The highest honor the University can confer is the Distinguished Service Citation, an award comparable to honorary degrees in other states. Each year it can be given to no more than five people, all of whom must have exhibited outstanding leadership and service to others. They need not be University alumni but they should have an appreciation of the importance of higher education. Selections are made by an anonymous committee from nominations submitted throughout the year from a variety of sources. This year's Distinguished Service Citations went to five men: S. N. Goldman, Oklahoma City businessman; R. Boyd Gunning, Norman, University trust officer and head of the OU Foundation; H. O. (Bud) Harder, Tulsa, retired executive vice president of Sunray DX Oil Co., which is now part of Sun Oil Co.; Joe White McBride, Oklahoma City and Anadarko, newspaperman, and Lee B. Thompson, Oklahoma City, partner in the law firm of Cantrell, Douglass, Thompson & Wilson.
S. N. Goldman is a native of Ardmore where he began and ended his formal education. Despite the fact that he did not attend college, he has been a long time supporter of higher education programs. In the fifties he and a small group of interested people provided the funding, the moral support and the initial programming to found the Southwest Center for Human Relations Studies at OU. This was at a time when human relations was in its infancy as a means for man to deal with man, and it has grown in scope each year.

Because of his continuing interest in human relations, Goldman expanded his support of the program to begin a series of courses leading to a degree in human relations at the University. In 1968 his gifts and those from the Chapman Foundation in the name of Mrs. Leta M. Chapman, Tulsa, became the foundation of the Goldman Chair in Human Relations and the human relations degree program, which is now entering its second full year of operation.

His interest in promoting understanding among people of the world has led Goldman to serve as president of Temple B’Nai Israel and as a director of Boy Scouts of America and Young Men’s Christian Association. He has received the National Conference of Christians and Jews Brotherhood Citation and The Eleanor Roosevelt Humanities Award.

As a businessman Goldman possesses an unerring judgment. He is the inventor of the grocery shopping cart and the airport personal luggage cart and is the founder and past owner of Standard and Humpty Dumpty Super Markets, Folding Basket Carrier and Nest Kart Co. and Western Security Life Insurance Co.

Currently he is chairman of the board of Goldman Enterprises, West Indies Development Corp., Guaranty Investment and Mortgage Co., N.G. Industries Inc., Office Realty Co. and the Pioneer Foundation and president of Walnut Investment Corp.

He is a member of OU’s Academy of University Fellows and Board of Visitors and is a trustee of the OU Foundation.

Goldman this year was selected for membership in the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. He and his wife, Margaret, live in Oklahoma City. They have two sons, Monte and Alfred.
R. Boyd Gunning has had a long and distinguished career at the University beginning in the extension division in 1937, the year he received bachelor’s and law degrees from OU.

Joining the staff as director of visual education, two years later he took on additional responsibilities as director of short courses and assistant director of the extension division.

In 1942 he entered the Army and was released in 1946 as a major. He returned to the University as acting director of the Extension Division in February and in July became director.

During his service in that area of the University the fledgling extension program grew to become the nucleus of what is now a burgeoning adult education program with services in many areas of the world.

In 1948 Gunning took leave from the Extension Division to become the first executive secretary of the OU Foundation, and the following year he resigned from the Extension Division to take on the additional post of executive secretary of the OU Alumni Association.

For 20 years Gunning held the two positions, working in private fund raising and in alumni activities.

In his alumni work Gunning traveled thousands of miles building club structures and community support for the University. He took an active leadership role in regional and national affairs involving other alumni directors, and in 1969 he received the American Alumni Council Hall of Fame Award for his years of service.

That same year he resigned from the Alumni Association and was appointed University trust officer, retaining his Foundation duties. In this position he oversees the management of the University’s investments, property and private gifts.

Gunning is involved in numerous state and civic activities including the Oklahoma Bar Association, Phi Delta Kappa, Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Kappa Alpha social fraternity, Oklahoma Education Association, Episcopal Church, Men’s Dinner Club of Oklahoma City and Rotary Club and currently is a member of the board of directors of Norman Municipal Hospital.

He and his wife, Eleanore, live in Norman. They have four children, Donald Thomas, an architect in Oklahoma City; Richard Boyd, a teacher in North Carolina, and Linda Mae and Mary Jean, both students at OU.
H. O. [Bud] Harder was born in Wilburton when it was still Indian Territory and attended school in Bixby where his father was a lumberman.

