

Kurt Gwartney

KGOU News Director

Kurt Gwartney has been interested in elections and the political process since he was a student at Washington Elementary School in Pryor, Oklahoma. He started his radio career while a junior at Pryor High School on stations KOLS-AM and KKMA-FM, now KMYZ. While attending Oklahoma State University, he designed a political science honors project to see how far he could get toward being a delegate at a national political convention.

He also worked at public radio KOSU as a part-time news producer and served as managing editor of the campus newspaper, *The Daily O'Collegian*, before being hired as the local host for NPR's Morning Edition.

After taking time to help start a computer video training company, finish graduate school, and work in a non-profit communications job, Kurt returned to his first love, radio, as operations director at KGOU in 2005. He has been news director at the station since January 1, 2009.

KGOU's News Department produces a weekly public affairs program, Oklahoma Voices, as well as periodic Oklahoma In-Depth news reports, daily state and local news, weather and traffic updates and a weekly newscast featuring Native American topics, Indian Times. The station has won the Oklahoma Associated Press Broadcasters sweepstakes award for the past four years.