Northwestern Oklahoma State University will formally invest President Janet Cunningham with the symbols of office during tradition-filled ceremonies on Friday, April 13, in Alva. State leaders in government and higher education, along with delegates from other colleges and universities are expected to attend.

Cunningham became the 19th president of Northwestern on July 1, 2006, and her investiture will provide the University community an opportunity to celebrate her new era of leadership with the public.

Investitures, formal ceremonies to confer the authority and symbols of high office, have been held as academic ceremonies since the Middle Ages.

“The investiture of a new president is an historic occasion in the history of any university,” said Steve Valencia, associate vice president for university relations and co-chairman of the Investiture Steering Committee. “There is involvement from all across our campuses and many people have volunteered their time to make this a special event for Northwestern.”

Investiture events begin at 11:15 a.m. with a luncheon for dignitaries and delegates in the Ranger Room of the Student Center.

The investiture ceremony will begin inside Percefull Fieldhouse at 1:30 p.m. and is open to the public. Highlights include the traditional academic procession, special music by the University’s music groups, greetings from various constituencies, the presentation of the symbols of office and the president’s investiture address.

Following the ceremony, a public reception honoring President Cunningham will take place in the ballroom of the Student Center.

The final event of the day will be the President’s Investiture Ball at 8 p.m. inside the Merchants Building at the Woods County Fairgrounds. Music will be provided by The Imposters. Details regarding tickets and corporate tables will be released at a later date.

Plans also are being finalized for a student event on April 12.

Assessment Day
NWOSU’s 3rd Annual Assessment Day will be held on Wednesday, April 11, 2007. ALL CLASSES HAVE BEEN CANCELED PRIOR TO 4:30. ALL CLASSES AFTER 4:30 WILL MEET. If you are to take a test, either a mid-level assessment exam, or, if you are a graduating senior taking an exit assessment, you will receive a letter from the University. Everyone is asked to take a Northwestern—Woodward Survey.