2008 John L. Christopher Outstanding Leadership Award

Dr. James Hromas has been a driving force within Oklahoma State University Outreach and a catalyst for change bringing to it notable regional, national, and international recognition through his Outreach efforts. He has a remarkable life story of becoming involved in Outreach as a graduate assistant in 1970 in Business Extension to Director of Business Extension from 1970-91 in the OSU College of Business. In 1991, Jim became Director of University Extension and in 1994 was appointed as Dean of University Extension. In 1997, Jim was also given the responsibility of University Extension International and Economic Development and Director of the newly created School of International Studies (SIS). Jim has served as Director of International Education and Outreach and Director of SIS at OSU since 2004. In addition, he is an Associate Professor of Marketing in the OSU Spears School of Business. He has served the university and his profession for 40 years! He has been a long-time proponent of UCEA and Outreach among all his activities.

Promotion of UCEA at the Institution and Committee Activity

Jim has been a strong supporter of UCEA over the years. With his marketing background, he originally served as a Marketing Advisory Committee Member for UCEA in 1987. Over the years, he has served as the Alternative Regional Representative, 1997-99, 2006-2007; Regional Representative, 1999-2001, 2007-Present; Board of Directors, 1999-2001, 2007-present; and Region V Executive Committee, 1997-2000, 2006-present. Further, he served on the UCEA Board of Directors for the Business, Industry and Labor Division from 1994-95. Jim has always encouraged active participation into UCEA by other OSU staff members. Many OSU staff have been involved in UCEA conferences through attendance, presenters at conferences, and as applicants and winners of awards.

Conference Activity at State and Regional Levels

Jim has been a proponent of UCEA and has provided leadership through participation at executive levels for conferences, planning committees, as well as being a presenter at many conferences. He gave a presentation on “When One Door Closes, Another Opens,” at the Mid-American and Great Plains Joint Regional UCEA Conference in Kansas City, MO, in 2006. He was also a presenter in “Change in Outreach, UCEA, Executive Assembly”, Chicago, IL, 2003 and participated on the Conference Planning Committee for UCEA, Executive Assembly in Chicago, IL, in 2002. In addition, he was on the Conference Planning Committee for the UCEA Annual meeting in Philadelphia, PA, in 2000. Jim chaired three sessions in the Workforce Development Conference, UCEA, Washington, DC, in 1999. He was a presenter on the topic of “Workforce Development” for UCEA forum Conference for Washington, DC, in 1999 and was also a presenter in the Region V Conference, UCEA, Atlanta, GA, 1998 on “The GRID, A New Way of Defining Extension.” As Dean of University Extension, Jim worked with an on-campus committee to categorize Outreach into four groups of audiences served and four groups of programs offered by the Outreach offices at the university. This new format was called the “Grid” so OSU could better report information to our constituencies.
Jim was a presenter on the topic of “Information Technology Workforce Development”, UCEA Forum Conference in Washington, DC, 1998. He was Chair of a Plenary Session on the topic of “Distance Education,” for the UCEA Annual Meeting in Boston, MA, 1996; as well as being a presenter on “Evaluation Criteria for Extension Function,” at the UCEA Region V Conference, Jackson Hole, WY in 1995. Jim was a co-presenter in the National UCEA Conference on the topic of “Marketing Extension Programs,” in Nashville, TN in 1993 and was a Panelist for the UCEA Annual Meeting in Kansas City, KS, in 1987 on the topic of “OSU Distance Learning Programming.”

Jim participated in the “Redefining Outreach,” Region V Conference, UCEA, in Oklahoma City, OK, 1999. He also attended the “University Continuing Education Association Update,” Region V Conference, UCEA, Kansas City, KS, 1996.

Jim not only excelled in presentations and conferences but also received the Research Award, National UCEA, Region V on the topic of “An Investigation of Determinant Attributes in Professional Development Program,” in 1985.

**Commitment to Adult and Continuing Education within the Member’s Institution and Region**

Jim’s current responsibilities include Directing International Educational and Outreach (IE&O) and the School of International Studies (SIS) programs at OSU. IE&O provides leadership in internationalizing the OSU campus through strategies involving the faculty, staff, students and community, state, national and international constituencies. SIS includes the MS in International Studies Degree Programs, Study Abroad, the English Language Institute Outreach and the Mexico liaison offices. IE&O also provides support to the Fulbright program, Phi Beta Delta, and the Peace Corps Strat office. Additionally, IE&O coordinates the OSU Outreach council consisting of college based outreach programs, and is responsible for the Wes Watkins Conference Center and Independent Study Programs.

At Oklahoma State University, Jim is serving as Chair of the International Advisory Council, 2006-present. He was previously chair of the Development Committee for the School of International Studies from 1997-99 and is Chair of the Executive Committee, and the Dean’s Administrative Committee for the School of International Studies from 2004-present. Jim also serves as Chair of the International Education and Outreach Council from 2004-present. The Outreach Council is made up of the colleges at OSU which includes Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, Engineering and Architecture and Human Environmental Sciences.

For the university, partnerships are key in continuing education and at the state-level Jim has served on the Executive Committee of the Tinker U.S. Air Force Base Education and Training Partnership Committee, 2003-present. Jim currently serves on the Governor’s International Team as a participant, 2000-present. He previously served on the Governor’s EDGE (Economic Development Committee) on International Development Task Force in 2004 and Jim served on the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Electronic Media Policy Committee from 1994-2002.

Supporting continuing education at the state level Jim also has assisted with Leadership Oklahoma by serving as Vice President for Recruiting and being a member of the Executive Committee in 1989-99. Jim was also on the Program Committee from 1987-89;
served on the Founding Board of Directors from 1987-92 and 1997-98; was a Class Member from 1992-93; and was an Alumni Member from 1993-present for Leadership Oklahoma. He also chaired the founding Board of Directors for Leadership Stillwater.

At the regional level, Jim served on the Southern Regional Education Board as the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Representative in Atlanta, GA from 1998-2000. He Chaired the inaugural year of the Western Governor’s University and Oklahoma as OSU was the state pilot university. Jim was also the OSU representative to OneNet (the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education distance learning network organization) from 1995-97.

Jim has served continuing education at a state and national level. Jim served on the National Association of State University and Land-Grant Colleges, Council on Continuing Education, Extension and Public Service, Executive Committee, 1994-2000; and was Chair from 1999-2000. Jim was a National University Degree Consortium Board Member 1991-94 and Vice President, 1995-96. He served as Chair of the Outreach Council on the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education in 1998-93.

Internationally, Jim helped the School of Business in setting up a partnership with Zayed University in the United Arab Emirates and served on Zayed’s College of Business Sciences International Advisory Council from 1998-2004. The Spears School of Business still participates as a consortium member in the Executive MBA Program at Zayed University which Jim helped to start.

Jim was elected to the Sister Cities International Board of Directors in Washington D.C. and has served in that position from 2006-present. He was elected as Secretary of the Board at the Sister Cities International Convention this summer. He has provided leadership and support to the plan signed by Governor Frank Keating in 2000 in regard to Oklahoma’s International Strategic Plan. At the university level, Jim began the Global Briefing Series in response to 9/11 to provide briefings on current international topics since 2002.

Jim has given many presentations on various topics—most recently on “Developing and Strengthening International Sites and Partnerships,” as a co-presenter for the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC) in Houston, TX in 2006. He also gave a presentation on “New Developments in International Education,” for the Council on Extension, Continuing Education and Public Service, NASULGC Summer Meeting in Baltimore, MD in 2006.

As a long-time supporter of Outreach activities, Jim is an outstanding mentor in encouraging other continuing education professionals to become involved in UCEA and encourages involvement at the state, regional and national levels. Jim’s accomplishments at all levels is exceptional. He is a very deserving applicant of the John L. Christopher Outstanding Leadership Award and is certainly an inspiration to those who work in Outreach and continuing education to aspire to this type of leadership.
Supplemental Pages to Application for John L. Christopher Outstanding Leadership Award

Dr. James G. Hromas, Oklahoma State University

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE (LAST 10 YEARS)

NATIONAL


Marketing Advisory Committee Member, 1987.

Great Plains Distance Learning Association, Dean’s Committee Chair, 1999 – 2000.


STATE


Governor’s International Team – Participant, 2000 – Present.


Western Governor’s University, OSU was state pilot university, chaired inaugural year, 1998 – 1999.

Enid Higher Education Center Board of Directors, Member, 1996.


COMMUNITY

Leadership Oklahoma Stillwater’s Planning Committee, 1996 – Present, provide support.


**UNIVERSITY**

General University:
- International Advisory Council, Chair, 2006-Present.
- International Student Recruitment Task Force, Chair, 2005.
- International Student Recruitment Committee, 2005.
- Oklahoma Regents for Higher Education Learning Site Program, 1999-Present.
- President's Club, 1996 – Present.
- Instructor Human Environmental Sciences graduate seminars, 1996, 1997.

**School of International Studies (SIS):**
- SIS Administrative Committee, Chair, 1999 – Present;
- Executive Committee Chair, 1999 – Present; and Founding Development Committee, Chair, 1997 – 1999.

