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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics (OSSM) Students Conduct Research in State's Most Prestigious Labs

OKLAHOMA CITY – June 24, 2019 – The Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics (OSSM) concluded its three-week Investigative Research Scholars Program (IRSP) on Friday with 20 student participants giving a brief overview of the work they did in the labs of the OU Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) and the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF) as well as the Geostationary Carbon Cycle Observatory at the University of Oklahoma.

At the event, James. J. Tomasek, Ph.D., vice president for Research and the David Ross Boyd Professor of Cell Biology at OUHSC spoke about the importance of “productive stupidity” to significant scientific discoveries. Afterwards, students described their efforts in research projects that included targeted therapies for pancreatic cancer and observing procedures conducted on the optical nerve.

“Our mentorship program is a hallmark of our academics at OSSM,” said Frank Wang, Ph.D., president of OSSM “Through it students gain valuable experience to take with them to their colleges and professional lives. Data shows that success at the professional level in research is predicated on prior experience. We are proud of our students for their work at these prestigious research institutions.”

The ISRP is part of OSSM's mentorship program, through which students work with more than 60 academic institutions, businesses, nonprofit organizations and government agencies in the Oklahoma City area. These partnerships provide them with the opportunity to work alongside professionals in many fields including research, medicine and engineering.

Nationally ranked as a top public high school in the United States, OSSM provides an academically advanced curriculum in science and math to juniors and seniors across the state. Created through legislative action in 1983, the two-year residential public high school also serves all Oklahoma schools and students through math contests, research, teacher training and professional development and outreach activities. For more information, call 405-521-6436 or log on to www.ossm.edu.

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