ISSUES OF THE DAY
Cultivating an open dialogue

College Affordability ... The Job Market ... Health Care ... Undocumented Students
“Wide differences of opinion in matters of religious, political, and social belief must exist if conscience and intellect alike are not to be stunted, if there is to be room for healthy growth.”

~Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States

In principle and in practice, the people and programs of Otterbein University have taken great care to provide a respectful and open forum for conversation, debate and the exchange of ideas. The impetus for this issue of *Towers* is offered in that same spirit.

As you know, these are values Otterbein holds in high regard. Consider the Mary B. Thomas Academic Excellence Series and the Vernon L. Pack Distinguished Lecture Series. Both introduce our students to scholars whose ideas invite reflection on many of the ethical, spiritual and social issues of our times.

These experiences enrich our students’ pursuit of knowledge and intellectual discovery. Guided exposure to difficult and complex topics helps our students learn how to be thoughtful, tolerant and discerning citizens. Educating and developing true leaders requires nothing less.

And if we are to prepare great citizen leaders—we must guarantee that students are able to have access to and afford the unique educational experience Otterbein offers. Affordability and access are issues of critical importance and we begin to discuss them as a community in this issue.

Otterbein values talent; we reward hard work; and our financial aid packages offer needed support. In fact, Otterbein provides some form of merit and/or need-based aid to 82 percent of our students. And when comparing statewide average student loan debt* at graduation – recently reported at $28,683 – with Otterbein’s average student debt, we discovered that we are significantly lower at $26,675. Average student debt at graduation is also significantly lower than the average at many of Ohio’s public institutions.

A competitive showing when measured against our peers isn’t enough, however, when you consider the investment and sacrifice families are making for a student’s college education. We are also working to make sure that the path to an Otterbein degree is easier to navigate—regardless of the route a traditional, adult, veteran or professional learner might choose.

During the past several years, Otterbein has signed eight agreements with two-year colleges throughout the state for transfer and degree completion programs while also adding new graduate programs. This fall, 41 high school students started earning college credit for courses as part of our new Otterbein Collegiate Institute. Partnering with regional K-12 school districts, as well as two-year institutions, Otterbein is working, as a member of the Central Ohio Compact, to provide options for affordable pathways to the successful completion of a bachelor’s degree. The goal of this regional partnership is that 60 percent of central Ohio citizens will hold post-secondary credentials by 2025.

We must give students the opportunity to reach success without the kind of burdensome debt that puts their futures at risk. Addressing this challenge, and others, requires thoughtful involvement, ideas and support from our loyal alumni and friends. I hope this issue of *Towers* proves thought-provoking and that you’ll join the discussion.

Sincerely,

President Kathy A. Krendl

**Leymah Gbowee, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, was also on campus this fall to discuss her efforts to promote peace, democracy and women’s rights in Africa.**

Features

12 Issues of the Day
In the wake of the election, Towers takes a look at some of the issues important to the Otterbein community:

12 College Affordability
14 The Job Market
16 Health Care
18 Undocumented Students

20 Students Get the Vote Out
Raise Your Voice and other groups were active this past election season.

22 An Outside Look Inside American Politics
Chris Musick, executive director of International Education and Global Engagement, and some of our students give an "outside look" at the country's election process.

24 The Day Cochran Burned — A Rescue Remembered
Karen Sgarro Gregory '78 was a student rescued from the 1976 Cochran Hall fire. Recently, she was reunited with Westerville firefighter John Bokros, the man who saved her.

Departments

2 From the Editor
3 Letters
4 Otterbein Here & Now
6 Around the 'Bein
26 Classnotes
34 From the Archives
35 Milestones
40 Alumni Matters

About the Cover: Chelsea Musselman '14 is a fully engaged art major active in many campus activities as well as working multiple jobs to pay tuition. Her story is on page 12. Photo by Blythe Malone '13, communications design major with a focus on photography.
Issues of the Day: Beyond Politics

Because of the elections, our interests have been stirred on some of the “issues of the day.” Though the races for individual offices are over, many basic concerns still remain on issues such as health care, the job market, and many others. Some of these issues are of particular importance to Otterbein, so we wanted to see what some of our Otterbein insiders had to say about these issues of the day.

We have identified four issues which we see as being of particular concern to the Otterbein community and especially to our students: college affordability, the job market, health care, and undocumented students. All of these issues have a serious impact on Otterbein’s endeavors as an institution of higher learning.

In a classic, which came first, the chicken or the egg scenario, we can ask, “Does increased partisanship in the media create greater divisions in the public or are outlets serving up increasingly partisan fare to meet market demands?”

But in the micro-world of individuals, we are so much better than this. When politics are removed from the equation, we come together and work as a people united for all kinds of good causes, whether we are fighting against cancer, illiteracy, heart disease or any number of apolitical, amorphous foes to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. If we can learn to come together as well on the political front, politics in general could become less confrontational and polarized, and I think most of us would agree that would be good for our country.

And that kind of cooperation and harmony can be seen everyday right here at Otterbein, in the good cause of educating our young people to become good and involved and engaged citizens, whether they go on to vote Republican, Democrat or some other party.

We have tried to look at these issues of the day fairly, but surely these issues are not without controversy. We welcome your feedback and invite you to join the civil exchange of ideas in a respectful open forum.

There was some controversy in our leadership issue (spring 2012) and in particular, our feature, Leaders Who Came to the ‘Bein. Our selections of Woody Hayes and Jane Fonda met with some who felt they shouldn’t have been included in such a list. The point can certainly be argued, but it was not our intent to include only non-controversial leaders in our presentation. However, it was also not our intent to dredge up bad memories and bad feelings about anyone in the list from our readers, and we do regret that seemed to be the case for a few.

We certainly don’t want to be … narrowcasting. But we also don’t want to be scared by controversial content, so we will continue to strive to be an accurate window to something of which most of us are bipartisan and very fond: Otterbein University.

Roger Routson, editor
Now we have all the names for the young women on the ROTC Homecoming ’56 float, pictured on page 39 in the summer issue of Towers. All three girls were freshmen.

Left to right, they are: Juanita Walraven Rusk ’60, Janice Roberts Holtz ’60 and Gwen Miller Reichert ’60.

Juanita Walraven Rusk ’60

WE’RE LOOKING FOR FUTURE CARDINALS!

Tell us about promising, college-bound high school students in your family or in your neighborhood who might find Otterbein a good fit. Please take a few minutes to complete and mail the form below or submit information online at www.otterbein.edu/getinfo. We’ll be happy to send information about Otterbein University and why we’re an up-and-coming ranked institution.

Got something to say? We want to hear from you.

We welcome your letters to the editor. You may send them via email to rroutson@otterbein.edu or mail to Roger Routson, Otterbein University, Department of Marketing and Communications, 1 South Grove Street, Westerville, OH 43081. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit all letters, and submissions are subject to space availability and suitability.

Please check here if you’re willing to help with student recruitment efforts in your area.

