THE
ADVISOR
Quarterly Newsletter of the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System

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Fall 2013 / Volume 5 Issue 3

A Message from the Chairman

You've no doubt seen the recent headlines about the change in management at the OTRS and you may be wondering what it means for the system you rely on for your retirement. I and the rest of the TRS board want to assure you that the TRS is sound and not impacted by the recent management decisions. The board of TRS is committed to ensuring outstanding client service for active members and retirees and excellent investment returns.

Moving forward, the TRS board will continue its efforts and focus on achieving excellent investment returns. We continue to see strong improvement in this area. For the fiscal year ending June 2013, the TRS had a 17.8 percent rate of return, which places it among the top performing pension plans in the country. The long range rate of return is nearly 9 percent, exceeding the Board's goal of 8 percent. Additionally, the TRS funded ratio increased more than 2 percent in fiscal year 2013 from 54.8 to 57.2 percent according to the actuarial report approved by the TRS Board at its October meeting.

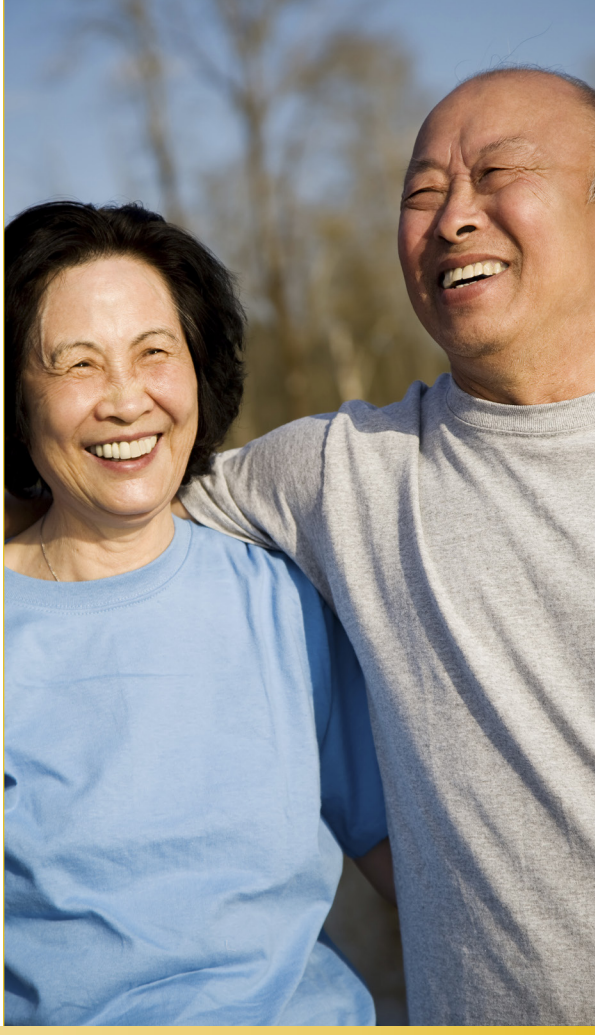
In addition to maintaining exceptional financial performance for the System, the Board continues current progress on improving systems and processes that will make it easier for clients to access information. In recent months, the TRS has gone through a significant records migration, automating client information. The automation of this information allows us to give TRS clients, real-time information on their accounts in the near future. This effort also lays the ground work to give TRS clients an annual comprehensive financial retirement statement and eventually opens the way for clients to be able to access their retirement information online. We will keep you apprised on the progress on these projects.

Members of the Board want to reassure clients of the TRS – educators, school personnel and retirees – that the system is sound, progress continues on efforts to improve our customer service and the TRS' financial performance continues to rank our plan among among the top pension plans in the country and the state.

Planning to retire in 2014?

They say good things come to those who wait, and a well-planned retirement is definitely a good thing. But if you wait too long to fill out your Pre-Retirement Information Verification (PIV) form, your retirement could be delayed. Submitting the completed PIV form to us is the first step toward beginning the retirement process. If you're planning to retire in 2014, you need to review the deadlines for PIV form submissions to ensure you get yours in on time. We must have the PIV form on file before we can prepare an *Intent to Retire* packet. Upcoming deadlines are as follows:

Intended Retirement Start Date:	PIV Form Submission Deadline:
February 1, 2014	November 1, 2013
March 1, 2014	December 1, 2013
April 1, 2014	January 1, 2014
May 1, 2014	February 1, 2014
June 1, 2014	March 1, 2014
July 1, 2014	April 1, 2014



To view the entire *Timelines For Retirement* document, visit our website at www.ok.gov/TRS.
For more information, check out our Client Handbook or call us at (405) 521-2387 or (877) 738 6365.

