

2026 OACADA Award Recipients

Oklahoma Academic Advising Community | 2026 Fall Conference

Raise the Stakes: Advocate, Connect, Educate (A.C.E.)

Best of Oklahoma Recognition

Hailey Rogers and Joey Oneal

Tulsa Community College

Recognizes an outstanding conference presentation offering innovative practices and meaningful professional development for academic advisors.

Advisor of the Year — Four-Year Institution

Emily Murphy

Oklahoma State University

Honors a four-year institution advisor with at least two years of service and a sustained commitment to academic advising and student success.

Advisor of the Year — Two-Year Institution

Shara Hendriks

Oklahoma City Community College

Honors a two-year institution advisor with at least two years of service and an outstanding commitment to advising and student success.

Advising Administrator of the Year

Brandi Moore

University of Oklahoma

Recognizes an administrator or institutional leader whose work advances academic advising, supports advising professionals and strengthens student success.

True Excellence Award

Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Honors exceptional service and leadership with significant statewide impact on academic advising and the profession.

Learn more at www.oacada.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OACADA Names University of Oklahoma's Brandi Moore 2026 Advising Administrator of the Year

Moore recognized for her commitment to advisor development, collaborative leadership and advocacy for academic advising.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — The Oklahoma Academic Advising Community (OACADA) has named Brandi Moore, Director of Academic Advising for the College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences at the University of Oklahoma, the recipient of its 2026 Advising Administrator of the Year Award.

The award recognizes a faculty member, advising administrator or institutional leader whose work advances academic advising, supports advising professionals and strengthens student success.

Since assuming her role as Director of Academic Advising, Moore has established herself as a collaborative leader committed to supporting both students and the advisors who serve them. Her nominators highlighted her ability to build a cohesive advising team, advocate for additional resources and create opportunities for professional growth.

“Brandi understands that supporting academic advisors is an investment in student success,” said Dr. Johnnie-Margaret McConnell, OACADA President. “Her commitment to mentoring colleagues, advocating for resources and creating an environment where advisors feel valued and empowered reflects the kind of leadership that strengthens our profession. She recognizes the importance of developing people, improving processes and building a team that can respond to the changing needs of students. We are delighted to recognize her contributions to academic advising in Oklahoma.”

In her nomination letter, OU Academic Advisor Jazz Wolfe described Moore as an exceptional supervisor who has invested countless hours in training, mentoring and supporting new advisors. Wolfe emphasized Moore’s willingness to assist colleagues, celebrate their accomplishments and encourage them to pursue professional goals both within and beyond academic advising.

Moore’s leadership has also produced meaningful operational improvements within the college. She secured two additional advising positions to help manage growing student caseloads, developed a structured training program for new advisors and streamlined several previously manual advising processes. These improvements have allowed her team to devote more time and attention to students.

Her commitment to professional development extends beyond her college. As Chair of the Advising Fee Council within OU’s Provost’s Advisory Committee on Academic Advising, Moore works to support professional development funding and opportunities for academic advisors across the university.

Her nominators also emphasized the culture of collaboration she has cultivated within her team. By prioritizing open communication, proactive problem-solving and individual professional growth, Moore has created an environment where advisors feel supported and equipped to serve their students.

Reflecting on Moore’s influence, Wolfe wrote that working with her helped her understand “why academic advising is such an honorable and wonderful career.”

Moore was recognized during OACADA’s 2026 Fall Conference, Raise the Stakes: Advocate, Connect, Educate (A.C.E.), held at Oklahoma City Community College in September. The conference welcomed 180 registrants representing 20 colleges, universities and organizations from across Oklahoma.

About OACADA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OACADA Names Oklahoma State University's Emily Murphy 2026 Advisor of the Year

Senior Academic Advisor recognized for her dedication to graduate student success, collaborative leadership and contributions to OSU's MBA programs.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — The Oklahoma Academic Advising Community (OACADA) has named Emily Murphy, Senior Academic Advisor at Oklahoma State University, the recipient of its 2026 Advisor of the Year – Four-Year Institution Award.

The award recognizes an academic advisor from an Oklahoma four-year state or regional institution who has served in the profession for at least two years and demonstrated a sustained commitment to academic advising and student success.

Murphy serves students in Oklahoma State University's Online MBA and Tulsa MBA programs within the Spears School of Business and Watson Graduate School of Management. As the longest-serving Tulsa-based MBA advisor, she supports graduate students who balance their academic pursuits with professional, family and personal responsibilities.

Her nominators highlighted not only her student-centered approach but also her essential contributions to the daily operations and continued growth of OSU's MBA programs. Murphy manages a diverse graduate student caseload, contributes to graduate admissions, supports university events and helps colleagues navigate complex academic policies and procedures.

"Emily represents the kind of dedication and professionalism that makes academic advising such an important part of the student experience," said Dr. Johnnie-Margaret McConnell, OACADA President. "Her work demonstrates that exceptional advising extends far beyond individual appointments. She builds relationships, supports her colleagues and helps create an environment where students can pursue their academic and professional goals. We are delighted to recognize her contributions to academic advising in Oklahoma."

In her nomination letter, Dr. Sarah E. Chabinak, Manager of Graduate Programs at Oklahoma State University, praised Murphy's ability to combine warmth and relationship-building with efficiency and an understanding of the competing responsibilities facing graduate students.

Chabinak, who has more than 20 years of advising experience, described Murphy as one of the most outstanding advisors she has worked with throughout her career.

Fellow MBA Academic Advisor David Sison emphasized Murphy's initiative, institutional knowledge and willingness to contribute wherever she is needed. He described her as a trusted resource for both students and colleagues, noting her ability to identify challenges, develop solutions and provide steady support to the Watson Graduate School of Management team.

Together, the nominations portray an advisor whose contributions are often made behind the scenes but whose impact is felt throughout OSU's graduate business programs.

Murphy was recognized during OACADA's 2026 Fall Conference, Raise the Stakes: Advocate, Connect, Educate (A.C.E.), held at Oklahoma City Community College in September. The conference welcomed 180 registrants representing 20 colleges, universities and organizations from across the state.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OACADA Names Oklahoma City Community College's Shara Hendriks 2026 Advisor of the Year

Hendriks receives the two-year institution award in recognition of more than a decade of dedication to students, exceptional service and commitment to her advising colleagues.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — The Oklahoma Academic Advising Community (OACADA) has named Shara Hendriks of Oklahoma City Community College (OCCC) the recipient of its 2026 Advisor of the Year – Two-Year Institution Award.

The award recognizes an academic advisor from an Oklahoma two-year college or institution who has served in the profession for at least two years and demonstrated an outstanding commitment to academic advising and student success.

With more than a decade of experience in student-facing roles at OCCC, Hendriks has built a reputation for creating meaningful relationships with students, helping them navigate challenges and ensuring they feel supported throughout their college experience.

As a Student Success Advisor, Hendriks combines extensive knowledge of academic policies and degree requirements with a deeply personal approach to advising. Her ability to listen, build trust and understand the circumstances affecting students beyond the classroom allows her to connect them with the guidance and resources they need to move forward.

“Shara reminds us that academic advising is about much more than course selection and degree planning,” said Dr. Johnnie-Margaret McConnell, OACADA President. “It is about creating an environment where students feel heard, valued and supported. Her extraordinary compassion, dedication and willingness to serve both students and colleagues exemplify the important role academic advisors play in helping students achieve their goals. We are delighted to recognize her contributions to Oklahoma’s advising community.”

In her nomination letter, Samantha Olson Smith, Director of Student Success Advising at OCCC, emphasized Hendriks’ ability to combine compassionate, individualized advising with an exceptional work ethic.

Whether assisting students at the front desk, facilitating large-group advising sessions during periods of high demand or stepping in to support colleagues, Hendriks consistently demonstrates flexibility, initiative and a commitment to meeting students’ needs.

Her dedication is also reflected in her productivity. Hendriks has received departmental recognition multiple times for serving the greatest number of walk-in students during an academic term. According to Olson Smith, her ability to serve a high volume of students while maintaining patience, kindness and individual attention distinguishes her approach.