Please return this form in an envelope addressed to:

Ben Shoemaker, Office of Admission, 1 South Grove Street, Westerville, OH 43081
Students majoring in equine science at Otterbein University are now attending classes at the Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science. A $1.5 million gift from the Austin E. Knowlton Foundation, Inc. in Cincinnati secured the naming rights of the facility on behalf of its horse-loving founder, who died in 2003. Approximately 150 people attended the Center’s dedication on Sept. 22, which featured the unveiling of the Center’s new entrance signs.

Equine Science students served as tour guides, performed riding demonstrations and spoke at both the dedication and dinner. “They are excited about the gift and are grateful to the foundation for the value it has placed upon their education,” said Sheri Birmingham, chair of the Department of Equine Science.

“The gift will allow us to support and expand the Center, which serves as a living laboratory for the students, offering hands-on experience in equine veterinary medicine and best-practices management,” Birmingham said.

Austin E. Knowlton was a trained architect and spent much of his career at the helm of a successful construction business in Ohio. He built, designed and financed more than 600 buildings, including more than 160 college and university buildings on every major college campus in Ohio and more than 200 elementary and secondary schools. His alma mater, The Ohio State University, renamed its School of Architecture the Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture in 1994, following a significant contribution.

In Cincinnati, Knowlton was perhaps best known for his investments in professional sports. He was a minority owner of the Cincinnati Reds and was instrumental in building Riverfront Stadium, which opened in 1970. He was co-founder of the Cincinnati Bengals, which joined the NFL in 1970, and was the team’s largest shareholder and chairman of the board for 20 years.

The partnership between the Austin E. Knowlton Foundation, Inc. and the Otterbein Equine Science program is a natural one. Knowlton raised champion American Saddlebred horses at his former horse farm, Emerald Farms, which was located 11 miles north of the Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science. He also raced thoroughbreds and was a trustee of the Little Brown Jug Society, which runs the Triple Crown for Standardbred pacing horses in Delaware, Ohio.

Otterbein has been a leader in equine science education for more than 30 years. The University’s $5.2 million equine complex opened to students in fall 2009. The world-class facility is the first of its kind — combining horses, stables, pastures, education, community outreach and best use practices in a suburban setting. In addition to educational and community outreach activities, the facility hosts equine events in dressage, eventing and jumping with competitors from colleges across the country.

The gift from the Austin E. Knowlton Foundation, Inc. has been placed into an endowment for the support and maintenance of the Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science and its programs.
The covers come off the signs of the newly renamed Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science at the dedication on Sept. 22.

Center for Equine Science

Upper left: Knowlton Foundation Trustee Charles Lindberg and President Kathy Krendl present Knowlton’s longtime Personal Assistant Betty Campbell (wife of John Campbell ’61) with a replica of the sign that is on the outdoor arena named in her honor.

Upper center and right: Equine students provided horse demonstrations during the open house. Above: Otterbein equine students celebrate the unveiling of the new signs.
National Outlets Recognize Otterbein’s Excellence

Otterbein University has been recognized by U.S. News & World Report, Washington Monthly and the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) for its focus on academics, service and student success.

Among the Ohio schools in the Regional Universities–Midwest category of the 2013 edition of America’s Best Colleges by U.S. News & World Report, Otterbein boasts the third highest peer review score and third highest percentage of classes with less than 20 students. It also has the second lowest student to faculty ratio and second highest percentage of full-time faculty among its Ohio peers. Otterbein is ranked 16th overall among 149 peers in its category.

Washington Monthly recognized Otterbein as a top school for contributions to the public good as measured by social mobility, research and service. Otterbein was ranked 10th in overall community service and 52nd overall among 682 schools across the nation. Within the service category, Otterbein ranked seventh in community service participation by students.

Otterbein’s own students agree with the recognition from the national media outlets. Their responses to NSSE placed Otterbein in the top 10 percent of schools in the country for its “Level of Academic Challenge” and for its “Supportive Campus” environment.

Otterbein has also been selected by G.I. Jobs magazine as a Military Friendly School for 2013. This list honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America’s military service members, veterans and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

Donors Make 2012 a Record-Breaking Year

The 2012 fundraising year ended June 30 with the largest number of donors contributing to Otterbein in its history. The University also recorded nearly $6.5 million in gifts, making it the second largest amount of cash that was collected in a fiscal year in the institution’s history.

Four gifts totaled $4.4 million. The late Edwin (Dubbs) Roush ’47, established a trust that provided an additional $500,000 to the Roush Family Scholarship. The Pioneer Fund in Denver donated $1 million to Otterbein to establish the Lewis E. Myers ’1907 Scholarship for students pursuing bachelor’s degree in education. The gift honors Myers, father of the fund’s founder, Helen Myers McLoraine. Myers was a champion of education throughout his life and established Lewis E. Myers & Company, which developed and produced educational books and equipment.

The Austin E. Knowlton Foundation, Inc. in Cincinnati secured the naming rights of the Center for Equine Science with a $1.5 million gift in honor of its horse-loving founder, who died in 2003. Finally, the late Elmer N. Funkhouser, Jr. ’38 bequeathed $1.3 million toward the general operations endowment.
Otterbein honored the loyal donors and supporters who help make Otterbein’s “Legacy of Leadership” possible at the Annual Donor Recognition Celebration on Fri., Oct. 26, at the Polaris Hilton.

Guests heard from John Ludlum and Patti Wilson, faculty members whose expertise is focused on leadership. Student leaders were also on hand to offer their personal thanks for the experiences donors help make possible.

One hundred and five individuals were inducted into the new Joanne Van Sant Leadership Giving Society, which recognizes those whose annual giving during fiscal year 2012 was $1,000 or greater. The inaugural class recited part of Van Sant’s “Leader’s Creed” to close the induction ceremony.

The culminating moment of the night was the presentation of the 2012 Mary B. Thomas Commitment to Otterbein Award to **Vernon Pack ’50**. The Thomas Award recognizes those leaders whose contributions have a transformative impact in advancing Otterbein’s mission. In establishing the Pack Scholar in Residence and Distinguished Lecture Series in 2000, Pack has helped bring scholars like historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Doris Kearns Goodwin; international journalist and commentator Fareed Zakaria; and former White House press secretary Dee Dee Myers to campus.

“**Your leadership allows others to follow … We could not do what we do without you.**”

~President Kathy A. Krendl

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**Vernon Pack ’50 and President Kathy Krendl with the Mary B. Thomas Commitment to Otterbein award.**

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**Student leaders offered personal thanks to donors for the experiences they enabled.**
Common Book Looks at Ethics, Race in Medicine


The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, Skloot’s debut book, took more than a decade to research and write, and instantly hit The New York Times best-seller list, where it has remained for more than two years since its publication. It tells the story of Henrietta Lacks, a poor black tobacco farmer whose cells—taken without her knowledge in 1951—became one of the most important tools in medicine, vital for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping, in vitro fertilization and more. Henrietta’s cells have been bought and sold by the billions, yet she remains virtually unknown, and her family can’t afford health insurance.

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks is the winner of several awards, including the 2010 Chicago Tribune Heartland Prize for Nonfiction, the 2010 Wellcome Trust Book Prize, the American Association for the Advancement of Science’s Award for Excellence in Science Writing, the 2011 Audie Award for Best Non-Fiction Audiobook and a Medical Journalists’ Association Open Book Award. For more information about Skloot or her book, visit rebeccaskloot.com.

