

Dear Friends,

Welcome to NSU's Centennial year, a pivotal moment in the university's unique history. For over a century, Northeastern State has served as an accessible and distinguished learning center for eastern Oklahoma. In 1909, when Governor Haskell spoke of the new institution, he remarked that it was founded on the site of the Cherokee National Female Seminary—our Seminary Hall—63 years earlier, in 1846. The legacy of teaching and learning has deep roots here. Since those founding days, NSU has taken its message of the importance of learning as a life-long habit to Muskogee and Broken Arrow. As a multi-campus institution of 9,000 students, NSU is poised to chart the course and live the promise of education in our second century.

Your active and engaged support of the university is essential to NSU fulfilling our mission and serving the families and communities of eastern Oklahoma and beyond. State funding for Oklahoma's universities is an important but shrinking percentage of the total cost of delivering higher education. NSU and other institutions increasingly rely on tuition, grants and contracts and private support to provide the resources needed to pursue and maintain excellence while ensuring access for our citizens.

Over this past year, your investments in Northeastern through the NSU Foundation established new records for the number of donors and the total amount of private giving. For your generosity, we are truly grateful.

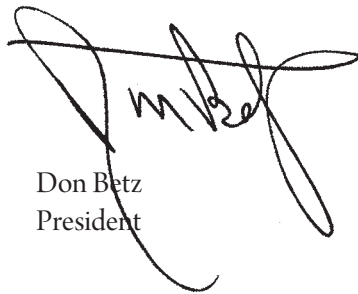
We all know that the global financial challenges have impacted all of us, including NSU. Despite our resolve and diligent efforts, our hard-earned modest endowment was not spared in

the downturn. Nevertheless, we are motivated and optimistic and moving ahead with our Centennial Campaign.

The review of the past year contained in this issue chronicles a time of enhanced energy and productivity. Record numbers of alumni and visitors have participated in events and activities. A marvelous Fall Homecoming was followed by the 10th Annual Oklahoma Research Day, convened for the first time at NSU-Broken Arrow, and a most successful and stunning Emerald Ball. This spring, NSU held two of its largest events in recent memory, Founders Day in March and the presidential Inauguration on May 1. The 2007 strategic plan has been re-visited with focused mission, vision and values statements resulting from a highly collaborative, university-wide process.

Northeastern State's future is as bright as our collective commitment to help students learn and to provide the funds required to effectively support the faculty and staff. As we open the second part of our Centennial year, I invite you to commit and connect to NSU and the people who create exceptional opportunities for learning.

Please join us as we chart our second century—together.



Don Betz
President



Letter from the President