

Itinerary for Dr. Richard Prather

Finalist for Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine

Sunday, Feb 1, 2026

- ~ 1:30 p.m. Arrive in Stillwater. Reservations at the Atherton Hotel, OSU Student Union.
- 2:15 p.m. *Meet J. Malayer in the hotel lobby.*
- 2:30 – 5:30 p.m. Facilities tour and discussion of curriculum and research programs, coordinated by Dr. Jerry Malayer, to include:
~ Dr. Jennifer Rudd, McElroy Hall
~ Dr. Kelly Black and Dr. Julia Montgomery, Teaching Hospital
~ Dr. Jeremiah Saliki, Oklahoma Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory
~ Dr. Martin Furr, Vet Med Ranch
- 5:45 p.m. *Return to the Atherton Hotel with J. Malayer.*
- 6:20 p.m. *Meet K. Black in the hotel lobby.*
- 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Dinner with Veterinary Administrative Council* facilitated by Dr. Kelly Black (Sequoyah Room, 280 Student Union).

Monday, Feb 2, 2026

- 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast with Academic Affairs Leadership Team* (Ranchers Club, Student Union). *C. Francisco will escort to Whitehurst.*
- 8:45 – 9:15 a.m. Entry Interview with Dr. Jeanette Mendez, Provost and Senior Vice President (101 Whitehurst). *J. Ritchey will meet and escort to McElroy Hall.*
- 9:30 – 10:00 a.m. Introduction to Dean's Administrative Team* (Alumni Conference Room, 115 McElroy Hall).
- 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Discussion Session with Academic and Student Services Teams* (Alumni Conference Room, 115 McElroy Hall).
- 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Discussion Session with Outreach and Alumni Relations Teams* (Alumni Conference Room, 115 McElroy Hall).
- 11:45 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch with SAVMA Executive Board and Class Representatives* facilitated by Katelynn Parker (Alumni Conference Room, 115 McElroy Hall).

*Invited individuals are listed in the "Campus Interview Groups" attachment.

- 1:15 – 2:00 p.m. Budget Overview* (Alumni Conference Room, 115 McElroy Hall and by Zoom).
- 2:15 – 3:00 p.m. Veterinary Faculty Council* facilitated by Dr. Lyndi Gilliam (Alumni Conference Room, 115 McElroy Hall). *V. Lacombe will escort to the Roger J. Panciera Center.*
- 3:00 p.m. Break and forum preparation.
- 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Campus Forum: “*Role of a College of Veterinary Medicine in Today’s Changing Landscape*”
Dr. Jayson Lusk, Search and Screening Committee Chair, will serve as moderator. (Alumni Classroom, Room 148, Roger J. Panciera Education Center and by Zoom).
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://okstate-edu.zoom.us/j/91364100698?pwd=v5x2sJ328C9GSbTBIdjbmZaIFsGeLP.1>
Meeting ID: 913 6410 0698 / Passcode: 388284
Reception following in foyer.
- 5:15 p.m. *D. Weaver will escort to the Atherton Hotel.*
- 6:15 p.m. *Meet M. Smith in hotel lobby.*
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner with Megan Smith, Senior Director of Development and CVM Team, and OVMA and Alumni Representatives (Location TBD). *M. Smith will escort to the Atherton Hotel lobby following dinner.*

Tuesday, Feb 3, 2026

- 7:30 – 8:00 a.m. Coffee with Dr. Jim Hess, President (Ranchers Club, Student Union).
- 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast with OSU Foundation Leadership Team* (Ranchers Club, Student Union). *D. Weaver will meet and escort to Whitehurst.*
- 9:15 – 10:00 a.m. Council of Deans* facilitated by Dr. Jayson Lusk (Conference Room, 106B Whitehurst and by Zoom). *D. Weaver will escort to McElroy Hall.*
- 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Discussion Session with Department Heads* facilitated by Dr. Jennifer Rudd (Alumni Conference Room, 115 McElroy Hall). *J. Montgomery will escort to the Teaching Hospital.*
- 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Research Focused Discussion Session with Faculty facilitated by Dr. Lyndi Gilliam (Room 002C, Teaching Hospital).

*Invited individuals are listed in the “Campus Interview Groups” attachment.