The Common Book Program is made possible through The Thomas Academic Excellence Series and is intended to create intellectual excitement and strengthen bonds on campus by providing a shared academic experience for many surrounding an annual academic theme. For more information about the University’s Common Book program, visit www.otterbein.edu/commonbook.

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author Speaks at Otterbein

Geraldine Brooks, winner of the Pulitzer Prize in fiction in 2006 for her historical novel, March, spoke at Otterbein on in early November. Her appearance was part of the Making Sense of the Civil War discussion series presented by the Westerville Public Library and the Ohio Humanities Council.

Brooks is a Wall Street Journal war correspondent and New York Times bestselling author. She discussed her novels and the process of creating historical fiction, with a focus on her book, March, which contemplates the chaos of the Civil War. For more information, visit geraldinebrooks.com.
Otterbein is kicking off a campaign to raise $2 million to resurface the field and track at Memorial Stadium. The decision to convert the 89,525 square foot field from natural grass to artificial turf is an important one. Studies have shown that when compared against natural grass, turf results in a significant reduction in sports-related injuries and an increase in performance.

A new 59,980 square foot running track surface will allow Otterbein to host track meets, which it hasn’t done in eight years due to the current condition of the track surface. The new durable turf will provide an opportunity for the stadium field to be used for a variety of sports competition. Currently the field is used approximately 54 times in a single year for a total of 165 playing hours. Turf will allow the stadium field to be used almost every day allowing for more than 3,000 hours of playing time.

With this campaign, Otterbein is poised to join the eight out of 10 Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) schools and the more than 125 Ohio high schools that have turf fields. This will make Otterbein more attractive to prospective students and to outside groups interested in renting the facility for special events, including high school tournaments and youth camps.

This campaign gives Otterbein an opportunity to build upon the strong foundation put into place by such Otterbein legends as Dubbs Roush ’47 and Moe Agler ’48. It is now time to create a legacy that impacts all of Otterbein’s students for generations to come. To give to the Turf and Track Conversion Project, contact Mike Griffin at mgriffin@otterbein.edu or 614-823-1963.

Nobel Peace Prize Winner Speaks at Otterbein

Leymah Gbowee, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, spoke at Otterbein on Oct. 23 to kick off the $1.2 million Libraries for Liberia Foundation fund drive. The Foundation’s objective is to help Liberian children escape the bonds of poverty and hopelessness by providing educational materials and technologies and to set up libraries for schools and communities so that every young person in Liberia is able to fulfill their potential and make a difference.

Gbowee won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011 for her part in ending Liberia’s civil wars, and for her efforts to promote peace, democracy and women’s rights in Africa. She grew up in Monrovia, Liberia’s capital, and was a witness to the horrors of war as a teenager and young mother. She was a social worker in Liberia in the late 1990s, but fled to Ghana and in 2001 earned a degree from Mother Patern College of Health and Sciences. While in Ghana, Gbowee got involved with peace activists, and by 2002 she was a leading member of the Women in Peacebuilding Program (WIPNET) and the West African Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP). A Christian who reached out to the Muslim community, Gbowee helped organize widespread non-violent prayer protests that in 2003 helped bring an end to Liberia’s 14 years of civil war.

For more information about Gbowee, visit leymahgbowee.com. For more information about Libraries for Liberia, visit www.librariesforliberiafoundation.com.
What is the current state of college affordability?

Issues of the Day

College Affordability

Editor’s Note: The stories you are about to read on pages 12-19 concerning issues of the day — college affordability, the job market, health care and undocumented students — are written by Otterbein alumni, students, administrators and faculty. Any opinions expressed are those of the individuals. Otterbein values the exchange of ideas in a respectful and open forum.

Chelsea Musselman ’14 • art and creative writing major who works multiple jobs to attend Otterbein, is in Tau Epsilon Mu Sorority, and serves as secretary of Starving Artists, Student Gallery coordinator, and student senator

My mother and I are the only ones paying for my schooling, which can often make me feel as if just staying in school is a struggle. As far as finances, it helps that some costs are deferred.

I can’t speak for all my peers; I do know that some feel the future burden of loans and debts more than others. I think this has a lot to do with how much of an active role their parents play in their child’s everyday expenses.

The students who make an effort to take care of their everyday expenses have more of a grasp on what it will mean to take on financial burdens on top of everything else after schooling.

I also think it has to do with what you’re studying and what jobs you’re guaranteed after you graduate. I’m studying both art and creative writing and there’s a good chance there won’t be many jobs promised to me when I graduate. It may be more of a struggle to make ends meet with my degrees than one in the medical field. I know this ... and so I’ve created a bit more stress for myself.

I’ve paid for college by blood, sweat, and tears. By that I mean through loans and work and by making the game of “how to pay for college” a team sport between my mother and me. We’ve both taken on large portions of my college expenses and just grin and bear it for the time being because ... it’s what needs to be done.

I chose Otterbein because I liked the location, town, and small classroom size. I feel strongly about being here now because I’ve made very strong relationships within my Greek chapter and others around campus. I also feel closer with the professors than I imagine I would in a setting with a larger classroom size. I like the small campus size. I like that when you walk through campus you’re bound to see a familiar face. I was awarded the largest art award that Otterbein offers and received other awards for my high school standing which helped tremendously.
Why are private colleges an affordable alternative to public colleges?

Jefferson Blackburn-Smith • vice president for Enrollment Management

College affordability is a complex issue, impacted by many factors. There is no denying that the cost of college has continued to rise at a rate that most people find alarming, and almost all families have been impacted by the recession and its aftermath.

Once, college was seen as a public good, and there was some agreement that the cost was shared by many for the benefit of all; currently, college is seen by many as a private good, with the costs borne primarily by the family. Additionally, the media seems obsessed with the idea that college isn’t worth it anymore. That’s simply not true. All of the data shows that college is still the surest path to a good career. In fact, a study by Georgetown University found that since the recession began, all new job growth has been in jobs requiring at least an associate’s degree and the most jobs have been created requiring a bachelor’s degree or higher. Jobs that require only a high school diploma have been disappearing since the recession started.

A recent poll of high school seniors by The College Board (the people who bring us the SAT) and Arts & Sciences found that more than half of respondents ruled out specific universities on sticker price alone, without even finding out if they could get a financial aid package to make the school affordable. We’ve known for years that a higher percentage of low-ability, high-income students go to college than high-ability, low-income students.

Otterbein is committed to being as affordable as possible to our families. We have an array of merit and need-based aid programs that help families deal with the cost of an Otterbein education. For our current undergraduates, Otterbein aid meets approximately 41 percent of their costs of attendance. We took a look at our 2012 graduates, who started at Otterbein as freshmen in either 2008 or 2007 (so this data includes students who took five years to graduate) and discovered our mean student loan debt load at graduation was only $24,143, about the same as a student going to a public university in Ohio. Twenty-three percent of the students graduated debt-free and 55 percent graduated with only low interest federal loans. That’s pretty impressive, when you consider that 30 percent of our entering class this fall was Pell eligible, meaning they had great financial need, and 40 percent were first generation.

