

#### FY23 PRESIDENT'S REPORT NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

## Message from the President

Dear Friends and Supporters of Northeastern State University,

I am thrilled to address you as the new President of Northeastern State University and to present the highlights of our remarkable achievements over the past fiscal year in this President's Report. It is an immense honor to engage with our valued donors, influencers, legislators, state regents, university partners and our NSU community.

NSU recently launched a new strategic plan affirming our commitment to our people, our place and our purpose. In the coming months and years, we will embark on an exciting journey together, focusing on key initiatives that can be found within the new strategic plan.

There will be considerable challenges ahead, but the opportunities to advance our essential institution are significant, and I want to invite everyone to be part of it. I strongly believe that collaboration and open communication are integral to our collective success. I look forward to engaging with each of you and hearing your ideas, concerns and aspirations for NSU.

In our journey towards excellence, I am proud to share with you a comprehensive overview of our financials and some at-a-glance statistics. This transparency underscores our commitment to responsible stewardship, assuring you that your support is well-invested in our shared mission.

A defining moment of the previous year was the graduation of our inaugural class of Physician Assistant Studies graduates. Their success is a testament to the dedication of our students and faculty, as well as our unwavering commitment to delivering top-tier education and healthcare services for Oklahoma and beyond.

Another significant accomplishment was securing a grant to establish a childcare center on our Broken Arrow campus. This initiative reflects our dedication to supporting the diverse needs of our students, ensuring that our campus remains inclusive and supportive.

We take immense pride in supporting the educational journey of our new Ukrainian Regional University of Oklahoma System scholarship recipient. Her presence enriches our campus community and serves as a testament to NSU's global perspective and dedication to transforming lives through education.

The inauguration of our new Center for Tribal Studies space, accompanied by an expansion of our programming, is a pivotal step in our mission to enhance the academic experience of our American Indian students in a supportive environment that values their cultural heritage.

The year also marked a record-breaking period for scholarships. Your generous contributions and the dedication of our scholarship committees have made education accessible to countless individuals who aspire to learn and thrive at NSU.

Another momentous event was the ribbon-cutting celebration for the renovation of Seminary Hall and the opening of our new museum. These projects embody our dedication to preserving our historical legacy for generations to come.

One of the most exciting developments was the groundbreaking ceremony for the nearly \$40 million NSU Oklahoma College of Optometry complex. This ambitious project signifies our growth and innovation in the fields of education and healthcare, promising transformative opportunities for our students, faculty and those we serve for future generations.

Lastly, our 50th Symposium on the American Indian continues to be a cornerstone of our commitment to understanding and celebrating the rich cultural heritage of Indigenous peoples. The Symposium reflects our dedication to promoting dialogue and scholarship on these vital issues.

I am inspired by the accomplishments of the past year, and I am committed to leading Northeastern State University toward even greater heights. We are already off to a great start for FY24 and are estimating more than \$10 million in new grants supporting need areas from classroom activities to facilities. We have a bright future ahead, and I invite you to stay engaged and anticipate more exciting developments and achievements from NSU in the years to come.

Your steadfast support is integral to our success, and I thank you for your dedication to Northeastern State University. Together, we will continue to make a meaningful impact on the lives of our students and the communities we serve.

With enthusiasm and gratitude, Dr. Rodney Hanley

President Northeastern State University



# Northeastern State University President's Report FY23

- **4** Northeastern State University breaks ground on new home for Oklahoma College of Optometry
- 6 NSU celebrates restored Seminary Hall and new museum with ribbon cutting
- 8 NSU Foundation awards record-setting \$1.1M in scholarships in 2022
- **10** NSU at a glance
- **12** NSU cuts ribbon on new Center for Tribal Studies space
- **14** NSU confers degrees for inaugural class of physician assistant studies program
- **16** NSU welcomes Ukrainian student to campus on RUSO scholarship
- **17** Little Rowdy Child Care Center serves NSU student parents
- **18** NSU Symposium on the American Indian celebrates 50 years in 2023
- **19** Northeastern State University offers new pathway to river-based careers

**20** Fiscal Year 2023

#### - Board of Regents -



Susan Winchester









Gary Parker



**Connie Reilly** 









**Ryan Walters** 





Dr. Steve Turner NSU President Term ended July 2023



Dr. Rodney Hanley NSU President Term began August 2023



Dr. Debbie Landry Provost & VP Academic Affairs Term ended June 2023



Dr. Carla Swearingen Provost & VP Academic Affairs Term began July 2023



Dr. Jerrid Freeman VP Student Affairs



VP Administration & Finance



Dan Mabery VP University Relations

#### - President's Executive Council -



Matt Cochran Director of Athletics Term ended June 2023



John Sisemore Director of Athletics Term began July 2023



Peggy Glenn Director of Development



Dr. Nathan Green James Bell Faculty Council President Public Safety Representative



**Red Walker** Staff Council Chair



Special Assistant to

the President



**Chelbie Turtle** Northeastern Student Government Assoc. President

3



## Northeastern breaks ground on new home for **Oklahoma College of Optometry**

This summer Northeastern State University broke ground on the new Oklahoma College of Optometry facility. The long-awaited celebration marks the next step in the college's mission to better serve students and patients in the years to come. NSUOCO is the only optometry college in the state and one of only 24 in the nation.

Current plans for the project include creating an 85,000-square-foot complex-nearly triple the amount of usable space at the existing facility-to house additional exam lanes, labs, classrooms, clinical conference rooms, seminar rooms, an auditorium and optical shop.

It is the most expensive construction project in NSU history at a projected cost of \$39.3 million and only reached this point thanks to years of planning and support from across the state and community. NSU officials discussed finding a new home for the Oklahoma College of Optometry back in 2016 to better address space needs for the growing program. Efforts to find facilities to better accommodate the program led to NSU officials launching the "Building Excellence: A Vision for the Future" fundraising campaign in 2021.

Since launching the fundraising campaign, NSU has secured support from various stakeholders to help make the new home a reality. This includes, but is not limited to, the Oklahoma House of Representatives and Senate, the Cherokee Nation, the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, Cherokee County Commissioners and private donations from faculty, staff, alumni and other friends of the university. A longtime partner to the Cherokee Nation, NSUOCO has served as the eye care provider for the Cherokee Nation since the college's founding in 1979. This longstanding partnership means NSUOCO students, residents and faculty are able to experience thousands of immersive learning encounters each year while providing state-of-the-art care to a diverse and often underserved population.

The new facility will complement other comprehensive and specialty services ongoing at the various NSUOCO clinics throughout Green Country. NSUOCO and Cherokee Nation officials also look forward to increasing optometric care to patients through the creation of this new optometry facility.

Excitement for the new facility is shared across the campus community, from alumni of both NSU and NSUOCO to current undergraduate students. While the new building will surely be impressive with its updated designs and amenities, the NSU community knows that its impact will reach far beyond the facility's walls.

To support the new home for the NSUOCO facility, visit *nsugiving.com/OCOVision*. For more information on the College of Optometry visit *optometry.nsuok.edu*.





## NSU celebrates restored Seminary Hall & new with ribbon cutting

This spring, the Northeastern State University family, the Cherokee Nation and citizens of Tahlequah were united in mind, body and spirit to celebrate the renovation of Oklahoma's oldest symbol of higher education-Seminary Hall.

A visual reminder to future descendants and students of the Cherokee Nation's commitment and sacrifice to provide higher education, Seminary Hall now features a new museum showcasing the longstanding history between the institution and its Cherokee founders-from its humble beginnings as the Cherokee National Female Seminary and through its evolution as a teacher's college and present-day comprehensive university.

