Shonday Harmon

City/state/country of origin

Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

Program

EdD, Educational Leadership in Higher Education

What do you like best about Tulsa?

Tulsa is a cultural center for the state’s Native American tribal communities. With the new National American Indian Museum and Cultural Center, Tulsa is on the cusp of major growth and tourism.

Where is your favorite place on OSU-Tulsa campus?

Outside of the campus bookstore, there is an Allan Houser statue called “When Friends Meet” that reminds me of my mom, who is full-blooded Creek, and the story of her three Kiowa friends who gave me my name. The bench next to the statue is a peaceful place for me to relax and unwind.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

I love attending festivals and live music events around Tulsa. You can usually find me at the Riverwalk if not at a Powwow or a stomp dance.

What do you enjoy most about OSU-Tulsa?

The smaller size allows for more in depth service and one-on-one interaction. Most of the staff and faculty know the students’ names. I also feel comfortable as an adult returning student because there are a lot of professionals on campus who have become invaluable resources, friends, and mentors.

How has OSU helped to prepare you for the future?

OSU has rejuvenated my goals and given me a resonating pride in being a Cowboy. The same orange pride in Stillwater is found here in Tulsa and you can sense big things are happening.

Extracurricular activities

I am advisor to the OSU-Tulsa Native America Student Association, which hosts the Greater Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Community Awards Banquet every year.

Do you have any advice for students considering OSU-Tulsa?

Visit campus and notice the beauty and embedded cultural ties of the area.