I think many people are confused by the differences between public and private college costs. Public universities, because of their state subsidies, offer their discount up front. Private universities offer their discount through merit and need-based aid policies, designed to meet the individual family’s needs. The bigger difference isn’t necessarily tuition costs, but the student’s experience. Otterbein students, for example, are much more likely, because of our small size and intimate campus, to develop strong, personal relationships with their faculty that will benefit them when it comes time to ask for letters of reference or help finding an internship or research experience. The Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges recently released data showing, once again, that graduation rates in Ohio and nationally are higher for students attending private universities than those attending public universities.

In the current political climate, college affordability will be a challenge. Until we agree as a nation that educating our youth is the surest way to enhance the economic reality for all of us, the temptation will be to continue passing on a larger share of education costs to families. It’s a hidden tax increase on families every time we try to balance the state budget with budget cuts to education.

What is Otterbein doing to increase college access to veterans?

Mark Moffitt • director of Adult/Transfer Enrollment

It is our goal to work with interested students throughout their enrollment process while supporting them with their application, materials needed and connecting them with the Veterans’ Administration Benefits official on Otterbein’s campus.

Otterbein works with several different veterans’ agencies to supply support and pass along answers to questions that prospective students may have during their search process.

At Otterbein, we support veteran programs such as the Post 9/11 Yellow Ribbon program. This program allows veterans the ability to attend Otterbein without the concern of tuition costs. Otterbein is proud to be a participant and supports remaining tuition costs with Otterbein grant funding, which allows the student to attend without tuition expenses to them.

By utilizing current students that have served in the armed services, the University has gained a better understanding of veteran’s needs and concerns of attending college. Otterbein offers a Veterans’ Resource Team, made up of a wide range of administrators, to allow students’ experiences to be both supportive and rewarding.
Aaron “Clark” Tieman ’14 • vocal performance major who added a public relations major

While I love music, the arts have always been a tempestuous field in the professional world. Talent isn’t always enough to make it, and you can’t always bank on a big break. So, I thought I’d find a degree that utilized my other skills that would work well in the arts, and I found public relations to be a good fit for me and my aspirations. This way, I’ll still be surrounded by the arts; I just won’t have to worry as much about landing a job as I would if I only focused on performance opportunities.

My dream job would be working in the promotion of theatre or music in the hearts of the art forms, New York City or Los Angeles. I would love to work with a theatre company itself, or perhaps a theatre publication or website. To work with a record label or music organization like the Grammys, which I’ve already had the opportunity to visit with Otterbein, would be a dream come true.

Without the public relations (PR) degree, I’d be very nervous about entering the job market in a little over a year. PR, on the other end of the employment spectrum from music, is a growing field, with its practitioners being utilized in all professional fields from advertising to sports to TV. Since PR is the art of image promotion and control, it is one that I do not foresee losing steam in the future. Everyone needs to have good promotion. So as long as I get the experiences employers are looking for, I don’t think the job market is as scary as it could have been otherwise.

I have everything I need at my disposal. Just give me a few years and we’ll see what I’ve gotten myself into. I’d love a Young Alumni Award around the year 2025 or so.

Carol Ventresca ’76 • executive director for Employment for Seniors and a 30+ year veteran of educational institutions and employment services

To be successful in a job search, a student must utilize every Otterbein experience as a steppingstone to eventual employment. Regardless of the employment rate, students must show success on campus, academically as well as in other activities, to provide a potential employer with their track record — their accomplishments, successes and the value they will bring to that
employer. Often students get caught up in the “I have to have a major that will give me a job” dilemma. What is most important for undergraduates is to not only excel at their major courses, but to realize that other courses in their curriculum are likely just as important to an employer.

No major will guarantee a career — students must create opportunities for themselves through continual and multiple experiences. Internships, research projects, professional summer jobs, working with faculty, campus leadership roles — all are important and will smooth the path toward successful career goals.

We are watching the economy in Columbus, OH slowly turn around. Employment opportunities are rising at every level. However, unless students have prepared themselves for the job search process during all four years of their time on campus, their career goals will be harder to reach.

The first question that a student needs to wrestle with, however, is “what is my passion?” It is important to pursue what you most enjoy doing — regardless of the industry or company or location.

There is so much that a student can do, but success will come to those who pursue their passion and concentrate on being successful and reaching their goals. This does not mean that students cannot change their minds and are “stuck” in a career for the rest of their lives. But they should hone in and methodically make decisions based on their interests, their skills and their passions.

Students need to: build a powerful résumé through professional experiences; make sure résumés, cover letters and portfolios are perfect; network; be persistent; keep skills up-to-date; and utilize resources like Otterbein’s Center for Career and Professional Development.

Carol Ventresca ’76 established the Ventresca Family Fund to provide funding assistance to sociology students seeking internships. Ventresca, along with other alumni, secured funding for The Larry Cox Fund for professional development in psychology.

Ryan Brechbill • director of Otterbein’s Center for Career and Professional Development

It’s still a very competitive job market, but there are opportunities, and according to The National Association of Colleges and Employers, employers are expected to hire 12 percent more graduates from the class of 2013.

There are several things students can do to maximize their chances in the job market: Get good grades, complete internships, get involved in campus organizations and take on leadership roles. Employers are seeking candidates who can learn quickly, communicate effectively (written and verbal), be flexible and adaptable, and solve problems. Students should seek out experiences that allow them to develop these skills and then be confident in sharing their skills with prospective employers.

Degrees most in demand at this time continue to be in finance, accounting, computer science, business management and electrical and mechanical engineering.

How are our graduates doing?

One year after graduation, 95 percent of the Class of 2011 reported that they are either employed (83 percent) or continuing their education (12 percent). The remaining are seeking work (three percent) or voluntarily not employed (two percent). Sixty-seven percent indicated that their job was related to their major; while 75 percent said they were working full time and one and a half percent report that they are engaged full time in service work (Teach for America, Peace Corps., etc.). Approximately half are working in one of five industries, including: education (17 percent), health or medicine (13 percent), banking or insurance (12 percent), theatre/entertainment (7 percent) or government (five percent).

For more information on the survey of the Class of 2011, contact Barbara Wharton, assistant vice president of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Planning, bwharton@otterbein.edu. To offer an internship or mentor an Otterbein student, contact Ryan Brechbill, rbrechbill@otterbein.edu.
Health Care

Barbara Schaffner • professor of nursing and dean of the Graduate School and School of Professional Studies

The face of health care is indeed changing. Goals for such changes include improving access to health care to more citizens and focusing health care spending more in the direction of health promotion towards a stronger and healthier tomorrow. Nursing is strategically placed to positively impact both of these initiatives.

Providing access to health care to a broader population will be one of the challenges for health care. There is a well documented shortage of primary care physicians, which is predicted to continue for the next decades as more medical education and medical students focus on specialization. Advanced practice nurses (APN), who include nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, midwives and clinical nurse specialists, are educated and poised to fill this ongoing accessibility gap. Years of research demonstrate that primary health care provided by APNs is of quality on par with physicians and patient satisfaction with APN care is reported as excellent.

