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2017

## A Record Year

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# A RECORD YEAR

The last year has been a resounding success at the OU College of Law. By earning a number of achievements and honors, the college continues to make meaningful progress on its path of excellence. Each of these accolades is individually impressive, but they're even more remarkable in the aggregate.

## OKLAHOMA BAR EXAM RESULTS – JULY TEST RESULTS

First-Time Takers	2014	2015	2016	2017	Overall	2014	2015	2016	2017
OU	91%	90%	85%	95%	OU	88%	87%	82%	93%
OCU	78%	58%	67%	77%	OCU	75%	53%	61%	71%
Tulsa	87%	75%	82%	93%	Tulsa	80%	71%	71%	90%
Statewide Total	84%	74%	74%	87%	Statewide Total	79%	68%	68%	81%
<b>OU v. Statewide</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>OU v. Statewide</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>12%</b>

Source: Oklahoma Board of Bar Examiners

**95%**

**BAR EXAM  
PASSAGE RATE**

for first-time exam takers  
– the highest in the state

Oklahoma Board of Bar Examiners

The OU College of Law again leads the state in bar passage rates. OU Law graduates achieved a 95 percent pass rate on the July 2017 bar exam for first-time exam takers, eclipsing the statewide first-time average by 8 percent and marking OU's highest first-time bar passage rate in the last seven years.

A total of 89 OU alumni took the exam. The overall passage rate for OU graduates was 93 percent, exceeding the statewide overall pass rate by 12 percent.

"OU Law's perennial achievements on the Oklahoma Bar Exam are a testament to our emphasis on admitting well-prepared and academically-qualified students and their education experience at OU Law," said Dean Joe Harroz. "Our graduates' performance exceeded the statewide average in every category, making clear the amount of hard work they put into bar preparation."

The chart to the left provides some historical data and reflects the delta between the OU scores and the statewide average.

**TOP 10**

**BEST VALUE  
LAW SCHOOL  
IN THE NATION**

*National Jurist*

The OU College of Law has been ranked 10th in the nation out of more than 200 law schools as a "Best Value" law school, according to *National Jurist* magazine. OU Law is the only Oklahoma law school in the top 25.

"At the OU College of Law, we are humbled by this recent distinction, and we are proud of our students and alumni for their achievements," Harroz said. "Together with other recent accolades, this honor demonstrates how OU Law is elevating the standard of excellence while providing the highest quality legal education at a reasonable price for our students."

In its methodology for the Best Value rankings, *National Jurist* based its findings on several factors, including percentage of graduates who pass the bar exam, employment rate, tuition, cost of living and average indebtedness upon graduation.

# NO. 2

## MOOT COURT COMPETITION PROGRAM IN THE NATION

*The Blakely Advocacy Institute*



In the latest Blakely Advocacy Institute’s annual ranking of Moot Court Programs, OU Law jumped 12 spots to No. 2 in the nation. This marks the fifth consecutive year the OU College of Law has been ranked in the top 20 schools in the country, with the latest ranking representing the college’s highest placement in school history.

“At OU Law, we are committed to providing our students with a world-class legal education, and part of that includes exposing them to moot court competitions. Our students’ tenacity and drive to succeed is inspiring, and the faculty and alumni support we have for our competitions program is outstanding,” Harroz said.

For more about the recent successes of OU’s competition teams, see page 41.

# TOP 20

## MOST INNOVATIVE LAW SCHOOL

*preLaw Magazine*



As noted in this issue’s cover story (page 2), *preLaw Magazine* recently named OU Law one of the Top 20 Most Innovative Law Schools in the nation.

In its list, the magazine featured law schools across the country that have implemented innovative approaches to provide their graduates a competitive edge in the legal marketplace. OU Law’s Digital Initiative was highlighted in the publication for its integration of technology and digital tools in the legal educational experience at OU Law.

- **FIRST LAW SCHOOL IN THE NATION to launch a Digital Initiative**
- **8,000-SQUARE-FOOT Inasmuch Foundation Collaborative Learning Center**
- **70+ individual tech training programs offered annually**



Named an  
**APPLE  
DISTINGUISHED  
SCHOOL**  
FOR 2017-2019

Apple, Inc.

In recognition of the college's groundbreaking Digital Initiative, OU Law has been named an Apple Distinguished School for 2017-2019.

"As the first law school in the nation to launch a college-wide Digital Initiative, our students are immersed in technology and trainings from day one," Harroz said. "The selection of OU Law as an Apple Distinguished School provides tangible evidence of our incredible success in creating an innovative learning environment that equips our students for the modern practice of law."

Apple Distinguished Schools are centers of innovation, leadership and educational excellence that use technology to inspire creativity, collaboration and critical thinking. They showcase innovative uses of technology in learning and teaching and have documented results of academic accomplishment.

**100%**  
OF 1L CLASS  
PLEDGES  
PRO BONO  
SERVICE



Every year at orientation, OU Law asks every student in the incoming 1L class to sign a voluntary pro bono and public service pledge. Students can choose to pledge either 50 hours or 100 hours of pro bono and public service over the course of their law school career.

In the current 1L class (Class of 2020), a record 100 percent of students signed the pledge, with nearly two-thirds of those students committing to 100 hours.

The OU College of Law has an incredible tradition of students performing pro bono and public service work during law school. Last academic year, OU Law students provided a record 23,333 hours of pro bono service, shattering the previous record by more than 6,000 hours. Since 2004, OU Law students have reported more than 125,000 pro bono hours. |SL|