- 11:30 – 12:00 p.m. Clinical and Educational Focused Discussion Session with Faculty facilitated by Dr. Jennifer Rudd (Room 002C, Teaching Hospital). *J. Rudd will escort to the Academic Center.*
- 12:15 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch with the Search and Screening Committee* facilitated by Dr. Jayson Lusk (Conference Room, 110 Academic Center and by Zoom). *D. Weaver will escort to Whitehurst.*
- 1:15 – 1:45 p.m. Exit Interview with Dr. Jeanette Mendez, Provost and Senior Vice President (101 Whitehurst). *D. Weaver will escort to the Atherton Hotel.*
- 2:00 p.m. Atherton Hotel check out. *(Late check will be requested)*

**** Please contact denise.weaver@okstate.edu if questions arise regarding this schedule. ****

Campus Interview Groups
Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine
Spring 2026

Veterinary Administrative Council (Dinner)

Dr. Kelly Black, Director, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, and Clinical Assistant Professor
Dr. Jefferson Frisbee, Department Head, Physiological Sciences, and Professor,
Physiological Sciences
Dr. Martin Furr, Assistant Dean, Administration, and Professor, Physiological Sciences
Kristi Howey, Director, Business Operations
Dr. Véronique Lacombe, Chair, Veterinary Faculty Council and Professor,
Physiological Sciences
Dr. Jerry Malayer, Senior Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Education, and
Professor, Physiological Sciences
Dr. Julia Montgomery, Department Head, Veterinary Clinical Sciences, and
Professor, Clinical Sciences
Dr. Theresa Rizzi, Department Head, Veterinary Pathobiology, and Clinical Professor,
Pathobiology
Dr. Jennifer Rudd, Interim Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs, and
Assistant Professor, Pathobiology
Dr. Jerry Saliki, Director, Oklahoma Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, and
Professor, Pathobiology

Academic Affairs Leadership Team (Breakfast)

Dr. Shannon Baker, Associate Provost for Student Success and
Teaching Professor, History
Dr. Christopher “Chris” Francisco, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and
Professor, Mathematics
Dr. Christine “Chris” Ormsbee, Vice Provost of Online Programs, Director of the Institute
for Teaching and Learning Excellence and Professor, Teaching, Learning
and Educational Sciences
Becky Taylor, Assistant Vice President, Provost’s Priorities and Strategic Initiatives
Dr. Ronna Vanderslice, Vice Provost, OSU System Academic Affairs and Provost, OSU-
Institute of Technology and OSU-Oklahoma City

Dean’s Administrative Team

Deborah Shields, Administrative Assistant to the Dean
Melissa Willis, Administrative Assistant to the Associate Dean
Jeremy Douthit, Manager, Facilities Services
Merry Bryson, Manager, IT Software Services
Jami Mattox, Associate Director, Marketing and Communications
Kinsey Reed, Coordinator, Marketing and Communications

Academic and Student Services Teams

Dr. Jennifer Rudd, Interim Associate Dean, Academic and Student Affairs, and
Assistant Professor, Pathobiology

Dr. Brandy Close, Director, Curriculum and Educational Support, and
Clinical Assistant Professor, Clinical Sciences
Anna Teague, Manager, Student Services
Dan Thompson, Assistant Director, Instructional Design and Faculty Development
Robin Wilson, Director, Student Academic Services

Outreach and Alumni Relations Teams

Dr. Rosslyn Biggs, Director of Continuing Education and Beef Cattle Extension Specialist;
Director, Rural Veterinary Center; and Assistant Professor, Clinical Sciences
Andrea Brown, Events Specialist
Jenny Capron, Alumni Relations
Christine Nichols, Assistant Director, Outreach

SAVMA and Class Representatives (Lunch)

SAVMA Executive Board Members
Jade Wilkinson, President, Class of 2027
Grace Miller, President Elect, Class of 2028
Sydney Veldhuizen, Vice President, Class of 2027

Class Representatives
Class of 2026 – 4th Year
Katelynn Parker, President, and Member, Search and Screening Committee
Ryan Carson, Vice President
Class of 2027 – 3rd Year
James Grein, President
Wyatt Weber, Vice President
Class of 2028 – 2nd Year
Helen Hunter, President
Alexis Schier, Vice President
Class of 2029 – 1st Year
Rayne Cranford, President
Cade Harris, Vice President

