

**Remarks on the Occasion of the 2013 Induction
Ceremony of the Gamma of Oklahoma
Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa
May 3, 2013
Andy Lester**

President Hargis, President Gethner, members, families, friends and, most of all, students, the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges congratulates each of you on this truly momentous occasion. First, let me state how delighted the Board is that OSU is now the home of the Gamma of Oklahoma chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. Just a few days ago, we celebrated having reached the One Billion Dollar mark in the Branding Success Campaign. Of course, I'm thrilled about that. But, for me, the biggest success of President Hargis's tenure as President of Oklahoma State University is not that, but rather the installation of this chapter.

Election to Phi Beta Kappa is a high honor. You

know, growing up as I did in an academic family, the name Phi Beta Kappa was synonymous with the phrase “the most highly intelligent.” But reaching this point is not simply a matter of intelligence. It is also a matter of hard work. Each of you worked hard to arrive at this place. I have some special knowledge of that, since my daughter, Susan Lester, is also a member of the Gamma of Oklahoma Class of 2013.

Of course, this Phi Beta Kappa class is unique: You are the first students elected to the Gamma of Oklahoma chapter. No one else will ever be able to say that.

The Board of Regents is proud to help welcome you to Phi Beta Kappa. Congratulations.