More than a century after founding the original Cherokee National Female Seminary, the Cherokee Nation has continued to support higher education at what is now NSU through a number of initiatives including its \$4 million contribution to help preserve Seminary Hall for future learners-seven generations and beyond.

The ribbon cutting symbolized a new chapter in Seminary Hall's storied history of serving students seeking an education. In addition to housing the new museum, building is now providing updated academic and administrative office spaces to better serve the Northeastern campus and surrounding community for years to come.



museum



7

## NSU Foundation awards record-setting \$1.1M in scholarships in 2022

For the third consecutive year, the Northeastern State University Foundation set a new record for funds raised to support privately funded scholarships for NSU students in a calendar year.

For 2022, the foundation awarded 1,183 scholarships to NSU students totaling an all-time record amount of \$1,187,518 in awards.

NSU Foundation Executive Director Peggy Glenn said that the NSU Foundation was able to award 15.4% more in privately funded scholarships than last year's recordbreaking amount of \$1.028 million.

This is the second time in school history that the NSU Foundation surpassed \$1 million in scholarship awards. The average value of an NSU Foundation scholarship in 2022 also increased to \$1,004. Glenn said this is the first time the average has exceeded \$1,000. The prior high was \$886 in 2019.

Glenn said NSU students range from the traditional residential student who came to college immediately after high school to military veterans seeking a degree to parents who are pursuing their dream career. Each one of them has overcome multiple obstacles to attend college and a scholarship from the NSU Foundation helps them overcome one of the biggest hurdles.

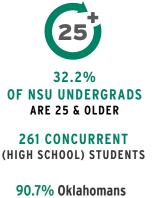
With assets exceeding \$41.5 million, the NSU Foundation offers donors, including NSU employees, a tax-deductible way to provide support for students through either endowed or annually funded scholarships.

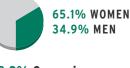






#### STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS





48.2% Caucasian 13.3% Two or More Races 21.2% American Indian 6.9% Hispanic

4.7% African American

2.6% Asian

3.1% Unknown/Other

Unduplicated headcount

## 

Source: Institutional Effectiveness; Academic Year 2021-2022 unless otherwise noted

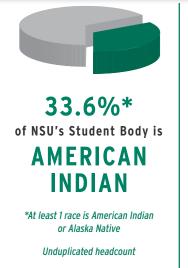
#### **#1 FOR NATIVE AMERICAN ENROLLMENT\***

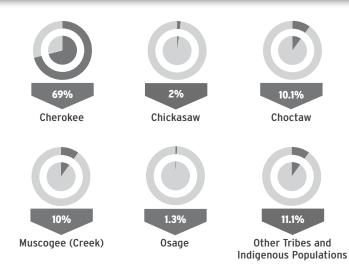
Winds of Change 2022-2023 Special College Issue; \*Undergraduate & Graduate

**NSU RANKED #2** 

AMONG FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES CONFERRING **BACHELOR'S DEGREES TO** 

**AMERICAN INDIANS\*** 





Duplicated headcount



\$7.94 MILLION FOR SCHOLARSHIPS **& FEE WAIVERS** 

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 E&G Budget; Excludes NSU Foundation Scholarships



89% OF 2020-21 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS **RECEIVED FINANCIAL AID** 



555 STUDENTS USING **VA EDUCATION BENEFITS** 





8,098 **STUDENTS ON 3 CAMPUSES & ONLINE** Unduplicated headcount

#### STUDENTS TAKING AT LEAST **ONE COURSE AT** Duplicated headcount

Tahlequah Muskogee Broken Arrow Online 6.446 1.281 4.572 7.023

#### **DEGREES & CERTIFICATES OFFERED**

- 62 **Undergraduate Degrees** 19 Undergraduate Certificates
- 26 Graduate Degrees
- 25 Graduate Certificates
- 1 **Professional Degree** (Doctorate of Optometry)

#### TOP 5 UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS

Psychology, B.S. **Business Administration, B.B.A.** Health & Human Performance, B.S.