After graduating from OU in 1927 with a bachelor's degree in mathematics, he joined the former Indian Territory Illuminating Oil Co. as a junior engineer. When the company merged with Cities Service Oil Co., Harder stayed on as a production superintendent.

His career spans the development of Oklahoma as an important oil producing state. As an engineer he set pipe of the discovery well of the Oklahoma City field and was a production superintendent before he was 30.

In 1945 Harder became superintendent for the former Sunray DX Oil Co. (now Sun Oil Co.). In 1949 he was elected a vice president of production for Sunray, and in 1952 he was appointed vice president of exploration.

Harder was elected a director of the corporation in 1958 and was named senior vice president in 1959. He was elevated to executive vice president in 1962, directing exploration and production. He retired in 1966.

During his oil career he was a member of the American Petroleum Institute, American Landman's Association, AIMME, Independent Petroleum Association of America and Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association. He is now director of Western Diversified Industries of Tulsa.

Harder has long been an active supporter of the University. He has served as chairman of the OU Foundation board of trustees for five years and is a director of the OU Research Institute.

In Tulsa he is chairman of the Salvation Army advisory board and serves as a corporate trustee of the Frontiers of Science Foundation. He also is an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Reorganized).
Joe White McBride was born in Arkansas and came to Oklahoma in 1909. He left home at 15 and finished high school in Frederick when he was 16.

Determined to attend college in a day when financial aids were almost nonexistent, he came to Norman with little money and worked his way through school. At one time he held nine jobs at once, subcontracting some of them, but always scraping together enough money to stay in school.

He graduated with a degree in business in 1928 and went to work on the advertising staff of the old Scripps-Howard paper in Oklahoma City, The Oklahoma News. Two years later he joined the Pulliam papers, working in Clinton, Elk City, and Hobart.

In 1935 McBride formed a partnership with J. C. Nance at Walters. This merger was the forerunner of the Nance-McBride Newspapers.

Throughout his life McBride has maintained an active interest in the University and its innermost workings. He served 22 years as a member of the OU Board of Regents, and for a few months in 1943, between the time Joseph Brandt resigned as OU president and George L. Cross was appointed acting president, McBride himself, as president of the board of regents, also served as acting president of the University.

Although he is not a graduate of OU's School of Journalism, McBride's devotion to the newspaper business has made him a staunch supporter of OU's journalism program. He also has been deeply involved in activities of the Oklahoma Press Association, the Indian Hall of Fame, Alpha Tau Omega social fraternity, Oklahoma Heart Association, Oklahoma Historical Society, Masons, and St. Luke's Methodist Church.

In 1961 he was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame and was president of the Oklahoma Memorial Association four years.

Today McBride is in what he calls "a slow down." But he is still secretary, president or treasurer in two printing-publishing corporations, is in two real estate partnerships and a director of Central National Bank, Oklahoma City. His most treasured title is publisher and co-publisher of The Anadarko Daily News, a post he has held since 1937.

McBride and his wife, Clella, have two children, Joe W. Jr., who manages the family publishing business in Anadarko, and David LeMarr, an Oklahoma City physician and surgeon and pathologist. Both are OU graduates.
Lee B. Thompson also was born in Indian Territory in Miami and received a business degree from OU in 1925 and a law degree in 1927.

Like McBride he worked his way through OU where he received the Brown Derby Award given for contributing the most to the University at the greatest sacrifice.

In his long career in Oklahoma Thompson has been active in a long list of service oriented organizations including the Chamber of Commerce, the Red Cross, Rotary Club, the Oklahoma City Zoo and the Oklahoma City Symphony.

As a student he headed the campus effort on the Stadium-Union Drive that resulted in construction of Oklahoma Memorial Stadium and the Oklahoma Memorial Union. He has maintained that interest and has been a diligent worker in behalf of the Union throughout his life.

He has been a devoted worker for the Alumni Association, the Alumni Development Fund and the OU Foundation, frequently donating his legal services to the Foundation. He also has been active in work for his social fraternity, Beta Theta Pi.

As an attorney Thompson has a distinguished career. He currently is president-elect of the Oklahoma Bar Association and will become president next year. He has been active in the county bar association and has served on a variety of committees of the American Bar Association. In 1967-68 he served as a special justice in the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

He has been active in a number of organizations and has been listed in several standard biographical works.

He and his wife, the daughter of former OU president William B. Bizzell, have two sons, Lee B. Jr. and Ralph G., one daughter, Carolyn (Mrs. Don T. Zachritz), and eight grandchildren.