Mike O’Neal, President Emeritus, Oklahoma Christian University

Mike is President Emeritus of Oklahoma Christian University, having retired in 2012 after serving as president for ten years. Under O'Neal's leadership from 2002 to 2012, Oklahoma Christian reduced operating expenses, increased academic support, added 20 faculty, significantly increased the endowment, and set four consecutive undergraduate and graduate enrollment records. The University also launched and completed a comprehensive $34 million student residence building project, remodeled and expanded science lab facilities, and completed a highly successful $60 million Higher Learning~Higher Calling fundraising campaign.

Before joining Oklahoma Christian, Mike O'Neal served Pepperdine University from 1976 to 2002 as general counsel and vice president for finance and administration and was named vice chancellor in 1991. Mike received a bachelor’s in accounting from Harding University in 1968 and a juris doctorate from Stanford University in 1974. He also received the highest score in Oklahoma on the 1969 CPA exam, and worked with Coopers & Lybrand; Touche, Ross & Co; and Ernst & Ernst. He earned a Bronze Star for meritorious service as a Navy Supply Officer in Vietnam.

In 2006, Mike helped initiate a unique relationship between Oklahoma Christian and the East African nation of Rwanda, assisting that country with the ongoing recovery from its tragic genocide. He currently serves as Chancellor for the University of Rwanda.

Since moving back to Oklahoma, O'Neal has served on the Board of the Last Frontier Council of the Boy Scouts and on the Board of Advisers of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce. He currently serves on the United Way and Mercy Hospital boards and is Secretary/Treasurer and a member of the Board of Directors of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities.