

Eleven Oklahoma College Students Are Honored As Newman Civic Fellows by Campus Compact

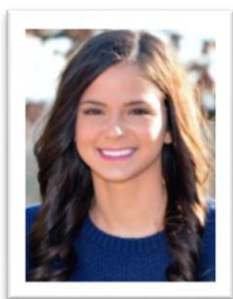
Eleven Oklahoma students were named 2015-16 Newman Civic Fellows by Campus Compact. The eleven students from Oklahoma are part of a group of 201 students from 36 states in the program, and were nominated by their college or university president as inspiring college student leaders who have demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country. The Newman Civic Fellows Award is named for Dr. Frank Newman, one of the founders of Campus Compact, who dedicated his life to creating opportunities for student civic learning and engagement.

With the Newman Civic Fellows Awards, college and university presidents acknowledge students with the ability and motivation to create lasting change in our communities. Through service, research, and advocacy, these Newman Civic Fellows are making the most of their college experiences to better understand themselves, the root causes of social issues, and effective mechanisms for creating lasting change. Each Newman Civic Fellow will receive a \$500 monetary scholarship award from Oklahoma Campus Compact and be invited to be recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education at their monthly meeting. The Fellows will be working with Oklahoma Campus Compact to extend service leadership opportunities to other students. For more information about the Newman Civic Fellows, visit www.compact.org.

2015-16 OKLAHOMA NEWMAN CIVIC FELLOWS

Ms. Carly Anderson, Connors State College

Carly Anderson, a student at Connors State College, is an exceptional leader and advocate for students with special needs. She saw a need for her special needs friends to interact with their peers and have a level of social acceptance in an area deemed essential – athletics. Many classmates would beg to play sports only to be told they were not allowed. Carly is extremely determined and found the support she needed to hold her first “Carly’s Champions for Life Day Camp.” Her passion and exceptional leadership skills created a level of engagement and commitment from volunteers at her high school and Connors State College and garnered numerous donations from community businesses to host a gymnasium full of special needs student athletes. Her potential for inspiring others and creating a continuing program is to be admired and respected. Carly will continue to grow and cultivate a spirit of community engagement at her higher education institutions, her workplace, and her community. She will create champions in the many lives she comes in contact with, not only the special needs people she has a heart for, but also the volunteers she engages.



-Tim Faltyn, President

Some people talk about doing something, and others “do” something about it. I have a friend who is autistic and strongly desires to play team sports each time a new season begins. I decided other students with special needs surely felt the same and founded Carly’s “Champions for Life” Day Camp. I approached area businesses and asked for donations and then came up with a budget for the day camp. I wanted each camper to have a t-shirt, a medal, and a drawstring bag. I involved my college, Connors State College, and they provided the drawstring bags and sent ambassadors from all student organizations to help cheer on the campers while they played the different sports such as basketball, kickball, and soccer. I coordinated with members of my local school organizations and my school’s faculty to assist with the camp. I delegated duties of coaching, being in

charge of games, and assisting with lunch. The day was a success, and the students had such fun while some even were sad to leave. My hope is for this day camp to be an annual event because there is a need for these children to have their day of fun and accomplishment!

-Carly Anderson

Ms. Roxanne Cobb, Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City

Roxanne Cobb, a Crime Victim/Survivor Services major at Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City, demonstrates unwavering support of those who are victims of crime. In addition to pursuing a career in victim services with the goal of becoming a victim's advocate, Roxanne volunteers countless hours to organizations and agencies that support crime victims, especially those of human trafficking. Roxanne works tirelessly on behalf of others, while at the same time maintaining a high GPA and being active on campus. Roxanne was elected by her peers to serve as vice chair of the Student Association for Victim Interests and Empowerment. Also this year, Roxanne demonstrated her leadership skills by organizing a Human Trafficking Awareness campus event to promote awareness of the atrocities of human trafficking to students, faculty and staff. She truly demonstrates purposive civic engagement as she focuses on making the world a better place.