Elementary Education, B.S. Ed. General Studies, B.G.S.

#### **TOP 5 GRADUATE MAJORS**

»

»

»

»

»

»

»

»

**Business Administration, M.B.A.** Nursing, M.S.N. Counseling, M.S.

**Special Education - Autism** Spectrum Disorders, M.Ed. School Administration, M.Ed.

### 120 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS REPRESENTING 41 COUNTRIES

»



- Australia
- Belaium »
- The Bahamas »
- Brazil >> Canada »
- China »
- Columbia »
- Dominican Republic
  - **Ethiopia**
  - France

- Germanv
- Ghana Great Britain »
- Greenland »
  - Honduras Hong Kong
- » India »

»

»

»

»

- Iran »
- Japan » Jersey »

»

Jordan

Kazakhstan » Kenya »

Kyrgyzstan

Netherlands

Nigeria

Mexico

Poland

New Zealand »

- Sweden Tanzania
- **Trinidad & Tobago**
- Uganda »
  - Ukraine
- Venezuela »
- Vietnam
  - South Africa
- Zimbabwe >>
- »
- Rwanda Saudi Arabia
- Spain
- » »

»

- - 11 PRESIDENT'S REPORT | FY23

## NSU cuts ribbon on new Center for Tribal

Northeastern State University, tribal leaders and community members gathered this summer to cut a ribbon on the next chapter in the Center for Tribal Studies' history of serving NSU students.

Thanks to support from the Cherokee Nation, the center is now centrally located and in an updated space to allow staff to better serve American Indian students and increase collaboration between the Cherokee Nation and other tribal-serving organizations.

This is the first time since the center was created 33 years ago that the main office will be located on campus. The center was previously housed in the Zoe Davis House and Bacone House and is now located in the NSU University Center basement on the Tahlequah campus.



## Studies space

The Cherokee Nation donated \$300,000 in support of renovating space in the NSU University Center to move the Center for Tribal Studies to a centralized area on campus. Of this donation, \$200,000 was dedicated to construction and NSU matched that investment amount for the new space. The remaining \$100,000 of Cherokee Nation's donation is being used to support immersive learning opportunities for students in the coming year.

The new location is a permanent space to house CTS staff and any potential grant-funded positions geared towards supporting Indigenous students. It also provides a space for Native-focused student organizations to meet and host activities and allow external partners to better serve students by hosting office hours on campus. Along with office space, other features include a student lounge, cubicles and a conference room equipped with a Zoom cart.

In addition to cutting the ribbon on the new space, a new logo for the Center for Tribal Studies was unveiled at the event.



## NSU confers degrees for inaugural class of physician assistant studies program

In 2020, Northeastern State University welcomed 20 physician assistant studies students into the program's inaugural cohort. In December 2022, that class graduated from the program and began their healthcare careers.

Northeastern officials regarded the graduation of the first class of physician assistants as a celebratory moment not only for the institution but the region as the institution seeks to improve healthcare in northeastern Oklahoma.

According to NSU Physician Assistant Studies Program Director Mark Perdue, this first class showed a lot of fortitude and determination to complete their education despite starting during a pandemic.

Since its launch, the program has continued to grow year-to-year with administrators making plans to celebrate another important milestone– the next PAS class receiving their white coats, a special moment for aspiring physician assistants symbolizing their transition to the clinical phase of their degree.

The institution added the graduate-level program as part of a broader university plan to develop and implement programming that provides a direct benefit to the regional needs of northeastern Oklahoma.

The NSU PAS program is addressing rural healthcare needs by bolstering its workforce with trained physician assistants, working in concert with regional partners to meet many of the regional and statewide healthcare challenges our communities face.

With rural Oklahoma experiencing a healthcare shortage, it is part of the program's mission to provide physician assistants to serve this region and underserved populations, such as American Indians. NSU graduates are being encouraged to stay and work within the region.



