Mr. Michael S. Hyatt

Michael S. Hyatt currently serves as the Chairman of the Board for the prestigious Sister Cities International organization and as Vice President for Investments at UBS. An active member of his community, Mr. Hyatt is a board member, executive committee member and treasurer of the Fort Worth Zoo Association. He is past president of Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention, Inc., The Texas Boys Choir and Casa Mañana Musicals, Inc. He is the immediate past President of Leadership Fort Worth and was recently elected to the Board of Governors of the Oklahoma State University Foundation.

Barry Clark is the Director of Global Business Services at the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. He oversees all Commerce international programs and services with the mission of growing Oklahoma's economy through international trade and global awareness. Mr. Clark also worked as an investment broker for Prudential Securities and Merrill Lynch Securities for a total of twelve years. While living in Vietnam, Mr. Clark built a successful consumer goods and consulting business in the country's newly emerging market. He also served as an officer in the United States Marine Corps on numerous assignments throughout Asia.

Mr. Brady Sidwell

Mr. Brady Sidwell is Head of Advisory for Rabobank International's Food & Agribusiness department in North East Asia. Mr. Sidwell has worked with a number of multinational as well as local corporations and government entities around the world in developing cross-border business and entry strategies. Before joining Rabobank, Mr. Sidwell worked in short-term roles at the U.S. Senate in Washington, D.C., and in the U.S. Embassy offices of the Foreign Agricultural Service in Seoul, South Korea and Bangkok, Thailand.

Dr. Larry Sanders

Dr. Larry Sanders has been a member of OSU's Agricultural Economics faculty for 24 years. Dr. Sanders received one of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association's most prestigious honors, its Lifetime Achievement Award. He has also won awards for his teaching from the Alpha Zeta and Collegiate FFA organizations. Dr. Sanders' credentials also include adjunct faculty status in the OSU School for International Studies, with education and advisory work in England, Vietnam, Mexico, Turkey, Japan and Russia. Dr. Sanders earned his bachelor's degree in sociology from Chapman College, his master's degree in economics from New Mexico State University, and his doctoral degree in economics from Colorado State University.
H.E. Dr. Adnan Badran

Adnan Badran is the president of the University of Petra in Amman in Jordan. Before becoming president, he served as Jordan’s Prime Minister, Minister of Education and Minister of Agriculture. Dr. Badran became dean at the University of Jordan in 1971 and was the founding president of Jordan’s Yarmouk University in 1976. From 1992 to 1998 he served as deputy director of UNESCO. He is also a member of various organizations – vice president of The World Academy of Sciences, executive board member of the International Union of Biological Sciences and a member of the International Council of the Scientific Union. He earned a BS degree in agriculture education from OSU and a master’s degree and PhD from Michigan State University.

Dr. Oleg Kravchenko

Oleg Kravchenko has been a political counselor at the Embassy of Belarus in the U.S. since 2007 and is Charge of d’affaires of the Republic of Belarus in the U.S. Dr. Kravchenko graduated from the Law Faculty of the Belarusian State University in 1994. He is a Doctor of law, who prepared and defended a dissertation on jurisdictional immunities of states and their properties and has published a number of scientific articles. He joined the diplomatic service in 1994 and served at the state protocol service of the Law and Treaties Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1999 to 2003, he was a political counselor and deputy head of mission at the Embassy of Belarus in Sweden.

Dr. Tarana Mahmudova

Tarana Mahmudova is assistant professor and researcher at the Baku State University, School of Journalism, Department of International Journalism in Azerbaijan. After graduating from the Baku State University in 1991, she pursued post-graduate studies in the Department of TV and Radio Journalism. In 1999 she defended her doctoral dissertation dedicated to linguistic problems of the media. Her academic interests include coverage of diversity in the media; women’s issues in the media; global information interchange; and TV and radio in information society. She regularly participates in international conferences, sessions and workshops on media issues and is a visiting Junior Faculty Development Program professor at OSU.

Dr. Vigen Gabrielyan

Vigen Gabrielyan hails from Yerevan, Armenia and is assistant professor and researcher at the Yerevan Branch of the St. Petersburg Institute of Foreign Economic Relations, Economics and Law; Department of Management. After graduating from Yerevan State University of Economics, Department of World Economics in 2001, he became a doctoral student at Moscow Institute of Humanitarian Sciences and Economics. In 2004 he defended his doctoral dissertation dedicated to corporate management in modern Russia. His academic interests include issues in marketing management and business decision making. He also works for “TV MR AM” CJSC, which is the official representative of world famous company AGB Nielsen Media Research. He is also a visiting Junior Faculty Development Program Professor at OSU.

Dr. Filipe Couto

Dr. Filipe Couto is the Rector of Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, Mozambique. He completed his first Ph.D. in Dogmatic Theology at the Wilhelm University in Muenster, Germany in 1971. His second doctorate focused on the origin of the first modern global socio-economic system in the 16th century at Padebon University in Germany in 1977. Currently he is the Rector of the first national University of Mozambique, the backbone of the higher educational system in Mozambique, with 55,000 students and 1,450 faculty members. The University has colleges of agriculture, medicine, law, sciences and six other areas. They also have a School of Rural Development, School of Business and a School of Maritime Sciences.

Dr. Rogerio Uthui

Dr. Rogério Uthui is the Rector of the Pedagogical University of Mozambique, which produces most of the professional educators for the country. He received his doctorate in Lund, Sweden in Nuclear Physics in 1996. He received his Masters Degree, also in Nuclear Physics, in the former Soviet Union in 1987 at the State University of Belorussia in Minsk. His areas of interest are ion-beam analytical techniques and environmental sciences. He is extensively published in these academic areas and is currently involved in higher education policy in Mozambique. The Pedagogical University is one of the largest Universities in Mozambique with over 40,000 students and 2,150 faculty.

Ambassador Abdoulaye Diop

Ambassador Abdoulaye Diop has—throughout his long and illustrious diplomatic career—been instrumental in advising top officials and in carrying out negotiations that resulted in signed accords with a variety of other states. Some of the ambassador’s accomplishments in this regard include, acting as diplomatic advisor to heads of state; helping to boost the sub regional integration process; and joining several national delegations that attended regional and international conferences to discuss issues such as regional integration, economic development, peace, and security.

Dr. Jason F. Kirksey

Professor Jason F. Kirksey, is the Hannah D. Atkins Endowed Chair for Political Science and Government Information at OSU. He is also director of the OSU Center for Africana Studies and Development. Dr. Kirksey was recently named Interim Associate Vice President for Institutional Diversity at OSU. He became an assistant professor at OSU in 1995. Dr. Kirksey earned undergraduate degrees in economics and political science and a Master’s in political science from OSU. He received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of New Orleans.