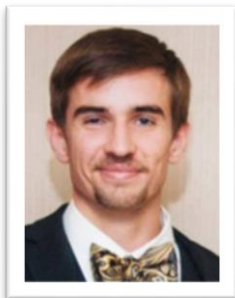
-Natalie Shirley, President

I am currently enrolled at OSU-OKC to complete my A.A.S in Crime Victim/Survivor Services. This will give me the foundation to start working as a victim's advocate. I also volunteer with Beautiful Dream Society (BDS), a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to fighting exploitation, instilling value, and empowering vulnerable people worldwide. I have worked over 150+ hours with BDS. I have also completed close to 60 hours of additional service learning hours with the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board as an intern. There I was able to learn more about the juridical side of what victims of crime endure. I will soon volunteer with The Spero Project, a Food Co-Operative which serves families in the Lyrewood Community and Tulakes Elementary School in Northwest Oklahoma City. With the Spero Project, I will be able to work directly within the community to assist those that live in our under-resourced neighborhoods.

-Roxanne Cobb

Mr. Christopher Dowling, University of Central Oklahoma

Christopher Dowling, a senior accounting major at the University of Central Oklahoma, has made a huge impact on campus. His tireless work on issues of hunger, food insecurity, and poverty has made a palpable impact on campus. His effort to help strengthen the food pantry on campus has made a difference in the lives of many students at UCO who rely on the pantry for a steady diet. He also realizes that the food pantry is a Band-Aid solution to the problem of poverty in the U.S. and, as such, Chris plans to use the skills he possesses as a leader and motivator to continue to build relationships and work to alleviate the impact of poverty.



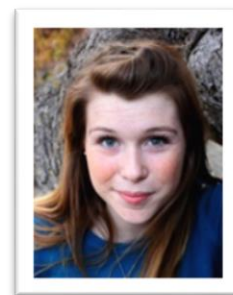
-Don Betz, President

I've been fortunate enough to have joined the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of OKC and developed a relationship with a young man who seems to have changed my life for the better. My time with Cameron reminds me that whether it be conquering 3rd grade or pursuing our career and other life goals, we're capable of far more than we think with a little faith in ourselves and the support of our friends. My relationship with the UCO VSLC has taught me the need for reflection in service learning. By better understanding our passions and abilities, we put ourselves and those around us in a better position to find a solution to the social injustices we've chosen to end.

-Christopher Dowling

Ms. Rhetta Farrill, East Central University

Rhetta Farrill is a social entrepreneur and a sophomore at East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma, where she has a history of identifying groups in need and then coming up with ways to improve their situations. She has led efforts and has also, as a volunteer, added greatly to the efforts of others. She is particularly interested in improving the welfare of children and her efforts have resulted in thousands of dollars' worth of aid to children. She has worked with several partner organizations to improve conditions for adults and families. Although only a sophomore, Rhetta is becoming recognized on the campus and in the community as an energetic, caring leader who can get things done. She leads by example and, whether she is leading a project or helping with one, no one works harder, longer or more effectively than she does.



Rhetta is an inspiration to those around her and, no doubt, will continue to be far into the future as she seeks to improve conditions for children and adults in need through her involvement and her efforts to get others involved.

-John Hargrave, President

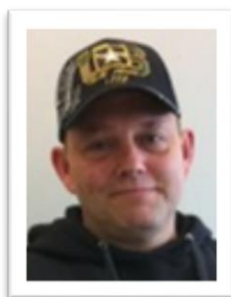
Since I was little, I have found joy in helping others. From staying after events to help clean up, to volunteering at anything I could find, I stayed busy from a young age. I carried on my passion for serving others into my collegiate life at East Central University. I worked with the Department of Human Services to organize a toy and book drive that engaged the community at a grassroots level and provided Christmas gifts to local foster children. I also am involved at ECU as the Secretary of the Business Leaders Association and an active member of Enactus. In addition to school volunteerism I have worked over 50 hours at our local soup kitchen, and I mentor at-risk youth at church on both Sundays and Wednesdays. As our churches J12 youth pastor I organize and participate in events and fundraisers for our ministry. I have also spearheaded two food drives that provided over 50 families with assistance over the holidays. I believe my studies in management will give me an education that I can give back to my community forever through a purpose-filled career and continuing to work to make my community an even brighter place.