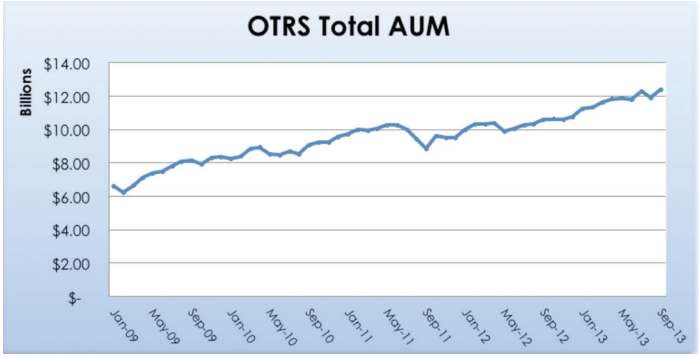
First Quarter Investment Recap

Domestic Equity markets drove a significant return for the quarter outperforming the S&P 500 by 2.9%

From the second quarter to the third, the System's assets increased by more than $600 million and outperformed our composite benchmark by 1.1%.

Once again OTRS is benefiting from the multi-strategy diversification of the fund's assets, led by the allocation to domestic equities. This strategy has yielded an 18.72% annual return with a year-to-date return of 16.06%. The System's Board and Administration maintain a high level of confidence in the current investment philosophy.

The key events that will influence the performance of the equity markets over the next quarter will be the consumer spending during the Christmas holidays, and the market's assessment of the ramifications of the



Federal Government shutdown on the economy as a whole.

Organizationally speaking, the Federal Government shutdown will not affect OTRS operations as it is funded by state contributions, sales tax and other Oklahoma revenue sources not affected by Federal legislators.

Teachers Retirement to host Fall 2013 Seminar Series

What comes to mind when the leaves start to turn colors and the weather gets cooler? Retirement planning seminars, of course. The Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System is hosting two regional seminars in November 2013.

The first seminar will be held in Tulsa on November 2nd at the Wyndham Hotel. The other will be held in Oklahoma City on November 16th at the Cox Convention Center. At both seminars, registrants may receive a projection of their future benefits along with other essential planning information through a variety of presentations and breakout sessions. We'll walk registrants through the retirement process and help them answer these questions:

- When am I eligible to retire?
- How are my retirement benefits calculated?
- What are my retirement plan options?
- What are the post-retirement employment guidelines?

The seminars will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at noon. For more information, or to register, go to www.ok.gov/trs. There is no cost to attend the seminars, but pre-registration is required.

The staff members at the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System are dedicated to educating our clients, and helping ensure your transition into retirement is a smooth one. These seminars provide us with one more way to serve you, our clients. We realize that some of you will not be able to register for these seminars. We anticipate hosting more seminars in the Spring of 2014. So if you can't make it this time, you can "Like" us on Facebook to get notifications of future seminars and other OTRS news.

HAVE YOU "LIKED" US YET?

At the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System, we understand how important it is for you to receive timely information about your retirement and pension plan. Social media applications, such as Facebook, have allowed us to expand our avenues of communication with our valued members and clients. This interactive format gives you the opportunity to not only get quick updates to events and developments, it also provides an additional platform for you to ask questions and share ideas.

If you're already using Facebook, getting access to this additional information is as easy as clicking "Like" on our page at facebook.com/OkTRS.

Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System

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Have Questions? Need Help?

Here's how you can get in touch with us:

In person: Oliver Hodge Building, 5th Floor, 2500 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City
On the phone: 1-877-738-6365 or 405-521-2387
On the web: www.ok.gov/TRS or facebook.com/okTRS

Printed by University Printing Services and issued by Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System. 139,000 copies were printed at a cost of $10,000.00. Copies have been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

Can I Work Part-Time After I Retire?

Sometimes, after a member retires, the need or desire arises to return to work on a part-time basis. If you are considering post-retirement employment, you need to be aware of the requirements and restrictions set by our current statutes.

Retirees who wish to work for any Oklahoma public schools or other education-related employer, must wait for sixty (60) days after their regular employment ends before returning to the workforce. Depending upon your age at retirement, certain earnings limits apply until you have been retired for 36 months.

Those who have retired due to disability are not eligible to be employed in any capacity, by any school, public or private, in Oklahoma or in other states, from the date of retirement to age 65.

There are no restrictions on employment outside of the public education field.

You can find more information about post-retirement employment in our Client Handbook. An electronic copy of the handbook is available on our website.