

Regional University System of Oklahoma

POSTHUMOUS RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen Grissom passed away on January 11th, 2025 as an Instructor in the Department of Psychology and Counseling at Northeastern State University;

WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen Grissom taught faithfully and honorably at Northeastern State University for 14 years, serving as an Associate Professor from 1990 to 1991, and then as an instructor from 2012 until his death in 2025, and as an adjunct for many institutions of higher education across the state of Oklahoma, including Oklahoma State University – Tulsa, Tulsa Community College, Northeastern State University, and Langston University;

WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen Grissom served as the Chief Psychologist for the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs from 2002 to 2012, developing a Psychological Assessment Unit to determine appropriate placements to provide treatment and security, facilitating the development of the Mental Health Stabilization unit and procedures for placing youth in said unit as well as the maximum security setting, and supervising masters and doctoral students from across the state of Oklahoma;

WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen Grissom served as the Chief Psychologist for the Rader Treatment Program, the Diagnostic and Evaluation Program, and the Intensive Treatment Program at the Rader Center during the 1980s and 1990s, where he also developed and implemented the New START program, developed a specialized sex offender treatment program, designed and implemented instruments to measure and evaluate behavior change, and developed a practicum and internship program, supervising masters and doctoral students from across the state of Oklahoma;

WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen Grissom committed his life to advocating for the fair and humane treatment of troubled youth, continuing to serve as a Certified Juvenile Competency Evaluator on the Board of Directors for the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA), and as Chair of the Oklahoma State Advisory Group long after his retirement; and teaching compassion and critical thinking to his students and supervisees in the field;

WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen Grissom was a colleague, mentor, professor, supervisor, psychologist, and friend to so many in the fields of psychology, higher education, and juvenile justice across the state of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen Grissom's compassion, dedication, and wise counsel will forever impact the youth and students he has served, the colleagues alongside whom he has worked, and the various institutions of higher education in Oklahoma, including Northeastern State University;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Regional University System of Oklahoma bestow, posthumously, upon **Dr. Stephen Grissom** the honorary title of “**Instructor Emeritus of Psychology and Counseling**” and extend to his family an expression of commendation and appreciation for his contributions to the state of Oklahoma;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be entered into the official minutes of the Regional University System of Oklahoma and a copy, signed by the Chair of the Board, and forwarded to the family of Dr. Stephen Grissom in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

ADOPTED by the Regional University System of Oklahoma this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Regent Amy Anne Ford, Secretary
Regional University System of Oklahoma

Regent Connie Reilly
Regional University System of Oklahoma

ATTEST: