to recognize the academic accomplishments of so many of our member coaches’ programs this year.” The new award was announced in May with a nomination deadline of July 15. Keilitz added, “This award highlights our coaches’ commitment to developing student-athletes that excel both on and off the field, and we’re proud of these student-athletes for their success in the classroom.”

Head coach Jason Miner responded with pleasure saying, “We are proud of our guys and their academic achievements this past year. We really emphasize the word ‘student’ in student-athlete, and our guys bought in and buckled down on their school work. This is an achievement that we hopefully can receive every year.”

Congratulations to Coach Miner and the entire Aggie baseball team and program for this outstanding accomplishment! The full list of recipients can be found on the abca.org website.

The National Fast-Pitch Coaches Association announced their 2015-2016 Scholar Athlete Award honorees with five Aggies included in the list.

Panhandle State softball players Julia Ibarra, Madison Heathington, Janna Ruether, Michaela MacGillivray and Darcie Wilson each met the grade requirements set by the NFCA for the 2015-2016 academic year. Athletes who achieve a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale are recognized as NFCA Scholar Athletes. The Aggies were one of two Heartland Conference teams represented on the list, joined by University of Texas of the Permian Basin which had four players honored this year.

The NFCA also recognizes the top ten academic teams (by overall GPA) each fall through its Top 10 Academic Team program. A complete list of this year’s recipients can be found at nfca.org.

Congratulations to the five honorees from Panhandle State and to the softball staff for their continued commitment to academic excellence.
Aggie fans are now offered an exciting opportunity to show off their Panhandle Pride while supporting specific fundraising goals set to aid in renovations for the Oscar Williams Field House/Carl Wooten Field Complex.

A longtime vision of Head Coach Russell Gaskamp, nicknamed “Gas,” has been to create an aesthetic passageway for the football team to enter the stadium on game days. Coach Gas is counting on loyal Aggie fans, alumni, families and friends to help turn his vision into reality by purchasing individual bricks which will pave the way for this year’s team and for generations of Aggies to come.

Each brick will be engraved with the donor’s name and/or a brief message; the collection of bricks purchased will be laid together to form a path of lasting legacy enhanced with native shrubbery and landscaping. The pathway will lead players from their locker rooms in the Oscar Williams Field House, through a spirited fan tailgate section and into the stadium at Carl Wooten Field.

These bricks make excellent gifts and are a great way to honor any Panhandle State letter-winners, alumni, retirees, fans or family members. In addition, donors will have the option of purchasing a replica brick to display in their home or office.

Bricks are on sale now with the goal of finishing the walkway in time for the Aggies’ first home game on Saturday, Oct. 1 vs. last year’s LSC Champion, Texas A&M-Commerce. Help Panhandle State football enter the Lone Star Conference with the pride and confidence that comes from knowing it has the full support of its Aggie Family.

Order forms and pricing information can be found by visiting the football page on the official website for Aggie athletics (opsuaggies.com); orders can also be placed directly through the brick vendor using the following link: www.polarengraving.com/OklahomaPanhandleStateUniversity.
One of Panhandle’s finest has completed an outstanding goal and has received her doctorate after many years of hard work. Dr. Sara Hitch has taught so many students here for the past 14 years and has left quite the impression on all of those who were lucky enough to have been instructed by her. Receiving her doctorate is just one more thing to add to the list of wonderful things she has done during her time here so far.

Dr. Sara Hitch was born in Stillwater, Oklahoma, but she has lived in many different places throughout her life. She went to Oklahoma State University for her undergraduate degree where she met her husband, Jason, and following their respective graduations from graduate school at the University of Oklahoma, the couple returned to the panhandle in 1998 for him to join his family’s business. In 2003, Sara was hired as an adjunct instructor teaching the business communications course. She mentions, “Dr. Manning hired me, and shortly thereafter, he was appointed to the position of VPAA. This left a part-time position available in the Department of Business Administration, which I gratefully accepted in 2003.” We are glad that she did, seeing as she has done such a great job all this time!

Sara Hitch had dreamt of pursuing a doctorate ever since she earned her master’s degree in 1996 but had given up on the idea when she and her husband returned to the panhandle sooner than they had originally anticipated. When she heard some of her colleagues talking about executive programs, she did some research and discovered the Executive Leadership Doctoral Program at The George Washington University. This program turned out to be a perfect fit for her needs.

