

2020 Hall of Fame



Dr. Phillip Birdine

Dr. Phil Birdine became the 5th president of Western Oklahoma State College on July 1, 2010, after serving in the roles of Dean of Student Support Services and Vice President for Academic and Student Support Services. He devoted over 39 years to higher education, which included positions at Carl Albert State College, Emporia State University, Texas Tech University, Midwestern State University, Langston University, OSU – Oklahoma City, and Oklahoma State University. Birdine led many of Western Oklahoma State College’s significant administrative efforts and program initiatives with a strong focus on community and academic excellence for students and took Western Oklahoma State College to new heights in enrollment and degree attainment over his eight-year tenure as president.

He encouraged and applauded environmental efforts and was instrumental in creating a campus-wide culture of conservation. His love of sports and commitment to Western’s athletic programs produced a 2012 College National Finals Rodeo tie down champion and the 2011 NJCAA Division II national champion baseball team. Dr. Phil Birdine valued community involvement and faithfully served the YMCA of Wichita County, Museum and Arts Council of Wichita County, Guthrie Oklahoma Social Club, and Altus Rotary. Dr. Phil Birdine provided encouragement and leadership to countless students, teachers, administrators, and staff during his long tenure in Oklahoma higher education served as a trusted and valued member of the Council of Presidents for eight years. Birdine retired from Western Oklahoma State College in June 2018 after an extraordinary career in higher education.