***Budget Overview with Veterinary Medicine Authority and Trust
Representatives***

Kristi Howey, Director, Business Operations
Dr. Jeff Stroup, Provost and Senior Vice President, OSU Center for Health Sciences; Chief
Executive Officer, OSU Veterinary Medicine Authority; Chief Operating Officer, OSU
Medical Authority; and Professor, Internal Medicine

Veterinary Faculty Council

Dr. Véronique Lacombe, Chair, Faculty Council, and Professor, Physiological Sciences
Dr. Melanie Boileau, Professor, Clinical Sciences
Dr. Leticia Fanucchi, Clinical Assistant Professor, Clinical Sciences
Dr. Reed Holyoak, Professor, Clinical Sciences

Dr. Sudhakar Jha, Associate Professor, Physiological Sciences
Dr. A.J. Manship, Clinical Assistant Professor, Clinical Sciences
Dr. Akhilesh Ramachandran, Professor, Pathobiology
Dr. Mike Schoonover, Professor, Clinical Sciences
Dr. Jared Taylor, Professor, Pathobiology

OSU Foundation Leadership (Breakfast)

Blaire Atkinson, President
Ty Ropp, Vice President for Development

Council of Deans

Dr. Dennis Blankenship, Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Clinical Professor, Emergency Medicine
Dr. Melinda Cro, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, and Professor, Languages and Literature
Dr. Craig Freeman, Vice Provost and Dean, College of Professional Studies, OSU-Tulsa, and Professor, Media and Strategic Communications
Dr. Keith Garbutt, Dean, Honors College, and Professor, Integrative Biology
Dr. Hanchen Huang, Dean, College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology, and Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Sheila Johnson, Dean, Libraries, and Professor
Dr. Randy Kluver, Associate Provost and Dean, OSU Global / School of Global Studies, and Professor, Media and Strategic Communications
Dr. Jayson Lusk, Vice President, Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Dean, Ferguson College of Agriculture; Professor, Agricultural Economics; and Chair, CVM Search and Screening Committee
Dr. Melanie Morgan, Dean, Graduate College, and Professor, Media and Strategic Communications
Dr. James Payne, Dean, Spears School of Business, and Professor, Economics
Dr. Jon Pedersen, Dean, College of Education and Human Sciences, and Professor, Teaching, Learning and Educational Sciences
Dr. Jeff Stroup, Provost and Senior Vice President, OSU Center for Health Sciences; Chief Executive Officer, OSU Veterinary Medicine Authority; Chief Operating Officer, OSU Medical Authority; and Professor, Internal Medicine

Department Heads

Dr. Jefferson Frisbee, Department Head, Physiological Sciences, and Professor, Physiological Sciences
Dr. Julia Montgomery, Department Head, Veterinary Clinical Sciences, and Professor, Clinical Sciences
Dr. Theresa Rizzi, Department Head, Veterinary Pathobiology, and Clinical Professor, Pathobiology

Search and Screening Committee (Lunch)

Dr. Jayson Lusk, Vice President, Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Dean, Ferguson College of Agriculture; Professor, Agricultural Economics; and Chair, Search and Screening Committee

Blayne Arthur, President, State Board of Agriculture, and Member,
OSU/A&M Board of Regents
Dr. Alvin Baumwart, Vet Med Alumnus, Owner, Highland Veterinary Clinic,
Arapaho, Oklahoma
Dr. Kelly Black, Director, Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, and
Clinical Assistant Professor
Dr. Lyndi Gilliam, Professor of Equine Internal Medicine, Clinical Sciences
Joe Hall, CEAT Alumnus, Member of the OSU Vet Med Authority, CEO of Joe D. Hall
General Contractors, LLC, and Member, OSU/A&M Board of Regents
Jimmy Harrel, Ag Alumnus, Rancher/Banker, and Member, OSU/A&M Board of Regents
Dr. Trey Kraft, President, Board of Directors, CVM Alumni Society and Mixed Animal
Practitioner, Animal Health Center, Paris, Texas
Gail Muncrief, Education Alumna, Educator, and Nonprofit Leader representing the
Agriculture Community and Producers
Katelynn Parker, Student Representative, Class of 2026, Adair, Oklahoma
Dr. Jennifer Rudd, Interim Associate Dean, Academic and Student Affairs, and Assistant
Professor, Pathobiology
Denise Weaver, Committee Assistant