

President Russi

Grizzly Center for Champions Dedication

September 6, 2006

We have had an extremely successful history of academic achievement by our student-athletes consistently through the decades. Going forward, the new Grizzly Center for Graduates and Champions will assist our student-athletes in pursuing their academic interest area to the best of their abilities. And, it's yet another example of the unique offerings of an engaged university, focused on quality, student services and preparing leaders to make a difference in society and the workplace.

Our student-athletes compete hard, study hard and devote countless hours to mentoring in surrounding schools. I'd now like to invite Provost Moudgil, Interim Athletics Director and Men's Basketball Coach Greg Kampe, Senior Associate Athletics Director Tracy Huth, Nicole Pigott and Board of Trustees Chair Dennis Pawley to join me as we cut the ribbon, officially opening the Grizzly Center for Graduates and Champions.

Following the ribbon cutting, please join us for a look inside the new Grizzly Center. You may also wish to take a look at a new mural in the arena chronicling the history of OU athletics beginning with Hollie Lepley and moving through the years featuring top student-athletes in division two competition through division one. After a brief look around please join me as we move outside to the O'rena court yard for the unveiling of The Grizz statue.