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WAYNE B. POWELL

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Dean, Graduate College and Professor of Mathematics at Oklahoma State University; Co-founder and Director of Oklahoma Principal's Science Scholars (OPSS)

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Wayne B. Powell is dean of the Graduate College and professor of Mathematics at Oklahoma State University. He received his B.S. in Mathematics and Computer Science from Texas A&M University, and his Ph.D. in Mathematics from Tulane University.

Dr. Powell has developed numerous programs to assist ethnic minorities in their academic pursuits. He is the co-founder and director of the Oklahoma Principals' Science Scholars (OPSS), a consortium of educators from the secondary schools and higher education dedicated to enhancing opportunities for ethnic minorities interested in science and mathematics. Through OPSS, Dr. Powell has developed numerous programs for junior and senior high school minority students as well as for teachers interested in learning about science and mathematics in ethnic cultures.

Dr. Powell commissioned Oklahoma State University's Graduate Plan to Enhance Diversity and worked with Dr. Tovar during the development and implementation stages. This program was awarded the Council of Graduate Schools Peterson's Award for innovative programs in support of diversity. His efforts to support ethnic peoples have also been recognized by special awards from the Oklahoma State University President and the Hispanic Faculty and Staff.

In addition to his background in multicultural program enhancement, Dr. Powell has developed numerous programs in support of graduate education, including mentoring activities and collaborative enterprises with industry in support of interdisciplinary research and education. As a mathematician, he has published numerous papers in abstract algebra, written four books and designed a series of educational activities to encourage young scholars to study mathematics.