Otterbein is on the forefront of providing education to enhance the availability of APNs to the health care consumer. The Department of Nursing has robust, competitive and highly regarded graduate nursing programs including family nurse practitioners (FNP) and nurse anesthetists (NA). The FNP program reaches not only central Ohio nurses but also into medically underserved Ohio counties to educate nurses to take on the important role of primary care providers. In conjunction with Grant Medical Center in Columbus, OH, the NA program educates nurses to become nurse anesthetists. Nurse anesthetists “are the primary providers of anesthesia care in rural America, enabling health care facilities in these medically underserved areas to offer obstetrical, surgical, pain management and trauma stabilization services.” (American Association of Nurse Anesthetists).

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation jointly published a visionary report on the Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing
Health (2010), producing four key messages for advancing nursing and health care in America. These messages include:

- Nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training.
- Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression.
- Nurses should be full partners with physicians and other health care professionals in redesigning health care in the United States.
- Effective workforce planning and policymaking require better data collection and an improved information infrastructure.

Otterbein’s nursing education program is definitely a part of the plan to advance nursing and therefore health care. In 2011, Otterbein began its first doctoral program, the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). Otterbein is uniquely positioned with only 120 other institutions of higher learning across the nation to prepare nurses to take leadership positions and guide our current changing health care arena.

Graduates from Otterbein’s DNP program (the first graduating class will walk the stage at commencement in May 2013) will be poised to provide quality health care to consumers, implement evidenced-based care to assure positive and cost effective health outcomes, and to guide public policy towards an inclusive and accessible health care system. The work of DNP-prepared nurses will have a positive impact on the quality of lives of Ohioans well into the future.

**Carmie Scarso Clark ’88 • BSN, RNC, E-EFM**

The biggest trends I see affecting health care are twofold. The first is how much control insurance companies have over how physicians take care of their patients. The second is the level of governmental control over health care.

Our role as nurses has changed tremendously. Nurses today take on a much heavier work load and responsibilities. Direct patient care has become very physical and detail-oriented as technology advances. I feel nurses have come a long way, but continue to struggle to be recognized as professionals. Today we take on more leadership roles, wearing many different hats on varying committees. We take on leadership roles in management, administration, law, insurance and business. So much more is demanded of nurses today.

There will always be a job for a nurse. The nursing shortage coupled with baby boomers retiring will ensure that for years to come. The future for nurses looks bright but salaries need to increase to be commensurate with the level of responsibility.

**Calling all Nurses ...**

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Employment Projections 2010-2020, released in February 2012, the registered nursing workforce is the top occupation in terms of job growth through 2020. It is expected that the number of employed nurses will grow from 2.74 million in 2010 to 3.45 million in 2020, an increase of 712,000 or 26 percent.

In October 2010, the Institute of Medicine released its landmark report on The Future of Nursing, initiated by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which called for increasing the number of baccalaureate-prepared nurses in the workforce to 80 percent and doubling the population of nurses with doctoral degrees.

According to the July 2011 report, Nursing Workforce: Emerging Nurse Shortages Due to Multiple Factors (GAO-01-944), a serious shortage of nurses is expected as demographic pressures influence both supply and demand. The future demand for nurses is expected to increase dramatically as the baby boomers reach their 60s and beyond.
What challenges do undocumented students face?

Issues of the Day

Undocumented Students

Editor’s Note: Undocumented students are children born abroad who are not U.S. citizens or legal residents but reside in the U.S. There are estimates of 50,000 to 70,000 undocumented students who graduate from U.S. high schools every year. These children are guaranteed an education in U.S. public schools, but face legal and financial barriers in higher education. The Dream Act was proposed to allow a pathway for undocumented children to become citizens but the legislation has not yet passed.

Robert Gatti • vice president and dean for Student Affairs

We don’t know how many undocumented students we have at Otterbein. The few I have met are strong scholars who live in the shadows of university life. Many of these students were brought to the United States at a young age and know nothing else but the America in which they were raised. They have never visited their birth country and would have no more understanding of the culture than you or I. They fear deportation.

Kate Lehman • assistant dean for Student Success

Undocumented students have a particularly difficult time affording higher education, especially at an institution such as Otterbein. There is a wide perception that if students work hard, they can earn scholarships to fund their education. This is certainly true, but most students also rely on need-based financial aid to help cover what scholarships cannot cover. This means students who are undocumented are left with fairly significant out-of-pocket expenses. We often forget that our Federal Financial Aid programs include student loans, which more and more students rely on to help pay for their education, and undocumented students cannot benefit from those programs.

In addition to the financial struggles to attend college, students who are undocumented often feel isolated from their classmates. It is not uncommon for them to live at home to save money and help support their family, but this means less time on campus connecting with their peers. Additionally, there is a lot of stigmatization from being different that makes the students feel shy about disclosing their own personal realities to peers, faculty and administrators.

My role on campus is to help ALL students who want to be at Otterbein to discover pathways to stay, despite the challenges, and ultimately graduate from Otterbein. We want all students who make the decision to attend Otterbein to ultimately become alumni. Assisting these students with alternate funding possibilities, and learning to build a network of support on campus, is crucial to their ultimate success.
Otterbein University was founded on the principle of offering educational opportunities to individuals who were not being included in the American Dream. Among its first alumni were women and African Americans. Today’s challenge is to open the doors of opportunity to include the children of undocumented immigrants into our social and economic fabric and to prosper from the fruits of their labor.

Otterbein University has a strategic role to play in making higher education accessible for undocumented students, which will benefit Ohio and the nation. As our state continues to reinvent itself after decades of job losses, we face a unique opportunity to develop new college graduates that can contribute to the future economic growth of Ohio. These new students are already here; they only need an invitation to join the Otterbein community and become a part of the historic legacy that this university has provided to new citizens and those seeking a chance to help themselves. Already there are states that have made financial aid available to these students, and if Ohio hopes to remain competitive in the 21st century, it is important for our state leaders to address the financial needs of this important student population.

Otterbein is fortunate to have an established relationship with Columbus State Community College, which is partnering with us to provide academic opportunities to populations who are struggling to make a college education a reality due to social or economic obstacles.

In today’s global society, college students need to approach problem-solving by exploring as many points of view as possible. The students who would benefit from such legislation as the Dream Act have much to offer our traditional students by providing diverse perspectives on the problems facing our world.

A second challenge is finances. Although many undocumented students at Otterbein are high-achieving students and earn the highest merit-based awards, the lack of federal financial aid still makes access to higher education challenging. It is not just about access to loans. Students may also have difficulty finding an on-campus or off-campus job that is not funded by federal monies. In addition, these students are ineligible for many scholarships.

Another challenge is academics. Even though many of these students are high achievers, because of their status, it may be difficult for students to develop relationships with course instructors and their peers. Students would not be eligible to participate in certain research projects or programs that receive federal funding.

Career choices can be difficult. Careers that require licensure (for example, teaching) may be especially challenging.

The Admissions staff works with students to help them understand the opportunities and challenges they may encounter at Otterbein, so that students and their families can make informed decisions about attending.
In this past election season, Otterbein’s campus was abuzz with student organizations.