**University Extension, International & Economic Development:** University Extension Council, Chair, 1991 – 2004; Urban Strategies Committee, Chair; Marketing Committee, Chair; OSU/OU Planning Retreat, Chair; Policies and Procedures for Urban Agents Committee, Chair; Management Information System Committee; Telecommunication Subcommittee, Chair; Telecommunications Coordinator Search Committee; OSU-Tulsa Transition Team 1998 – 1999.

**College of Business Administration:**
- Executive Committee; Faculty Extension Committee; Research and Publications Committee; Oklahoma Business Growth Policy Center Study Committee; Accounting Systems Committee; Workload Subcommittee; Flagship Program Committee; Space Committee; and Search Committees for Director of Business and Economic Research, Director of Business Extension, Director of Economic Education, Public Information Officer, and Publications Editor; Marketing Faculty, 1989 – Present.

**SUMMARY OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ADVISORY COUNCILS**

Sister Cities International, Board of Directors, 2006 – Present
- International Advisory Council, Chair, 2006 - Present
- School of International Studies, Development Committee, Chair, 1997 – 1999, Executive Committee, Chair, and Dean's Administrative Committee, Chair, 1998 – Present.
- International Education and Outreach Council, Chair, 2004 – Present.


CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, AND ACTIVITIES*

“When one Door Closes, Another Opens,” Co-presenter, Mid America and Great Plains Joint Regional UCEA Conference, Kansas City, MO, 2006.

*International Conference Presentations, Publications, and Activities reported on pages 5-9.

“Change in Outreach”, Presenter, University Continuing Education Association, Executive Assembly, Chicago, IL, 2003.

“Conference Planning Committee,” University Continuing Education Association, Executive Assembly, Chicago, IL, 2002.


“Redefining Outreach,” Regional V Conference, University Continuing Education Association Conference, Oklahoma City, OK, 1999.


“Western Governors University,” Presenter and Sponsor, State Conference on Distance Learning, Oklahoma City, OK, 1998.


“University Continuing Education Association Update,” Region V Conference, University Continuing Education Association, Kansas City, KS, 1996.

“Distance Education,” Plenary Session Chair, University Continuing Education Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, 1996.


“Distance Education in Executive Education,” AACSB Special Conference, Winston Salem, NC, 1995.


“Conference Chair,” OSU Economic Development Day, Stillwater, OK, 1992

“Faculty Involvement in Outreach Programs,” Presenter, Department of Occupational and Adult Education, Stillwater, OK, 1992.


"Developing Distance Learning Programs," Panelist, Teleconference Presentation to UCLA Extension Program Managers, Stillwater, OK, 1990.


"Education and Intergovernmental Relations," Program Chair, Leadership Oklahoma, Stillwater, OK, 1988.


"Non-Traditional Instruction Delivery," Resource Person, Oklahoma State University Faculty Retreat, Tulsa, OK, 1987.


"College of Business Administration Teleconferencing," Panelist, Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma City Alumni Club, Oklahoma City, OK, 1985.


"Southwestern Federation of Administrative Disciplines," Coordinator, Marketing Session, American Institute for Decision Sciences, Houston, TX, 1979.


**INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS**

**Administrative and Professional Activities**

**School of International Studies (SIS):** Developed concept proposal, 1997; Chair, Development Committee, 1997 – 1998; approved by the OSU Board of Regents 1998; Chair, Deans Administrative Committee and Executive Committee, 1998 – Present. SIS includes graduate programs, study abroad, English language training, outreach and development programs, global contacts program, Peace Corps recruiting, Fulbright support, and Phi Beta Delta. Developed the SIS Ambassador constituency support group, the Henry G. Bennett Distinguished Fellows recognition program and the Signature Society.

**SIS Private Funding:** Over $1 million dollars in endowments fund the Wes Watkins Lectureship, Lawrence L. Boger Distinguished Professorship, Wes and Lou Watkins Distinguished Fellowship, the L.L. Boger Graduate Distinguished Fellowship, and the Les Martin Graduate Fellowship. Over $25,000 yearly is generated for student internships from Boeing, Michael Hyatt, and Aerosystems. And, over $150,000 in other private use funding has been generated.


**Oklahoma International Strategic Plan:** Provided leadership and support to the plan that was signed by Governor Frank Keating in 2000. Participated in hosting international delegations and other events sponsored by the Governor’s International Team.