Touting a combined 100 years of clinical medicine, the program's faculty are passionate about medical education and work closely with community leaders in the healthcare industry to provide instruction to better address the shortage of workers in rural Oklahoma.

NSU has partnered with entities such as the Cherokee Nation and other organizations to provide students with excellent clinical rotation sites. Through these partnerships' students are able to receive first-hand exposure to Indian health and rural medicine. In fact, Purdue notes many of the students in the 2022 cohort are pursuing career opportunities with partners in American Indian health and rural medicine.

The NSU PAS curriculum consists of 75 credit hours in the didactic year housed on NSU's Muskogee campus and 35 credit hours in the clinical phase of training conducted through regional medical centers including Northeastern Health System, the Cherokee Nation, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Northeastern Oklahoma Community Health Centers and Saint Francis Health System.

## NSU welcomes Ukrainian student to campus on RUSO scholarship

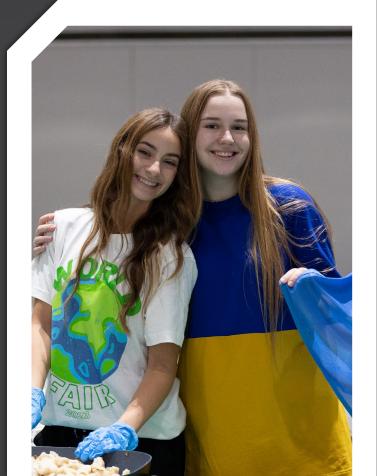
After the Russian invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, 2022, Kharkiv native Mariia Artemova said her life was divided into two periods: life before and after the invasion.

Just 11 months after, Northeastern State University welcomed Artemova as the institution's first recipient of a Regional University System of Oklahoma scholarship for Ukrainians who have been severely impacted of displace by the conflict.

The scholarship covers tuition and room and board for eligible undergraduate students. If the student meets university admission standards, the scholarship will cover costs for undergraduate degrees and on-campus residences.

Artemova is currently working toward her bachelor's degree in business administration at NSU. She recognizes the importance of Ukrainians receiving training and education during these tough times and is working on doing just that during her time on campus. For her, education is an essential component of a promising peaceful and prosperous future.

NSU hopes this scholarship program facilitated by RUSO will give a welldeserved opportunity to students who are facing unimaginable challenges.



## Little Rowdy Child Care Center serves NSU student parents

The Northeastern State University Broken Arrow campus began offering childcare services to students this year as part of a broader effort to make completing a postsecondary degree easier.

The Little Rowdy Child Care Center offers drop-in child care service for children ages 8 weeks to 8 years old Monday through Thursday for NSU-Broken Arrow students.

NSU was able to use federal grant funds to meet this requested need. The U.S. Department of Education awarded the NSU-Broken Arrow campus a four-year grant totaling around \$500,000 through its Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program (CCAMPIS) to create the Little Rowdy Child Care Center.

Many of the students who take courses at the Broken Arrow campus are non-traditional and commuters. In order to provide a more flexible class schedule for their students, several classes at the Broken Arrow campus are offered in the evening. However, that is also when traditional child care services are typically unavailable, creating a daunting hurdle for some students seeking to finish their degree.

Students interested in participating in the CCAMPIS program must be Pell Grant eligible and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the academic year. The CCAMPIS program also provides additional services for children such as reading and/or math tutoring available in Broken Arrow at the campus' literacy and math centers.

NSU is proud to offer resources like the Little Rowdy Child Care Center to make higher education more accessible to students.







### NSU Symposium on the American Indian celebrates 50 years in 2023

This April, Northeastern State University's annual Symposium on the American Indian marked 50 years of scholarship, broadening perspectives, community building, diversity and culture since the annual symposium and gatherings of Native American knowledge-carriers began at NSU.

Starting half a century ago, the annual Symposium on the American Indian at NSU began as a conference

bringing together Native American scholars to examine historic and contemporary topics such as sovereignty, Native language revitalization, health and social well-being and more.

