The Cover

The cover model, Kyle Ann Hockman, ties together the symbol of a new year with the navy's return to the South Base. If Kyle Ann's a bit undecided about the fit of her cap, it's probably because she's wondering what her dad, Lt. Ned Hockman, 49ed, Airforce photographer in Korea, will have to say when he sees the picture. Hockman is on leave from the O.U. Extension Division.

Photo by Bea Bragg, '36ba.

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ASSOCIATION

On The Sooner Scene

By Boyd Gunning, '37ba, '37Law

Effective teaching and counseling on the undergraduate level will receive recognition at O.U. this year. Under a new program made possible by friends of the University, 10 faculty members will receive a $500 award each year for their efforts.

Faculty members at the University of Oklahoma who rate highest in teaching effectiveness and student counseling during the next five years will receive honor and recognition beyond that possible at any other state university. Within this five year period, fifty members of the faculty will receive certificates of distinguished service for their work and each award will include a $500.00 grant as a part of the recognition.

This recognition of good teaching has been established as the University of Oklahoma Foundation Teaching Awards Program. Twenty-five thousand dollars will be spent for the Teaching Awards. There will be ten awards presented each year at the spring commencement ceremonies. Those who have made this important program possible include T. H. McCasland, '16ba, Duncan, past president of the O.U. Dad's Association and trustee of the University of Oklahoma Foundation; Ward S. Merrick, Ardmore, chairman of the Foundation's Board of Trustees and long-time friend of the University; Charles P. McGaha, '18, Wichita Falls, president of the City National Bank of Wichita Falls and well-known geologist and oil man; the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation which was established by the late Lloyd Noble, '23, of Ardmore in memory of his father. Mr. Noble was a long-time member of the University's Board of Regents and assisted in the University program in many ways during his lifetime. Cecil Forbes, '26-27, president of the Noble Drilling Company, and the other trustees of the Noble Foundation made the decision to participate in this important program. The children of Lloyd Noble, Sam, '47ba, Ed, '51geol, and Ann are trustees of the Noble Foundation. Mr. Noble provided cash awards to outstanding University teachers for a number of years. However, these awards were always made anonymously and presented through the University President's Office.

There can never be too much credit given to the far-sighted, generous gifts that have made this program possible. So far as I know, there is no other state university or college whose friends have taken such practical steps to place a premium upon teaching and counseling, the basic functions of an undergraduate program.

In announcing the new awards, President Cross stated, "The University of Oklahoma for years has recognized the vital importance to students and to Oklahoma of a strong teaching and counseling program for undergraduates—particularly freshmen. We have built a program of which we are truly proud, and we are deeply grateful to find O.U.'s efforts recognized and given powerful impetus by these thoughtful, far-sighted gifts."

Recipients of the Foundation Teaching Awards will be selected by a secret faculty committee appointed by President Cross. Those teaching at the undergraduate level will be eligible to receive the awards. Faculty members who have been named David Ross Boyd professors, Research Professors and Regents Professors are not eligible for (Continued page 32)
Sooner Scene . . .

the awards nor are Deans and Directors of Schools. A faculty member may receive only one $500.00 award during the five year period. These cash awards will supplement the many methods the University uses to emphasize the importance of effective teaching. For instance, seminars have been organized by more than two hundred faculty members to improve their own teaching; a system is started of rating teachers by student polls under a plan adopted by the University Senate; review is made annually of each faculty member's effectiveness by the University’s Budget Council. All of these factors and others will be considered by the committee which makes the selection of those to be honored by the Teaching Awards Program.

“The recognition of good teaching is so fundamental that the very existence of our democracy may depend upon it,” states Dean E. D. Meacham, '14ba, of the University College of Arts and Sciences. “The establishment of teaching awards by practical business men will make a lot of people take notice of the job which higher education and the University of Oklahoma, in particular, has before it.”

It was Dean Meacham who three years ago suggested the great usefulness of a teaching awards program such as the one which has been established.

Dr. Glenn C. Couch, '31bs, '37ms, Dean of the University College, forsees vivid benefit to students and teachers from the teaching awards. “This is tangible evidence of the interest which our friends have in the importance of good college teaching,” he said. “I see all kinds of evidence even now that this gift is stimulating us to do a better job. Self-examination is good for most professionals and teachers are no exception. Surely, both faculty and students will be forever grateful to the generous people who made this program a reality.”

Hal Muldrow, Jr. 
'28

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SOONER ALUMNI

You may now obtain an aerial view of your Sooner Campus. This beautiful 8x10 copyrighted picture includes the University of Oklahoma campus, Women's Quadrangle, Wilson Center, and Sooner City. You may have a Campus photo for one dollar or two for $1.75, postpaid.

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