

**Introduction of Professor Jeffrey Rosen on the Occasion  
of Constitution Day at Oklahoma State University  
September 20, 2012  
Andy Lester**

Thank you, Dean Johnson, for that kind introduction.

On behalf of my colleagues on the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural & Mechanical Colleges, welcome to this Constitution Day celebration. Some 225 years ago this week, the American experiment was at a crossroads. The Declaration of Independence was barely a decade old. The Treaty of Paris ended the Revolution only four years earlier. Failure was possible, some thought likely. Many of our nation's founders ended a long, hot, humid summer in Philadelphia by signing and proposing the Constitution of the United States, on September 17, 1787. This remarkable document, the result of significant debate and compromise,

has become the oldest, most successful written constitution in the world.

To celebrate Constitution Day, Oklahoma State University is blessed to have a great speaker. In fact, the *L.A. Times* has called him, “the nation’s most widely read and influential legal commentator.”

Professor Jeffrey Rosen graduated *summa cum laude* from Harvard University. He was a Marshall scholar at Oxford University, where he received a second bachelor’s degree. He then earned his law degree from Yale Law School.

After law school, Professor Rosen clerked for Chief Judge Abner Mikva of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. He is a professor of law at George Washington University Law School and has been writing

for *The New Republic* since 1992, where he serves as legal affairs editor.

Professor Rosen is a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. He is a regular guest on National Public Radio, and is a frequent contributor to *The New York Times Magazine* and *The Atlantic Monthly*.

Professor Rosen has written frequently about the United States Supreme Court and about the effects of technology on privacy and liberty. His books include *The Supreme Court: The Personalities and Rivalries that Defined America* (2007) and *The Unwanted Gaze: The Destruction of Privacy in America* (2000).

In the late 1990s and early 2000s, I had the pleasure of hosting Professor Rosen as my guest speaker on a couple of occasions for programs of the Civil Rights Practice Group at the Federalist Society's National Convention. His

presentations there were like his prolific writing and other public appearances – deep yet accessible, thoughtful, and challenging. Based on my knowledge of and experience with Professor Rosen, I know we are in for a special treat today.

Professor Rosen lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife Christine Rosen and two sons.

Please join me in giving a warm Oklahoma State University welcome to Professor Jeffrey Rosen.