Over the years, it has evolved and expanded to a full week of events welcoming individuals from all demographics including K-12 and college students, educators, professionals and community members and attracting visitors from across the United States and internationally each year.

For its 50th anniversary, the symposium theme was "Envisioning Indigenous Futurity" which offered Native participants an opportunity to reflect upon their past, evaluate the present and look forward to the future with hope.

The theme explored the concepts of futurity within a variety of disciplines, including history, cultural anthropology, leadership, Tribal sovereignty, research, sustainability and community development, among others.

Keynote speakers for the 50th Symposium on the American Indian included Dr. Doug Kiel (Oneida Nation), Dr. Miranda Belarde-Lewis (Zuni Pueblo/Tlingit) and Dr. Laura Harjo (Mvskoke).

Additional speakers shared their Indigenous perspectives on various disciplines, in workshops, demonstrations, a fashion show and more. The symposium concluded with the annual NSU powwow on the final day.

Funding for this program was provided in part by a grant from the Oklahoma Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities. This project was also supported in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council, which receives support from the State of Oklahoma and the National Endowment for the Arts.

#### Northeastern State University offers new pathway to river-based careers

Students passionate about river science, recreation and conservation at Northeastern State University are one step closer to landing their dream river careers.

Thanks to a partnership with the River Management Society, NSU undergraduate and graduate studies will have the opportunity to earn a River Studies and Leadership Certificate. The certificate helps prepare students for a variety of river-based careers through interdisciplinary coursework, hands-on professional experience and opportunities to meet and learn from current river professionals. Students will get to explore and study river systems in ways that integrate the life and earth sciences, policy and conservation, socio-cultural and economic factors, education and recreation.

Students participating in the RSLC program will receive a free one-year membership to RMS, which includes a subscription to the RMS Journal and access to national and regional river trips and virtual and in-person workshops. Students will share their river-related work at the RMS Symposium or by publishing an article in the RMS Journal.

The certificate naturally complements the existing Freshwater Science and Fish and Wildlife degrees currently offered in the Department of Natural Sciences and may interest students in other programs such as geography, criminal justice and recreation.

Officials believe the partnership will yield opportunities for students to connect with state and federal agencies and both nonprofit and private sector leaders that will further students' expertise and may open doors to professional river careers.

## FISCAL YEAR 2023

#### Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

Allocations	FY 2023	FY 2022
Operating Revenues	58,568	55,503
Employee Compensation & Benefits	66,210	67,337
Depreciation Expense	11,513	9,975
Other Operating Expense	32,769	44,216
Operating Income (loss)	(51,924)	(66,025)
Federal, State & Local Grants	22,372	39,789
State Appropriations	29,831	28,880
On Behalf Payments, Gifts, Investments & Interest Expenses	1,773	983
Capital Gifts	0	0
State Appropriations for Capital Purposes	1,477	1,915
Change in Net Position	3,529	5,542
Net Position, Beginning of Year	162,167	156,625
Net Position, End of Year	165,696	162,167

The following is a graphical representation of the sources of NSU's revenue. State appropriations are 28% of total NSU revenue, student tuition and fees 33%, grants and financial aid revenue 23%, and Auxiliary operations and other sources make up the remaining 16%. Operating expenses include employee compensation, student scholarships, depreciation, other necessary supplies and service expenses. For fiscal year 2023 operating expenses decreased \$11 million.

This change is a result of an increase in depreciation of \$1.5 million, contractual services of \$1.4 million, utilities of \$.3 million, and communication expenses \$.2 million and decreases in scholarships and fellowships of \$9.3 million, supplies and materials of \$2.6 million, other operating expenses of \$1.4 million, and employee compensation of \$1.1 million.

Change in net position reflects net income or loss for the year. The change in net income for fiscal year 2023 is an increase of \$3.5 million.

