

BUSINESS

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OSU-UML Broadens Portfolio

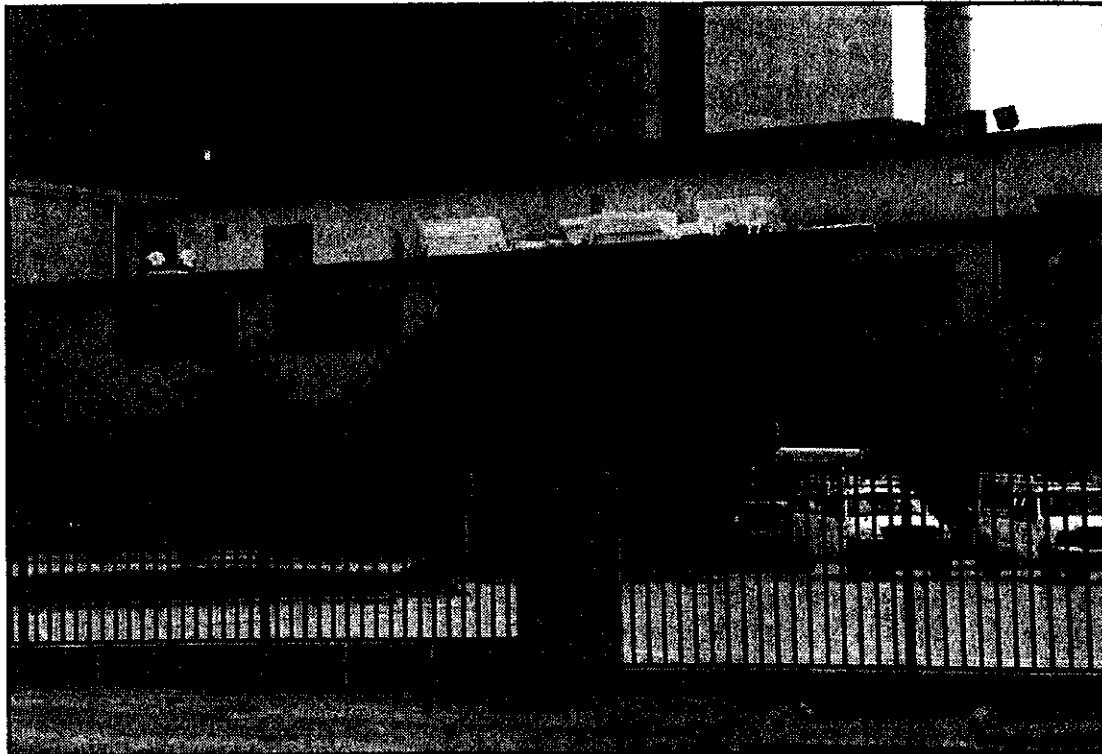
As a recent community service initiative the OSU-University Multispectral Laboratories (OSU-UML) announced a recent broadening of its technical portfolio to include Information Technology (IT) support on behalf of local schools and government entities in the Ponca City area. The UML is located on the ConocoPhillips campus.

"These programs are a way for us to say 'thank you' and to give back to the Ponca City community that has been so supportive of the UML project," said Tim Reynolds, Associate Laboratory Director — Operations.

Since the OSU-UML began operations in December 2006, most of the news has focused on the lab's primary core competencies of research, development, test and evaluation (RDT&E) of sensors and related technology.

However, according to the UML's Manager of Information Systems Kevin Baugess, the OSU-UML has also built a strong Information Technology (IT) and data storage component for information exchange and disaster recovery.

This capability is vital for the internal review, analysis, exchange and protection of Intellectual Property (IP) and sensitive research data, particularly for an organization of the growing size and scope of the OSU-UML complex. There is also resident capacity to provide disaster recovery and data storage of information concerning critical infrastructure items such as state and local government offices, utilities, oil refineries, transportation arteries and major waterways such as the McClellan-Kerr waterway extending from the Port of Catoosa through a lock and dam complex to the



OUTSIDE WORK on the Oklahoma State University Center University Multispectral Laboratory (UML) at the former East Research Building on the campus of ConocoPhillips is in progress. The lab is to become an international sensor testing center. (News Photo by Rolf Clements)

Mississippi River.

Other capabilities have also become possible, and as a community service the OSU-UML is now extending specialized IT support into surrounding local school systems and government entities; two programs have been initiated.

The Community Engagement Program (CEP) is available to selected government entities and schools located within a 25 mile radius of the UML headquarters. The CEP provides IT support for projects outside the scope of daily maintenance and includes software and hardware upgrades, network improvements, or other projects the

school desires to accomplish but is unable to successfully staff or budget.

Projects are selected by the UML MIS Director and, upon approval by the OSU-UML Associate Laboratory Director for Operations, the program is provided at "no cost" to the school. To date, the UML MIS staff has successfully donated over 240 hours to projects at McCord, Peckham and Kildare Elementary Schools.

The Community Outreach Program (COP) also supports government entities and schools located within a 25 mile radius of UML headquarters but differs in that supported organizations receive a 30 percent discount on the

current UML hourly rate for IT services, and provides daily support for the organization's IT infrastructure. Telephone support is provided at no charge.

To date, the UML MIS staff has completed over 50 hours of support to the schools supported under the CEP program in addition to the Kay County Sheriff's Office.

The UML MIS staff also accepts requests for IT services from all local commercial entities through the Commercial IT Support Services. Anyone interested in learning more about these programs should contact Baugess at the OSU-UML, 580-767-8865 or kbaugess@okstate-uml.org.