While there were groups supporting one candidate or political party, the group Raise Your Voice was more interested in getting people … well, interested. Many students do not exercise their unique right to vote. To them, there are plenty of other things to occupy their thoughts, such as Homecoming, or weekend plans, or just getting to classes. It was these students with which Raise Your Voice was concerned.

Raise Your Voice is a bipartisan organization trying to get the student body to use their Constitutional right to choose their leaders. In September, campus was visited by a bus registering students to vote, which was a community initiative by WBNS-10TV, a local TV affiliate. Raise Your Voice was there to help coordinate the event.

“The group is about informing and promoting public engagement,” said Theresa Hubbell ’13, president of Raise Your Voice. “We work on getting information to students about elections, petitions and policies.”

Raise Your Voice also coordinated the viewing of the vice presidential and presidential debates in the lounges of the residence halls.

The election brought up the re-founding of another group on campus as well. The Otterbein Young Republicans had been inactive since the last presidential election, but Mike Grumney ’13 and several other students have it up and running once again.

Besides being involved with the presidential election, the group wants to focus on community service as well as getting involved with local and state elections.

“We are still gathering student members,” said Grumney. “We got a lot of students registered to vote and to sign up for volunteer activities. We’ve been contacted by several congressional officers in the state with opportunities (for the future).”

Candycce Canzoneri, part-time faculty member in the English Department, is the leader of a group known as Otterbein Students for Obama.

“I think the most important thing our group did in preparation for the election was to get involved and raise awareness of issues that are important to college students,” said Canzoneri.

“Even though we’ve been involved in vitally important activities such as voter registration, canvassing, and phone banking, we’re basically about education. We want to start a conversation about what’s important to this age group.”

A large focus of the group was talking directly to students about President Obama and his plans to expand Pell Grants and financial aid. Being on a college campus, especially a private school, students feel the weight of the rising price of tuition and this topic is one of great interest.

“So many issues don’t confine themselves to election years, though they become handy sound bites or rallying cries. I believe Otterbein Students for Obama are...”
Otterbein University’s unique government, established in 1970 — which makes decisions on policies, endorsements and other changes that come to campus — is filled partly by student senators. Susan Millsap, parliamentarian for the senate, has a very positive view on students participating on this governmental body.

“It’s important to have students on senate because they are the heart of this organization. Everyone needs to remember that at this University, students come first. But other than that, it's good for the students as well,” said Millsap. “It involves high-level meetings and decision-making they may not get anywhere else, which is great for future experience.”

The senate is staffed by all full-time faculty, which this year totals 182, as well as a number of staff members. According to Millsap, the senate may also seat a number of student senators that is equal to the number of faculty. So in theory, there could be as many students on senate as faculty, which when it comes to voting on important legislation could make a large difference on campus. As of now, though, there are only 63 students on senate.

StudentS Get the Vote out

Jerry Revish, news anchor for local CBS affiliate WBNS-10TV, chats with a student on Otterbein’s campus. The student group, Raise Your Voice, coordinated the 10TV bus’s visit to campus to help register students to vote.

“The roles of the students vary. Some are department representatives who are there to speak and vote on issues that involve or affect their department. But the majority of students are there as members at large concerning issues across all of campus,” said Millsap.

Students also have the opportunity to be part of the voting process by serving on committees, which help decide what changes should be brought before the senate. Committees involve decisions on judicial, personnel and curriculum issues.

“It gives students a voice. I see more of an effect on committees,” said Millsap. “It’s unique and overall just a good training and learning process.”

Otterbein has always stood out as a place of innovation, activism and diversity. When it comes to political standpoints, the student organizations on campus show just that. Otterbein students are involved with this country and its future. Student are motivated to make a difference, and not just in an election year.

committed to changing the world, whether it’s an election year or not.” said Canzoneri.

Otterbein students sought to top the 2008 youth voter turnout rates this year as part of a statewide initiative to encourage students on Ohio campuses to register to vote and come out to the polls in November.

Turnout among voters aged 18-24 rose to 51 percent in 2008, an increase of two percentage points from the 2004 Presidential election, according to civicyouth.org. However, youth voter turnout still lags behind turnout of voters over 30.

Campuses across the country and the state are seeking to challenge this trend and Otterbein is at the forefront of this movement through its on-campus activities.

A presidential election town hall meeting coordinated by students in the Senior Year Experience, Freshmen Year Seminar classes and the Leadership Living-Learning Community, brought students together to discuss the issues on Oct. 3 before the campus viewing of the first presidential debate.

Not only are students getting involved with the federal government, they are making a difference right here on their own campus.

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Otterbein has always stood out as a place of innovation, activism and diversity. When it comes to political standpoints, the student organizations on campus show just that. Otterbein students are involved with this country and its future. Student are motivated to make a difference, and not just in an election year.
This popular, but modified, saying is as true today as when it was first coined by Prince Clemens von Metternich of Austria to describe the superpower of France in 18th century Europe. The results of the American presidential election and the foreign policy decisions of the United States, indeed, have a profound impact on the world. Our domestic actions impact the security, migration, trade and even the levels of violence experienced by peoples and societies around the world.

I first heard this expression when I was studying and working in Japan during the height of the Japanese economic bubble, which collapsed in the ’90s due to inflated housing prices. Hordes of American students were going to Japan to learn about the economic miracle with promises of riches and prosperity for having that knowledge. I usually responded to my Japanese friends who said “When America sneezes ...,” that, yes, America may sneeze, but Japan will sell us a tissue.

There was a trend toward studying everything Japanese in the late 20th century due to Japan’s increased economic strength. The current trend at the beginning of the 21st century is to study everything Chinese. Perhaps now we can insert “China” in place of “Japan” as the seller of the tissue. The players have changed but the underlying themes remain the same.

Otterbein students may find themselves abroad defending their country and actions the United States has taken in ways they never thought they would. They may find themselves in agreement or disagreement with new friends on a variety of issues. They learn that difference of opinion does not need to end relationships but can actually make friendships stronger because of mutual respect for the other person’s values and beliefs.

“People in Europe seem much more open to discussing politics,” Helena Hayter ’13 observed when studying for five months in Cork, Ireland. “At first, I felt uncomfortable because I didn’t like talking about political opinions—especially controversial views. However, by the end of my stay, I realized that it shouldn’t be rude or offensive to discuss politics.”

Perhaps this openness to discussion and ideas is why I have gravitated toward international work. When I first met large groups of other nationalities during a study abroad experience in London, I quickly realized their worldview was different from what was conventionally held in the corn fields of Indiana where I grew up. It was refreshing to discuss large ideas and concepts with people who had a genuine interest in world cultures and global affairs. When I was abroad, I learned about Apartheid, human trafficking and some of the hidden histories of the United States. Why were these issues not being discussed at home? Why were people back home uncomfortable talking about the human condition?

It was my continued quest to have these discussions that propelled me toward my career in international education and eventually assuming the leadership for the Center for International Education and Global Engagement at Otterbein. After seeing and experiencing the power that international exposure had on my life and thinking, I became dedicated to facilitating that exposure in others. I am amazed by watching the impact the international exposure has on others and am sometimes mystified when it doesn’t occur.