Olson Smith described Hendriks as “the kind of advisor every student deserves to encounter at least once during their college experience.”

Beyond her individual advising responsibilities, Hendriks is recognized for strengthening her entire advising team through her dependability, positive attitude and willingness to take on additional responsibilities whenever needed.

Hendriks was recognized during OACADA's 2026 Fall Conference, Raise the Stakes: Advocate, Connect, Educate (A.C.E.), held at Oklahoma City Community College. The conference welcomed 180 registrants representing 20 colleges, universities and organizations from across Oklahoma.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tulsa Community College Advisors Receive OACADA's Best of Oklahoma Recognition

Hailey Rogers and Joey Oneal recognized for their innovative, adventure-themed approach to training new academic advisors.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — The Oklahoma Academic Advising Community (OACADA) has selected Hailey Rogers and Joey Oneal of Tulsa Community College as recipients of its 2026 Best of Oklahoma recognition for their presentation, “An Adventurer’s Guide to Forging Academic Advisors: How to Train and Develop New Academic Advisors.”

The Best of Oklahoma recognition highlights a conference presentation that offers valuable ideas, innovative practices and meaningful professional development opportunities for academic advisors across the state.

Rogers and Oneal developed a creative approach to one of the profession’s ongoing challenges: preparing new academic advisors with varying levels of higher education experience. Their interactive presentation introduces a six-week, competency-based onboarding model inspired by role-playing games (RPGs), transforming traditional advisor training into an engaging professional development adventure.

Drawing upon NACADA’s Academic Advising Core Competencies Model, the program guides new advisors from novice adventurers to confident practitioners through intentional skill-building, experiential learning and support from experienced colleagues. Participants explore a training campaign featuring guilds, quests, side missions, veteran guides and a final “boss battle” designed to strengthen advising skills through practical application.

The presentation also includes a self-assessment activity that helps participants identify strengths, opportunities for growth and individualized development strategies they can adapt for their own institutions.

“Hailey and Joey have taken an essential part of our profession - developing new academic advisors - and approached it with tremendous creativity,” said Johnnie-Margaret McConnell, OACADA President. “Their presentation reminds us that professional development can be both purposeful and engaging. By combining established advising competencies with an imaginative, practical training model, they are helping colleagues think differently about how we prepare and support the next generation of academic advisors.”

Rogers and Oneal presented their session during OACADA’s 2026 Fall Conference, Raise the Stakes: Advocate, Connect, Educate (A.C.E.), held at Oklahoma City Community College in September. The conference welcomed 180 registrants representing 20 colleges, universities and organizations.

Their work demonstrates how creativity, collaboration and intentional professional development can strengthen academic advising and support student success across Oklahoma.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp Receives OACADA True Excellence Award

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — The Oklahoma Academic Advising Community (OACADA) has named Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE), as the recipient of its 2026 True Excellence Award.

The True Excellence Award recognizes an individual who consistently goes above and beyond in service to academic advising, has demonstrated leadership within OACADA or an affiliated association, has made a significant impact on advising in Oklahoma, and has represented the state within the broader academic advising profession.

Beauchamp's longstanding commitment to Oklahoma's academic advising community exemplifies the spirit of the award. Through her work with OSRHE and her professional leadership, she has helped strengthen connections among advisors and institutions, supported professional development opportunities, and advocated for the important role academic advisors play in student success.

"Dr. Beauchamp has been a steadfast champion for academic advisors throughout Oklahoma," said Dr. Johnnie-Margaret McConnell, OACADA President. "Her longstanding dedication to our profession, her willingness to bring people and institutions together, and her commitment to ensuring advisors have a voice in statewide conversations have made a lasting impact. She has consistently invested in the people who do this work and in the students they serve. Stephanie truly represents the excellence this award was created to recognize."

The award was presented during OACADA's 2026 Fall Conference, "Raise the Stakes: Advocate, Connect, Educate (A.C.E.)," held at Oklahoma City Community College. The conference brought together 180 professionals representing 20 colleges, universities, and organizations from across the state.

OACADA provides professional development, networking, recognition, and opportunities for collaboration for academic advising professionals throughout Oklahoma.

www.oacada.org