**Oklahoma Department of Commerce (ODOC):** Signed memorandum of understanding in 2002. Developed oksource.com, a Web-based directory of Oklahoma companies seeking trade opportunities. Continue to develop Lead Generation in tracking multilateral fund flows. Helped develop Consul General briefing that was attended by 39 Consulate representatives. Trade missions attended and
supported: China, Portugal, Ethiopia, Vietnam, Libya, Brazil, Taiwan, Japan, Russia, Ukraine, and Poland. Hosted many international visitors sponsored through ODOC.

**Governor's EDGE International Task Force:** Served on committee as part of Governor Henry’s economic development initiative, 2004.

**National Association of State, College & Land Grant Universities:** Attended meetings of the Commission on International Programs, 2000 – Present.

**Oklahoma International Congress:** Supported and served as host site 2001 and 2003.

**Thunderbird Graduate School of Business:** Site visit and exploration meeting, Phoenix, AZ, 2002.

**U.S. Department of Commerce, HUD, Education:** Provided federal funding of $1.3 million to further the development of the OSU School of International Studies Trade and Regional Bureaus and Outreach, 2001-Present.

**OSU Administration:** Successfully lobbied OSU administration to provide $250,000 in new recurring state funds for SIS bureaus development, 2001.

**Global Briefing Series and other speaker series:** The Global Briefing Series was developed in response to 9/11 to provide briefings on current international topics, 2002. Also resurrected the Wes Watkins Distinguished Lectureship in 1998. Speakers have included many high ranking officials, such as former Prime Minister of South Korea Dr. Duck Woo Nam, Mrs. Harriet M. Fulbright, Lester Thurow, etc. Developed speakers series in the College of Business Administration that brought leaders such as Henry Kissinger, Alan Greenspan, Malcolm Forbes, Jr., Jane Bryant Quinn, Louis Rukeyser, etc., to the Tulsa Business Forums and Oklahoma City Management Briefings.

**OSU Committees:** International Advisory Council, Chair, 2006-Present; International Student Recruitment Task Force, Chaired, 2005; International Student Recruitment Committee, 2005; International Agri-Business Committee, 1994 – 2001; President’s International Study Committee, 1992; President’s International Study Committee, 1987.

**Conferences Attended and Presented:** See page 8 for Conference Presentations and meetings attended. Many state meetings and conferences on international issues attended.

Meetings sponsored with numerous groups and individuals from Japan, Ethiopia, China, India, Ireland, Mexico, Africa, Brazil, Thailand, Vietnam, Costa Rica, Colombia, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Poland, etc.

**Country-specific Development Programs and Activities (International)**


**Canada** – Invited speaker on International Partnerships at UCEA International Conference in Toronto, 2002.


**Iraq** – SIS administered $1 million USAID development grant, 2004.

**Italy** – Developed Summer Study Center, 2003 – Present; Developed relationship with Cassamarca Foundation.

**Japan** – Lt. Governor’s mission to celebrate 15 year Sister State relationship and to develop trade opportunities, 2001.

**Mexico** – Opened two offices in Pueblo, Mexico at the Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla and the Universidad de las Americas, Puebla; and two satellite offices at the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México in Toluca, and the Instituto
Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in Chihuahua, 2006. Toluca program developed as a result of cooperative efforts with the Fort Worth Sister Cities program. Have developed working relationships with other Mexican universities.

Poland – OSU-CITD trade delegation visited several provinces and made presentations on the value of business incubators in economic development, 1991; $1.5 Million proposal developed for USAID, not funded.


Thailand – Develop relationships with five universities to further faculty and student exchange, 2003 – Present.

Ukraine – State of Oklahoma delegation to promote the sale of wheat to Kiev and to deliver humanitarian medical supplies for children of Chernobyl, 1991.


Other countries visited: Union of Burma, Columbia, England, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Panama, Scotland, and Spain.

**Conference Presentations (International)**


“Through Your Eyes,” EMBA Graduation Commencement Speaker, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 2005.

“Changes in International Outreach,” Co–Presenter, University Continuing Education Association, Regional Meeting, Chicago, IL, 2005.

“International Development and Oklahoma,” Presenter and Session Chair, Governor’s Special Conference, Norman, OK, 2005.


**Other Meetings Attended (International)**


Society of Human Resources Managers, International Conference, Dallas, TX, 1998.

**Awards and Recognitions (International)**

OSU Arts and Sciences Center for Africana Studies and Development Appreciation Award, 2007.

OSU African Student Association Appreciation Award, 2006.

Recognized as Maestro Honorifico by Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla, 2006.