“My Swedish mom was amused,” says Kimberly Swisher ’12 who is currently on exchange at Linnaeus University, “that American politicians get a say in things like homosexuality and abortion and so clearly state their opinions during their campaigns. In Sweden [the political conversation] is strictly about economics and business ideals and these are what the candidates are judged on. It completely blew my mother’s mind to hear candidates state their opinions about what Europeans see as such private interpersonal dealings that the government shouldn’t dabble in.”

For Otterbein students, encounters with different opinion and what is considered rude, encounters with different ways of believing and thinking, encounters with different political selection processes cause them to look at the United States differently and to question why we in the United States do the things the way we do. More importantly, encountering
difference stimulates questions about why I am the way I am and believe the way I believe. Encounters with people who are different can stimulate change in individuals who then become the catalyst for change in society and the world. This is the true power of intercultural experience.

“I was in Kingston at a shop when I heard someone (who was clearly not American) yell, 'OBAMA IS OUR PRESIDENT!,'” reflects Catherine Kerber ’12 who is pursuing a master’s degree at Richmond University in London. “Everyone began to rejoice and I thought, ‘Oh crap,’ because I was worried it could turn ugly.”

But was Catherine’s worry a reaction of her American mind reflecting on what might occur in a similar situation in the United States? Have the moral arguments in the United States begun to overshadow the issues and cause us to be unable to express our honest opinions? Some students feel a greater freedom abroad when discussing politics than they do in the United States. Students abroad feel an ability to express themselves and their ideas which they may be inhibited in expressing in the United States.

“I won’t even put a political bumper sticker on my car because I’m afraid of someone vandalizing it,” Hayter states. “When I related this in Europe they were shocked.

“I think the acceptance of open political discussion,” Hayter continues, “helps expand an individual’s knowledge about all political parties.”

Acceptance of open political discussion and the resulting knowledge is the foundation for making good political choices. Open discussion of the political process and the issues being discussed lead to understanding and knowledge. It leads to an informed citizen in the United States and in the world. This kind of open discussion is indeed something we could all practice more at home—especially if the United States has a good sneeze coming on.

“After seeing and experiencing the power that international exposure had on my life and thinking, I became dedicated to facilitating that exposure in others.”

- Chris Musick, executive director of International Education and Global Engagement
In January 1907, Otterbein students moved into the newly built Cochran Hall, a residence hall that stood on Grove Street opposite Mayne Hall. For almost 70 years, students lived in Cochran Hall and made memories to last a lifetime. One sorority, Tau Epsilon Mu, was even established by residents of the hall.

On Wednesday, April 6, 1976, Cochran Hall burned.

Melissa Barr Snider ’77 was a Cochran Hall resident at the time of the fire, which started at approximately 10:30 a.m. in a first-floor lounge at the north end of the building. “I was working in Hanby Hall in the Student Personnel Office. I looked out the window and saw dark, black smoke rolling out,” she said. “I remember that it was a gorgeous day outside and it was quiet, but the air smelled like smoke.”

“We were blessed that the fire happened when many students were in class,” said Thomas J. Kerr, president of Otterbein at the time of the fire. “Most of the residents weren’t in Cochran Hall at that time.”

A Courageous Rescue

But one student, Karen Sgarro Gregory ’78, was in Cochran Hall. She was napping with an open window when she awoke to a commotion.

“It was a warm April and people were sunbathing on the roof between Cochran and Clements,” Gregory said. When she heard screaming, she thought the sunbathers were having a water fight. She went to the window to tell them to be quiet, only to see them jumping off the roof onto a trampoline manned by firemen.

There was no way to get out her window, and someone yelled to her, “Get… to the other end of the building, the fire is below you!”

Gregory said the residents had been through many fire drills, so she knew to grab a damp towel and start toward the other end of the building, already feeling sick from the smoke. “I felt the heat through the door, then I saw a fireman in a silver suit in the stairwell who motioned that I couldn’t go that way,” she said.

She was trapped on the second floor and called out the nearest window for help.

John Bokros was a volunteer with the Westerville Division of Fire and an employee of the Otterbein Service Department when the call came through that Cochran Hall was on fire. Bokros and his Service Department colleagues rushed to the building and a fire truck pulled up behind them.

Bokros was alerted that a young woman was yelling for help from a second-story window, so he and two other Service Department employees took the ladder off the fire truck and propped it against the building. “When we put the ladder to the window, the black smoke was pouring out around Karen,” Bokros said.

As he climbed the ladder, Bokros evaluated how he would get Gregory from the window safely. “When I got just below Karen, I found she was sitting on the window sill with her head outside. The only way I thought I could get her out in time was to grab her by her arm and pull her out. I was lucky she fell across my shoulder. I held on to her and climbed down.”

“I remember seeing his face, and hearing him say, ‘You’re going to be alright,’” Gregory said. She doesn’t remember the trip down the ladder.

On the ground, Gregory was carried to the grass away from the burning building. “She was not breathing, so I administered mouth to mouth,” Bokros said.

The next thing Gregory remembers is being on a gurney next to Bokros. Both were taken to Grant Hospital and treated for smoke inhalation. Karen spent 14 days in intensive care.

After the Fire

The fire was extinguished at approximately 11:30 a.m., and the process of relocating students and clearing the debris began immediately.

Karen Sgarro Gregory ’78 and John Bokros reunited at his retirement party from the Westerville Fire Department.
“When it was safe, many days later, we were allowed to go in only one time to get our belongings, but much of it was ruined by the smoke,” Snider said.

Westerville merchants donated toiletries, which were collected and distributed at Mayne Hall. A local dry-cleaning business owned by the Subich family donated its services to clean smoke-damaged clothes. The residents also received donated clothing from Lazarus, Red Cross and Gold Circle.

The campus community also rallied to support the Cochran Hall students. “There was a lot of support and sympathy for the students,” Kerr said. “Everyone tried to accommodate them, from faculty in their classes to staff trying to place them and deal with their damaged clothing and possessions.”

Snider and her roommate were relocated to Clements Hall for the remainder of the school year. Other students were relocated off campus. Five hundred offers came in from Westerville residents willing to house the 66 homeless residents of Cochran Hall.

In the fall, Gregory came back to school to complete her student teaching and lived on the first floor of Clements Hall. She and her roommates went to all the open houses at the fire station and one roommate who majored in home economics even made a cake replica of the station for Bokros’ birthday. Bokros attended Gregory’s graduation.

While Cochran Hall remained structurally intact after the fire, the cost of the renovation to bring the 69-year-old building up to 1976 building codes was too much. Kerr said the Board of Trustees ultimately made the decision to tear down Cochran Hall.

Bokros eventually joined the Westerville Division of Fire and rose to the post of chief fire marshal. He retired on June 29, 2012, after 38 years with the Division. A special surprise was in store at his retirement celebration—Karen Gregory came to show her appreciation.

“I like to think that I’ve saved hundreds of lives, because I specialized in fire prevention. But unlike an EMT who resuscitates a person and sees the life they saved, I don’t usually get that opportunity. So seeing Karen was incredible,” said Bokros.

