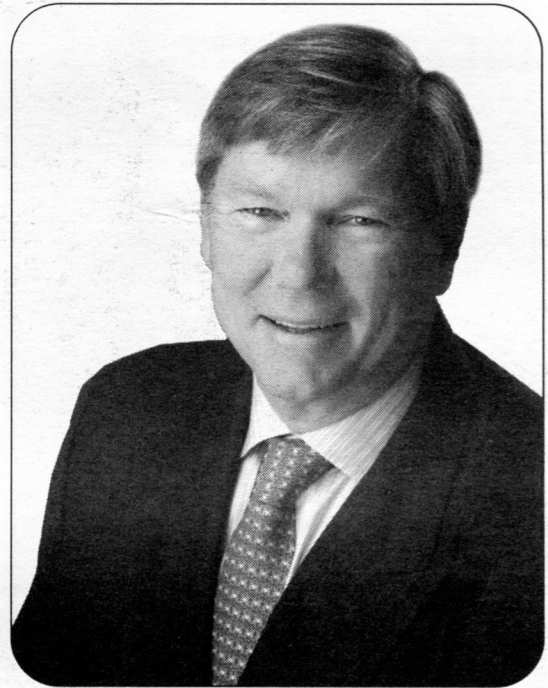


## Stephen Prescott

Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation  
President



**S**tephen Prescott, president of the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, likens running an organization to playing hockey. In order to be successful, you need to skate to where the puck is going to be.

It's that philosophy that has helped Prescott put OMRF in the forefront of the nation's medical research since he took the helm in 2006.

Recognizing that research was about to migrate from a pure lab-based model to more of a clinical approach, Prescott led OMRF to make major investments in building clinical research programs. By sharing his vision with philanthropists as well as state and federal government agencies, he raised \$85 million to build a state-of-the-art research tower on OMRF's campus – the largest expansion in the foundation's history.

Prescott's push for innovation has also led to two drugs based on OMRF discoveries receiving FDA approval and a third about to begin clinical trials.

"As a leader, Dr. Prescott dares his staff members – both administrative and scientific – to think big. To take risks. Don't get me wrong; he doesn't encourage needless daring. But he constantly challenges us to question conventional wisdom, to look for new ways to attack questions," said Adam Cohen, OMRF's senior vice president and general counsel.

Prescott said successful organizations are those that recognize core strengths and build from them.

"The high-functioning organization is one that is constantly re-evaluating itself and adjusting course accordingly. This process is essential, but it is often also painful, as enforcing excellence often means parting ways with people or functions that have long been a part of your operations," Prescott said. "It seems counter-intuitive, but I believe that the best organizations are those that are most willing to abandon the things that made them great. For long-term success, the institution that doesn't keep its eyes to the horizon – and move its feet accordingly – will almost certainly end up relegated to the past."

Prescott knew he wanted a career in medicine since the time he was in high school. His father – an accomplished scientist. His neighbor – their family physician. A native of Texas, Prescott earned a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University and a medical degree at Baylor College of Medicine.

In addition to his work at OMRF, Prescott serves on the boards of several companies, including Utah-based Lineagen, a biotechnology company he co-founded in 2002. He also is active with several local nonprofits, including i2E and the Oklahoma Health Center Foundation.