



May 15, 2008

## **Beavers to be Recognized by Retired Educators**

Members of the Oklahoma Retired Educators Association will honor **Tommy Beavers**, longtime executive director of the state teachers' retirement system, with a special appreciation award when the group meets for their annual convention on **Friday, May 16**, at the **University of Central Oklahoma** in **Edmond**.

Beavers has announced plans to retire on December 31, 2008, after more than 38 years of service with the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma.

Beavers joined the Teacher' Retirement System staff in 1970. As Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, he developed the System's data processing section. In 1980, he was promoted to Secretary-Treasurer, assuming responsibility for the System's financial and investment operations. He has served as TRS executive director since 1988.

During Beaver's tenure, the System's assets have grown from \$150 million to more than \$9 billion. TRS membership has increased from 48,000 in 1970 to more than 145,000 today.

The Oklahoma Retired Educators Association is made up of more than 14,000 member educators who have retired after longstanding service in Oklahoma schools. The OREA exists to stand up for and speak with a clear voice for retired education employees in Oklahoma.

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**NOTE TO MEDIA:**

Beavers will be honored as part of the OREA Convention's program. The award will be presented to him at approximately **11:30 a.m.** at the **University of Central Oklahoma's University Center** in **Edmond**.

News media representatives are invited to attend presentation of the award for Beavers. Media representatives are asked to check in at the conference registration table on arrival.

In addition to Beavers, one or more of the following individuals will be available to speak with news media if desired: Joy Dennis, OREA president; or Norman Cooper, OREA executive director.

Questions regarding media coverage of the appreciation award for Tommy Beavers can be directed to Joe Wynn, OREA Communications Committee chair, at 580-305-1370.