-Rhetta Farrill

Mr. Michael Ferguson, Tulsa Community College

Michael Ferguson is a Human Services major at Tulsa Community College. He is compassionate, confident, and courageous in his endeavors to serve veterans. Michael has overcome many obstacles in his life and in his

service to our country. Michael's willingness to continue the battle to make the world a better place is inspiring to the whole community of TCC. He is a leader among the students and respected by faculty and staff. Community leaders admire his vision and tenacity in his quest to serve the underserved. Michael strongly believes his life was spared to make a difference. He has not strayed from this course even when powerful obstacles appeared in his path. Michael is the epitome of what it means to serve others. His spirit of perseverance and dedication to the helping profession is unsurpassed.



-Leigh Goodson PhD, President & CEO

I am a disabled veteran with a dream to enable other veterans to overcome drug and alcohol addiction. I want to help create positive change in veterans' lives. To facilitate this, I enrolled in the Alcohol and Chemical Dependency Program. I have assumed a leadership position in the Peer Mentoring office by providing encouragement and guidance to fellow Human Services students. I continue to coach new peer mentoring students and I am serving my second semester as TACKLE president. In that capacity, I administered a luncheon to the staff of Operation Hope Prison Ministries to thank them for their service to the community.

This spring we will do a project with the youth of Palmer Drug Abuse. I have participated in the Point in Time homeless count, NA, AA, and Celebrate Recovery meetings to understand the needs of the clients I will serve. An official with the Department of Corrections has encouraged me to lobby for legal exceptions for veterans so they may enter Veterans Treatment Court instead of prison. It was during an internship that a big dream formed in my heart to open a sober-living facility to assist veterans in trouble, coming out of prison and experiencing homelessness.

-Michael Ferguson

Ms. Josi Hasenauer, Northwestern Oklahoma State University

Hasenauer, a senior at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, exhibits outstanding campus and community involvement. She is serving as an AmeriCorps Tutor at Alva Middle School and will become a social sciences teacher after she graduates. She served as an intern for Senator Mike Johanns (Nebraska) in Washington D.C. this past summer and is passionate about investing time in the lives of students. She has adopted the motto of one conversation, one problem, one smile at a time to change the world.

-Janet Cunningham, President



When I was younger I always told my friends and family I was going to be President of the United States. I thought if I was President then I could change the world. I now know I don't need a title to change the world or a person's life. What I do everyday on campus, in schools, and in the community is change the world one conversation, one problem, one smile at a time. Through tutoring students at the middle school, I am changing lives of students by encouraging them to believe in themselves, work hard, find value in the little things (even the negatives count), and show them how fun learning can be. I am changing people's lives by investing my time and energy to support their dreams, see them for who they are, and listen to them. As we develop in this technological age we need to remember that just because we are more technically advanced does not replace the need for relationships with God, family, friends, and people. Not only does it make us emotionally and physically healthy, but also allows us to solve problems by going beyond a single person's ability.

-Josi Hasenauer

Mr. Raleigh Jobs, Rogers State University

Austin Jobs, a fourth year student at Rogers State University, is determined to lead others for the benefit of all. This year he will graduate with a degree in Medical/Molecular Biology, but his passion for social change and involvement is exemplified by his decision to pursue a master's in sociology. Austin leads by example, energetically and enthusiastically working for the improvement of local communities. He has been an active member of the President's Leadership Class the past four years, and as President this past year has deepened that organization's emphasis on community service. This has resulted in increased service to a number of existing community groups (directly addressing important issues), but has also helped prepare future leaders to focus on civic engagement. Austin has consistently demonstrated the potential to make significant contributions in the future while making a real difference today.



