

Winchester New Chair of RUSO Board of Regents

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Research Institute for Economic Development President Susan Winchester became the chair of the Regional University System of Oklahoma (RUSO) Board of Regents on July 1.

A RUSO regent since 2012, Winchester succeeds attorney Richard Ogden, a regent since 2010.

The RUSO board governs six regional universities: East Central University, Northeastern State University, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Southwestern Oklahoma State University and the University of Central Oklahoma. It is tasked with providing oversight and control of administrative, academic and fiscal affairs of the institutions, including hiring university presidents.

In addition to the RUSO Board of Regents, Winchester serves on several other boards including the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Oklahoma Academy for State Goals executive boards. She is a board member for the Oklahoma School of Science and Math Foundation, the Oklahoma Center for Non-Profits, the Foundation for Excellence and The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma Foundation. She is also a member and former board member of Leadership Oklahoma. In 2005 she was selected as one of 40 emerging state leaders from across the nation for participation in the Toll Fellowship Program sponsored by the Council of State Governments.

In 2006, Winchester was recognized as the Oklahoma Woman of the Year by the Journal Record newspaper. Other awards and honors include The 2008 Defender of Free Enterprise Award from the Oklahoma State Chamber, the Distinguished Service Award from the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy, and the 2008 Legislator of the Year Award from the Department of Disabilities.

Note:

The Regional University System of Oklahoma Board was created on July 6, 1948 as the Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges and changed to its current name in 2006. The board of regents consists of nine members, eight appointed by the governor by and with the consent of the senate, for nine-year staggered terms. The ninth member is the elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction. For more information about the Regional University System of Oklahoma and its graduates, visit www.ruso.edu.