It can be said that John Woodson has been an OU fan since he was born, but he comes by it naturally. His father, a graduate from OU's medical school, is a cardiologist in Lawton, Okla. John was no stranger to campus as a freshman; he had visited the iconic Oklahoma Memorial Stadium often, cheering the OU Sooners to many victories. However, he would soon learn the value of spending time in OU's engineering facilities.

John's initial intent was to follow in his father's footsteps by pursuing a medical career. However, John was quick to recognize his strengths in math and the business side of things. After taking a chemical engineering course his sophomore year and liking it, he changed his major to chemical engineering and plans to complete his masters in business administration or attend law school.

John is not intimidated by challenges. On the contrary, he embraces them. Perhaps this is due in part to his parents encouraging him to do what is NOT comfortable in order to expand his capabilities and life skills. John was quick to demonstrate his leadership skills when as a freshman, he attended a meeting in front of the Carson Engineering Center. When asked for volunteers to run for president of E-1 (First Year Engineering Club), John said to himself, “Why not?” Since then, John has served in many leadership roles including E-Club President for two years, treasurer and member of the Dean’s Leadership Council. John has also challenged himself through his involvement with CCEW (Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth), an organization that matches private-sector mentors with students at OU to collaborate in growing, strengthening and diversifying Oklahoma’s economy through nurturing of technology-based enterprises.

John encourages others to “get involved.” He recognizes that through his participation, “You can help to make the College of Engineering a better place. You are part of the family,” John said.

While John doesn’t know specifically what his future holds, he does know this: OU is preparing him to do great things.