-Larry Rice, President

Growing up in small town rural Oklahoma gave little insight to common problems facing humanity and challenged little the civic moral duties I now feel obligated to. Through various classes, study abroad opportunities, and insightful discussions with professors, the naiveté washed away me eager to help create a brighter future for others. Through my undergraduate career, opportunities arose calling for action which

could not be ignored. I appreciate the opportunity to serve as vice president and then president of the President's Leadership Class (PLC). Leading the way in helping to restructure the PLC, we are now focused on applying students' time to civic engagement and solving social issues, which not only benefit community members directly, but also expands self-awareness in relation to the community. When discussing and directing volunteer opportunities with the group of 40 students, we are like our own small non-profit organization determined to make a difference. The community, students, and I have benefited from various civic engagements such as creating a Go Green Campaign supplying bikes for students to rent with proceeds donated and ecological initiatives in the community and with the on-campus 100-acre nature conservation, just to name two.

-Raleigh Jobes

Mr. Michael Larson, Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology

Michael has volunteered over 250 hours in Oklahoma for 4-H and FFA. In addition to this service, he works with the Ronald McDonald House, with the DHS adopt a snowflake program, and raises money for CHANGE for Change, an organization that raise money for underserved Oklahomans. He is dedicated to impacting society on a local, state, and national level. Through his work with 4-H, underprivileged Oklahomans and his willingness to help out classmates, Mr. Larson is a true representative of OSUIT and the spirit of a global technical education.

-Bill Path, President



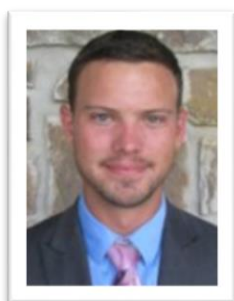
I believe in helping out my fellow citizens as such I planned Change for CHANGE! Every piece of change counts! It's simple; CHANGE the life of a child, family or research by collecting loose "change" at meetings, events and activities for the Oklahoma Children's Hospital Foundation. Our goal is to help the Foundation to raise the funds necessary to bring services to rural Oklahoma, think how many more youth can be served with something like loose change. It is my desire to give back to rural children through 4-H, FFA, and supporting underserved populations.

-Michael Larson

Mr. Tyler Parette, Oklahoma Christian University

Tyler Parette's commitment to making our world a better place is evident in all he does. He is brilliant, articulate, thoughtful, a strong leader, and lives a life of character. Through his highly coveted internship at the Oklahoma Public Policy Institute, Tyler is serving on the front lines of addressing the most important social issues of our time. In addition, Tyler has made sure throughout his college career that he is equipped and ready to tackle these issues by proactively seeking countless internships, study-abroad opportunities, prestigious scholarships, and organizational leadership positions. He has armed himself with the skills necessary to be a powerful force for good in our society, and we have no doubt that he will be tremendously successful in this aspiration.

-John deSteiguer, President



It is hard to put into words how much I have grown in the past four years. My college career has shaped me in ways I could never imagine. I have been afforded opportunities to travel the world, to experience other cultures, to study at leading institutions, and to learn from distinguished educators. These opportunities have encouraged me to think critically and take an active role in my education. I have made it a personal goal to make the most out of my education by supplementing classroom time with experiences that have helped me directly apply my studies. I have an internship with a leading political think tank and currently spend half of each week at the State Capitol engaged in the political process. This

experience has served to strengthen my understanding of how the political process works and continues to provide connections and opportunities for my pursuits after graduation. I have learned to search for ways to engage and interact with as many people as possible, and in turn as many ideas and worldviews as possible. This intentionality has certainly provided a platform from which I can carry a lifestyle of learning into my future.

-Tyler Parette

Ms. Kristen Ryan, Rose State College

Kristen Ryan is a student leader that impacts not only Rose State College, but the entire community in which she lives. In addition to serving the college as a President's Leadership Scholar and executive member of the student senate, Kristen has also devoted her life to assisting individuals with limited resources. Last summer, Kristen decided to move out of her own home and live amongst the community in a depilated apartment complex. Kristen created programming to engage the children who were left alone all day and served as a mentor, making herself available at all times. Through her experience, she realized that distributing canned goods, coats, and shoes may help provide for a temporary need but most importantly, children with scarce resources need to be loved and invested in daily. Kristen Ryan is a woman of great character –honest, hardworking and genuine. She is an exceptional student, speaker, advocate, and difference maker and has never wavered in her dedication, her passion and her ambition for service to others. She is dedicated to making a difference in the world by making her community a stronger place.



-Jeanie Webb, President

A Newman Civic Fellow should be represented by only the most motivated, service-oriented and well-rounded students this nation has to offer. I am one of those students. Even before the leadership opportunities I have had since entering college, I sought out leadership roles, not for the sake of honoring myself, but for the sake of benefitting and advancing the whole. From being the captain of my high school drum line to being the Worship Leader at my church and serving as the secretary of the National Honor Society, I began recognizing my potential to lead people to success in causes worth pursuing. Upon entering college, I was awarded a Leadership Scholarship which has opened innumerable doors for me to exercise leadership on my campus. Beyond that, however, taking all of the qualities associated with an effective leader about which I have been learning, I have been blessed with opportunities to act as a leader in my community, such as in leading bible studies for underprivileged children living in OKC and leading groups of prospective teachers at literacy promotion events at elementary schools in my area. I consider every opportunity to serve others as another stone in my path.

-Kristen Ryan

Ms. Addi Shamburg, Northern Oklahoma College



Addi Shamburg, a student leader at Northern Oklahoma College, shares her battle with Hodgkin's Lymphoma, a cancer that attacks the immune system, in an effort to educate audiences ranging from elementary students to community leaders. Her servant's heart and propensity for public speaking have started a revolution of cancer awareness coupled with ADDitude at our college and across northwest Oklahoma. Despite lengthy stints at M.D. Anderson during the school year, Addi has returned to spread the word about cancer. She informs about the disease's ability to strike at any age and the physical battles she fights on a daily basis. More importantly, Addi advocates that the disease can be battled with a positive ADDitude. Her positive thinking has forever transformed and

united our community in the fight against cancer. We have been rallied to action by one young woman's efforts to educate and inspire others who might encounter cancer on life's path.

-Cheryl Evans, President

Since being diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma, I have had a passion for sharing my story with the community around me. I have spoken and walked at Enid's Relay for Life, sharing my story to get people involved with cancer awareness and how it can affect everyone. I continue to bring my story to my college campus. Because of my efforts to bring cancer awareness to NOC, students have realized the importance of the campus blood drives and I have been featured in a recent VYPE magazine article. My local church, Emmanuel Baptist, has also come along beside me in my fight and allowed me to share my story through a self-written poem in a Sunday service. A video of the performance has spread across the internet and has been viewed by thousands. Through this journey I hope to continue to advocate for young adults fighting cancer.

-Addi Shamburg

educating citizens · building communities



Pictured above: Seven of the 11 Newman Civic Fellows for 2015 were present to be honored by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education at the State Regents' April meeting. From left to right (front row): Josi Hasenauer, Northwestern Oklahoma State University; Kristen Ryan, Rose State College; Roxanne Cobb, Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City; and Carly Anderson, Connors State College; (back row): Christopher Dowling, University of Central Oklahoma; Michael Ferguson, Tulsa Community College; and Rhetta Farrill, East Central University. Not pictured: Raleigh Jobes, Rogers State University; Michael Larson, Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology; Tyler Parette, Oklahoma Christian University; and Addi Shamburg, Northern Oklahoma College.