“Because I was teaching at the time, my sole reason for pursuing my doctorate was to improve my abilities in the classroom,” says Dr. Sara Hitch. “I wanted to be able to provide more information and more background on the concepts we discuss in class. The courses that I took for my first two-and-a-half years of the program absolutely gave me that background, and I think the students have benefitted from that.” Any student at OPSU would agree with her and say that she is an incredibly knowledgeable instructor who is very passionate about sharing what she knows with those who are willing to learn.

“My favorite thing about working for OPSU is the sense of family that pervades the entire university. I am so fortunate to work with the faculty, staff and administrators that I do—they are all just amazing. But even more so, the students are fantastic, and that sense of family encompasses everyone involved at OPSU. Even when people disagree, it is obvious that everyone wants the best for everyone else. That is unusual in most work places.”

Among all of the hard work and dedication that it took to pull this feat off, Hitch had to face her struggles with very little contact with her doctoral committee. This was a huge undertaking! She counters, “That doesn’t mean that my committee wasn’t great—they absolutely were—but geography prevented much interaction. For example, several of my classmates in the program met monthly with their chairs and/or committee members. When I defended on June 14, it had been three years since I had seen my dissertation chair.” This makes her accomplishment all the more impressive! Dr. Sara Hitch is very excited to finally be done, and it is very clear that all of her hard work has paid off.

Dr. Sara Hitch is going to spend the next few years focusing on her teaching, PBL (the business club) and her family. Her son is now a junior, so she wants to be able to enjoy and share in his final two years in high school. She recently finished reviewing an article for the Journal of Family Business Management and hopes to be asked to do so again in the future. She will also consider publishing some of her own research findings. It has taken her nine years to complete the Ed.D., and she is very proud and pleased to have accomplished such a great achievement and finally be able to relax.
School may have been out for the summer, but that didn’t slow down OPSU’s Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) members as the group attended the 2016 PBL National Leadership Conference in Atlanta.

The group connected for a number of impressive performances including five individual and/or team top-10 finishes and a top-10 finish as a chapter at the four-day conference held June 24-27. Thousands of future business leaders were in attendance to compete in leadership events, share successes and learn new ideas about shaping their careers through workshops and exhibits.

Students competing for Panhandle State included Brian Martinez of Guymon, Oklahoma in Administrative Technologies and Help Desk; the team of Linden Robertson of New Orleans, Louisiana, and Kietta Saunders of Chicago, Illinois, in Business Law; Natasha Colpetzer of Guymon, Oklahoma in Client Service and Retail Management; the team of Brittany Bergner of Hooker, Oklahoma and Brittany Moore of Goodwell, Oklahoma, in Computer Animation; Madilyn Rider of Guymon, Oklahoma, in Computer Applications and Personal Finance; Tyler Bryant of Goodwell, Oklahoma, in Financial Concepts and Financial Services; Trey Fankhouser of Goodwell, Oklahoma, in Justice Administration and Small Business Management Plan; and Jocelynn Avalos of Guymon, Oklahoma, in Management Concepts. The group was accompanied by Sara Hitch and Davin Winger. President Dr. Tim Faltyn joined the group in Atlanta as well.

Top-ten finishes went to Brittney Bergner and Brittney Moore, third place in Computer Animation; Tyler Bryant, fourth place in Financial Concepts and fourth place in Financial Services; Natasha Colpetzer, sixth place in Client Service; and Trey Fankhouser, eighth place in Small Business Management Plan. As a chapter, OPSU’s PBL earned seventh place in the Local Chapter Annual Business Report.

Congratulations to this year’s PBL members on a job well done! The upcoming year promises to be just as exciting as the group looks to build on its tradition of excellence when classes start in August.
PANHANDLE STATE HOMECOMING

OCT. 15, 2016

8:30 am  Alumni Registration
9:30 am  Honored Family Tree Dedication
11 am    Homecoming Parade
11:30 am Alumni BBQ
1 pm     Aggie Football vs. WTAMU

We are Panhandle!

www.opsu.edu