**GRANTS AND CONTRACTS RECEIVED, DEVELOPED, AND ADMINISTERED**

Developed contracts, grants and agreements to deliver programs for the following organizations:

**Business:** American Airlines, Inc.; American National Bank & Trust Company; Amoco Corporation; Applied Automation, Inc.; Bank of Oklahoma; The Boardman Company; The Charles Machine Works; Cities Service Oil & Gas Corporation; Dayton Tire and Rubber; Dowell Division of Dow Chemical; Federal National Bank and Trust; First Data Management Corporation; First Interstate Bank of Oklahoma; Fleming Companies, Inc.; Gearheart Owen Company; Halliburton Services; Hinderliter Industries, Inc.; International Business Machines, Inc.; Macklanburg-Duncan; Medical Center State Bank; MidAmerican Savings & Loan Association; Morrel & West, Inc.; Phillips Coal Company; Phillips Petroleum Company; Public Service Company of Oklahoma; Ralston Purina Company; Reading and Bates Corporation; Sooner Federal Savings & Loan Association; Southwestern Bell; St. Francis Regional Medical Center; Stillwater National Bank & Trust Company; Sun Company; Swan Rubber Company; Unit Corporation; United National Bank & Trust Company; etc.

**Government:** U.S. Departments of Commerce, Education, Housing and Urban Development; Oklahoma Department of Commerce; Rural Enterprises, Inc.; City of Broken Arrow; City of Oklahoma City; City of Stillwater; Eastern Oklahoma Indian Health Planning Board; Federal Aviation Aeronautical Center; Oklahoma City Public Schools; Oklahoma Health Planning Commission; Oklahoma Regional Medical Program; Oklahoma State Auditor and Inspector’s Office; Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation; Oklahoma State Department of Vocational & Technical Education; Oklahoma State Park Rangers and Superintendents; Oklahoma State Personnel Board; Oklahoma Tax Commission; Tulsa District Corps of Engineers; Tulsa Junior College; United States Air Force Tinker Management Training Center; University of Oklahoma; etc.

**Associations:** American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business; American Marketing Association; American Society for Quality Control and Industrial Engineering; American Society of Travel Agents; Association of Credit Bureaus; Bankers Marketing Association; City Manager’s Association of Oklahoma; Community Bankers Association; Government Finance Officers Association of Oklahoma;
Institute of Financial Education; Leadership Oklahoma City/Tulsa; Leadership Oklahoma; Mid-Continent Research & Development Council; Oklahoma Association of Municipal Clerks, Treasurers and Finance Officers; Oklahoma Bankers Association; Oklahoma City Humanities and Arts Council; Oklahoma Claim Men Association; Oklahoma Dietetic Association; Oklahoma Land Title Association; Oklahoma Lung Association; Oklahoma Society of Association Executives; Oklahoma Savings and Loan Association; Oklahoma State Auctioneers Association; Professional Golfers Association; Tulsa Credit & Financial Management Association; etc.

OTHER ACTIVITIES


Consultant and Board of Directors, Land Data Corporation: Stillwater, OK, 1983; Data Soft Systems, Greeley, CO; First Title Holdings, Inc., Stillwater, OK, 1983; McLennan Community College, Waco, TX, 1980; Zayed University, U.A.E., 2002.

Phi DeltaTheta, Oklahoma Beta Chapter, Lifetime Service Award, 1996; National Adviser of the Year, Phi Delta Theta, 1976.

Leadership Oklahoma, Participant, 1992-93.


Special Recognition Award, Stillwater Chamber of Commerce, Developing Leadership Stillwater, 1984.

President's Award, Stillwater Chamber of Commerce, Education Committee Activities, 1982.


Honorary Member Award, Oklahoma Municipal Clerks, Treasurers, and Finance Officers Association, 1975.

NASA Johnson Spacecraft Center Fellow, 1970.

PARTICIPATION IN PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS (LAST 10 YEARS)


Internet II Briefing, Kansas City, KS, 1997.

NAIAM, Washington, DC, 1996.
National University Degree Consortium, San Diego, CA, 1996.


University Continuing Education Association, Board Meeting, Houston, TX, 2000; Washington D.C., 1999.


University Continuing Education Association, Region V Meeting, Omaha, NE, 1998; Kansas City, KS, 1996.


ASSOCIATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Committee on Foreign Relations
American Management Association
American Society for Training and Development
Association of International Education Administrators
Council for Advancement and Support of Education
Global Associates
Institute for International Education
Leadership Oklahoma
Leadership Oklahoma Alumni Association
Leadership Stillwater
Leadership Stillwater Alumni Association
National Association of Foreign Student Advisors/Association of International Educators
National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges

Rotary International

Society of Human Resources Management

Stillwater Chamber of Commerce

University Continuing Education Association