

For Immediate Release
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OKLAHOMA TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Teachers Retirement System ranks in first percentile of all public funds in United States

Report shows OTRS is best performing public retirement fund in state

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System ranks in the first percentile of all public funds in the United States, according to a recently released Oklahoma Pension Commission report. The Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System had a 16.3-percent, return on investments in the first nine months of fiscal year 2013, bringing the fund’s assets to more than \$11.6 billion.

Additionally, the OTRS fund ranked in the first percentile in all time periods measured in the report, including most recent quarter to the 10-year rankings. The teachers’ retirement system also outpaced all other state pension funds by a wide margin in terms of national percentile. The next highest ranking state fund sits at the 23rd percentile for this fiscal year’s returns.

The report also showed a 10.2-percent return over the last 10 years.

“The continued, strong performance of the fund demonstrates the Board of Trustees, investment consultant and OTRS staff’s consistent work to protect and grow our clients’ investments in a strategic, beneficial manner,” said Dr. James Wilbanks, OTRS executive director. “While this ranking is highly rewarding, we will continue to work for the benefit of our clients in everything we do.”

Wilbanks says the board’s investment philosophy is to be patient long-term investors. The OTRS Board of Trustees has also demonstrated a willingness to buck investment trends, either investing in areas before others see the value or to getting into an area with good, long-term value when others are leaving due to short-term issues. This philosophy earned the system recognition as the best mid-sized pension plan investor in the country by Money Management Intelligence, a division of Institutional Investor Magazine last year.

“We make a point of being different in order to achieve our long-run total return target, net of fees. We believe that philosophy and our board and staff’s prudent steps in cutting our

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operating costs, renegotiating investment contracts and streamlining internal processes, all contribute to the success of the system.”

As the state’s largest pension fund, the OTRS represents 48-percent of the Oklahoma Pension Commission’s total portfolio. The Board of Trustees is comprised of 13 members consisting of educators, retired educators, non-members from the private sector and ex-officio members. The investment consultant to the Board of Trustees is Gregory W Group headquartered in Tulsa.

About the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System

The OTRS is a state agency that administers retirement assets and provides income security through a monthly retirement benefit payable to its clients, who are educators and employees of Oklahoma’s public education institutions and agencies.