

Kick off Sunshine Week with FOI Oklahoma's 2015 Sunshine Conference

Oklahoma Sunshine '15:

Shine the Light on Shadowy Government

Saturday, March 14 • 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

46th Star Auditorium
4th Floor, Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library
300 Park Avenue • Oklahoma City

Hurry! Advance registration deadline is March 11 (or pay \$5 more at the door)
Registration includes six informative sessions, plus the FOI Oklahoma Awards Luncheon

Schedule

9:00 AM — **Check-in and Registration Desk Opens**

9:30 AM — **Welcome:** FOI Oklahoma President Alex Cameron opens the conference with a welcome from the Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library

9:35 AM — **Traitor, Journalist, Whistleblower, Spy:** Edward Snowden and Julian Assange have fueled an international conversation about open records and have raised broader questions about the definition of “journalist.” That debate is ongoing in Oklahoma, too, where students, bloggers and citizens are employing reporter-like strategies to squeeze information out of government officials — and receiving backlash and blacklisting. Moderator **Jaclyn Cosgrove** of *The Oklahoman* speaks with student reporter **Joey Stipek** of OU's *Oklahoma Daily*, and **April Jamison** of *The Beaver Guardian*.

10:20 AM — **Break**

10:30 AM — **No Records, No Reporting:** A survey of significant Oklahoma journalism that wouldn't have been reported without open records; plus a discussion about the responsiveness of state and local agencies in fulfilling requests, and how Oklahoma compares to other states regarding transparency and open government laws. Moderator Paul Monies of *The Oklahoman* hosts a discussion with **Ziva Branstetter** of *The Tulsa World*, Reuters journalist **Ryan McNeill**, and **Alex Cameron** of News9.

11:15 AM — **Legislative Threats to Open Records:** StateImpact's **Joe Wertz** talks with Rep. **Jason Murphy** and Sen. **David Holt** about the open and not-so-open government legislation this session, including a bill that expands fees and adds at least 10 exemptions to the state's Open Records Act.

12:00 PM — **FOI Oklahoma Awards Luncheon:** Announcements of this year's winners of the organization's Sunshine and Black Hole awards, and introduction of the 2015 recipient of the Marian Opala First Amendment Award.

1:00 PM — **25 Years of FOIK:** Join the founders of Freedom of Information Oklahoma — including veteran journalist **Sue Hale**, attorney **David McCullough**, and *The Oklahoman* reporter **Diana Baldwin** — in a discussion about how openness and transparency have changed since the organization was incorporated a quarter of a century ago.

1:45 PM. — **Break**

2:00 PM — **Openness in Indian Country:** Tribal governments represent specific issues when it comes to open records and open meetings. What kind of information do Indian tribes have, how much of it is open, and how can the press and public make sure they're being effective watchdogs? Moderator **Kevin Kemper** of the Native American Journalists Association hosts a discussion with freelance journalist **Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton**, **Louise Red Corn** of *The Bigheart Times*, and **Bryan Pollard** of *Cherokee Phoenix*.

2:45 PM — **Open Government Primer and Q&A:** A how-to-guide on getting information out of Oklahoma government — from open records requests and open meetings, to getting information in a useable spreadsheet format instead of a photocopy. Oklahoma State University's **Joey Senat** talks with Oklahoma Watch's **Clifton Adcock** and *The Journal Record* reporter **Sarah Terry-Cobo**.