

OKLAHOMA EDUCATION: POLITICS AND PEDAGOGY

In addition to its usual offering of scholarly research relating to Oklahoma politics and policy, the editors of *Oklahoma Politics* have sought, in this volume, to provide a wider forum for topics relating to education. Many of us, particularly in the regional and community colleges, have felt that there ought to be a regular space made available for topical discussions of current issues in educational politics and pedagogy. Accordingly, a solicitation for manuscripts was sent out earlier this year. Now, for the first time, this volume of *Oklahoma Politics* includes a section on education issues of interest to an Oklahoma readership.

This year's section consists of two pieces, one by Dr. Don Maletz, of the University of Oklahoma, the other by Dr. Cindy Simon Rosenthal, E. Barrett Ristroph, and Jocelyn Jones, also of the University of Oklahoma. In his piece "Oklahoma Higher Education: The Budget, the Faculty, the Mission," Dr. Maletz recounts his experiences on the Budget Council of the University of Oklahoma. Maletz writes that his experiences raised important questions both about budgetary priorities in higher education, and about the role that faculty do (or don't) play in determining those priorities.

Dr. Rosenthal and her associates report on the gender dynamics they observed in a Model United Nations of the Southwest (MUNSW) simulation that recently took place at the University of Oklahoma. "Learning to Talk the Talk: Gender Differences in Adolescent Socialization to World Politics" describes the extent to which engrained

gender stereotypes structure the experiences of young men and women in troubling ways even in extracurricular activities.

The editors of *Oklahoma Politics* hope that these submissions will prompt a greater number of efforts for this section next year. In particular the editors encourage prospective writers to make joint proposals on common topics that would give their contributions more thematic coherence. The editors of *Oklahoma Politics* remain receptive to all reasonable suggestions.