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AGRICULTURE



NEW FRONTIERS UPDATE February 2024

This year is off to a bustling start as we anticipate the completion of our new headquarters this summer, the grand opening in the fall and the opportunities it will provide for our OSU Agriculture family. In addition to the excitement of New Frontiers, we've had two inspiring developments that will elevate OSU Agriculture and its three mission areas of teaching, research and Extension.

First, the Oklahoma State University/A&M Board of Regents approved a request to draft construction plans for new facilities at the OSU Agronomy Research Station, home to the university's renowned wheat improvement program. The OSU agronomy farm, located on the west side of campus along Highway 51, is a historic facility that houses one of the top wheat breeding programs in the world. The project's first phase will involve selecting architectural and construction management firms to assist with the design and construction of new greenhouses and a headhouse at the site. The board approved \$10 million for this initial phase. The grand

These initial steps for the agronomy farm are a necessity as many of its structures were built 60 years ago, and the facilities need modernizing to position the wheat breeding team to continue its outstanding scientific and economic impacts. When we talk about our efforts at OSU to feed and nourish the world, it starts at the agronomy farm and is led by the wheat improvement team. Economically, wheat is the most important crop in Oklahoma, and the state's harvest feeds people all over the United States and world. Some of the university's earliest research began in 1892 and continues to this day at the experimental wheat field plots named after A.C. Magruder, our very first professor of agriculture. It is among the oldest research of its kind in the United States. That speaks volumes about our commitment to agricultural research and our land-grant mission.

Second, Jerome Loughridge, senior vice president of system operations for OSU, announced during the OSU Extension biennial conference last month that the university will ask the Oklahoma legislature for \$50 million this year and next to support various initiatives across OSU Extension and OSU Ag Research.

With the presence of OSU Extension in all 77 counties, this funding supports the university's strategy to serve the state as a preeminent land-grant university. It also helps to reinvest in agricultural experiment and research stations, as well as modernize and re-invigorate the Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center.

These dynamic developments align with OSU Agriculture's strategic vision to prioritize agriculture in the state, propel our agricultural research reputation, and improve lives and communities across Oklahoma.



Jayson Lusk
Vice President and Dean
OSU Agriculture

Building Progress

Click on each photo for more information and additional building progress images.

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Time-lapse Video

View the progress made during the previous month in the time-lapse video below.



Drone Video

View the drone video below of building construction taken in February 2024.



Facility Fast Facts

There are **232 windows** and **35 different sections of curtain wall** throughout the exterior of the New Frontiers Agricultural Hall. In addition, it will take around **300,000 bricks** to complete the brick masonry on the building. Window installation was completed last fall, and all curtain walls and brickwork are scheduled to be completed this April.



[Read More about Exterior Work](#)

Featured Donors

Phil and Ruth Terry are major gift donors to the New Frontiers campaign and named the Curriculum for Agricultural Education Science Teaching Lab in honor of Phil's late brother, Robert (Bob) Terry Sr., and nephew, Robert (Rob) Terry Jr. The **Dr. Bob Terry Teaching Lab** will be located on the second floor of the New Frontiers Agricultural Hall. Terry Jr. is currently a professor and head of the OSU Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Leadership, a position his dad, Terry Sr., once held. Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education policy

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"It was exciting to see the progress made on the building since I toured it early last fall. With the walls up now we can really see how this place will enhance the work of our faculty and opportunities for our students. We often say school-based agricultural education teachers change lives. As I looked into Room 207, I could visualize our faculty and students working together, using the best facilities and equipment, to have a positive impact on young people, agriculture and communities."

– Rob Terry, OSU agricultural education, '84 and '88

Featured News



Oklahoma Gardening

Snow and ice gripped much of Oklahoma for several days in January, but never fear, gardening season is near. The new season of Oklahoma Gardening began Feb. 10.

[Read More about OK Gardening](#)

Whatley Award

OSU's Brian Arnall has been named the 2023 recipient of the James A. Whatley Award for Meritorious Research in Agricultural Sciences by OSU Agriculture.

[Read More about Whatley Award](#)

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Sarkeys Award

OSU's Kirankumar Mysore has been named a recipient of the 2023 Sarkeys Distinguished Professor Award by OSU Agriculture.

[Read More about Sarkeys Award](#)

Agronomy Farm

The OSU/A&M Board of Regents approved a request to draft construction plans for new facilities at the Agronomy Research Station.

[Read More about Agronomy Farm](#)

NEW FRONTIERS

The New Frontiers campaign has raised more than \$50 million, reaching the fundraising goal in record time! Click the button below to learn more about New Frontiers, including building features, donor stories, how you can support the project and more.

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