“I wouldn’t be here without John. He’s my hero, truly,” Gregory said. “He means the world to me.”

Another reunion took place at Homecoming on Sept. 22. Former Cochran Hall residents met on the site where the building once stood to share stories and see a display of photographs compiled by University Archivist Stephen Grinch ’98 and current students.

“I wouldn’t be here without John. He’s my hero, truly. He means the world to me.”

- Karen Sgarro Gregory ’78
Ron Jones ’61 was one of two recipients of the 2012 Bill Black Sportsmanship Award presented in June at the Mill Creek Golf Club, Ostrander, OH, at the conclusion of “Blackies Annual Golf Outing.” The outing was established in 1980 to bring together coaches, officials and administrators. Jones was a three-sport athlete at Otterbein: football, basketball and baseball. In 2010, Jones was inducted into the Otterbein Hall of Fame.

Bob Corbin ’49 was the grand marshal of the Americana Festival parade on July 4 in Centerville, OH.

Grace Rohrer Rymer ’48 recently won the adult contest in the annual Inter-Library Spelling Bee at the Kent Free Library, Kent, OH. Rymer credits her spelling acumen to her habit of reading a new word and spelling it over and over in her head until she knows she will remember it.

Robert Fortner ’70 is training for a 3,900-mile bike trip across the United States and Canada next summer to raise awareness and funds to combat extreme poverty and hunger. The effort is sponsored by the organizations World Renew, the Reformed Church in America and Partners International. Fortner is a visiting professor of communication at Hope College, Holland, MI, and is a recipient of the 2012 Clifford G. Christians Ethics Research Award administered by Northern Illinois University.

P. Mark Watts ’71 retired in June from the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church after 38 years in ministry. He was the president/CEO of Pastoral Counseling Services, Manchester, NH, for 23 years. He will continue in the practice of pastoral psychotherapy in private practice in Manchester. He and his wife, Cynthia, have three children and four grandchildren.

Margaret Morgan Doone ’72 was elected to the Library Account Division Action Council of the Ohio Library Council, which reviews officers’ handbooks, creates education publications and designs workshops. She works as the chief fiscal officer/business manager of the Worthington Libraries and serves on the Otterbein Alumni Council.

Elaine Koehler Henn ’63 and the Class of ’63 Clip House Gals reunited in Indianapolis this summer and are looking forward to their 50th class reunion at Otterbein in April 2013. Front row: Christine Fetter Greene, Liz Arnold, Kathy Ackerman McDannald. Back row: Sharon Hept Blakeman, Darlene Stoffer Mellick, Connie Hellwarth Leonard, Carol Shook Rufener, Elaine Koehler Henn, Imodale Caulker-Burnett, Lois Augustine Harris.

Margaret Dennis has generously established the Dr. Donald Dennis ’51 and Margaret Dennis Art Acquisition Fund. Created in memory of her husband, the fund will help enhance the University’s current collection of art from Africa, Japan and New Guinea.
Otterbein Book Corner

Karen Hoerath Meyer ’65 published Missing at Marietta, part of the Mysteries of the Ohio Frontier series. She was invited to be a guest author at a Young Author’s Conference, where fourth- and fifth-graders learn about writing.

Nancy Flinchbaugh ’77 published her first novel, Revelation in the Cave, as an alternative to the view of Revelations in the “Left Behind” series. The book follows a fictional book club on an archaeological dig in Turkey, where they uncover scrolls relating to the Book of Revelations. She credits the contemporary religious thought class at Otterbein for keeping her thinking, reading and exploring.

Have you written and published a book? Let us know at classnotes@otterbein.edu. Send us a high-resolution photo of yourself and the book cover. Let all your Otterbein classmates know of your publishing success.

Michael Olin-Hitt ’86 published his first novel, The Homegoing. The story takes place in Laurelville, OH, where Ruth journeys into the past to uncover the events surrounding an aunt’s death in 1937. Olin-Hitt is a professor of English at the University of Mount Union, Alliance, OH.


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Philip Barnhart, professor emeritus, has written a book, Creative Science: A History and Philosophy of our Most Powerful Source of Knowledge. The book defines science in a way that allows one to determine if a statement is scientific or not. It draws from the history of science to test a model of the process against the behavior of scientists in framing our understanding of the essential character of our world.

Craig Jones ’72 and Gail Donley Jones ’72 recently retired and moved to Carol Stream, IL, to be closer to their family, after serving churches for 39 years in the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church. They are looking forward to traveling, working part time and catching up with neglected hobbies.

Diane Harvey Laubach ’73 manages a thrift shop for the community center in Benton, PA. She also manages the library and museum artifacts displays and engages local artists to display their artwork on the library walls. She says her past work with the Otterbein Thrift Shop helped her get this current appointment.

Judi Garratt ’68 received the CETA Medallion, the highest award given by the California Educational Theatre Association for lifetime achievement. Garratt has worked in various aspects of theatre throughout her life as actor, director, producer, teaching artist, teacher and administrator. She is most widely recognized for her work as a mime artist. Since 1999, she has worked for the Los Angeles Unified School District. Currently she provides support for almost 200 theatre teachers in grades K-12 and creates curriculum for the district. Working with three other theatre teachers, she has founded a nonprofit, Theatre Keys, Inc., which produces educational materials.

David Thomas ’69 retired from the Presbyterian Church USA (PC USA) after serving 11 years as a mission worker in Mexico. He served in the Mexican border state of Sonora, facilitating cross-cultural learning experiences with a goal of fostering understanding and spiritual growth among Presbyterians on both sides of the border. Prior to his mission service, he worked for 18 years in broadcasting and journalism, and for 16 years in marketing, communications and public relations.
Roger Nisley ’67

FBI Career Made Every Day “a Completely New Day”

by Kim Schomburg Nagorski ’89

His 30-year career with the FBI started with a phone call. After teaching and coaching for three years after graduation in 1967, Roger Nisley ’67 decided to pursue his childhood dream of working with the Bureau. “I just opened up the phone book, called the Columbus office and told them I wanted to be in the FBI.” Soon after, he was working as a street agent in Miami.

During his service, he traveled the world and worked numerous high-profile cases. He served as commander of the FBI’s Hostage Rescue Team, and for the last six years of his career, was the special agent in charge of the Critical Incident Response Group (CIRG). “Those last six years were the most rewarding of my career,” he notes.

“Our main goal was to go to any major incident and help the local office find successful resolution.” The team of 300-400 have been called to help with hostage situations, prison riots, even hurricane law enforcement. The group was deployed to Kosovo twice, to help with force protection and crime scene investigations of mass burial sites. Members of CIRG must be available 24/7. “If you get a call out, you have to be in the air in four hours,” Nisley says. “No matter what’s going on—holidays, birthday parties—you get in your vehicle and go out.”

Nisley retired in 2000, then started Eagle Security Group, a “global provider of risk management and security services.” With the FBI, he says, “I got the chance to do everything that I wanted to do. Every day was a completely new day.”

Even after years of amazing experiences and world travel, Nisley still has fond memories of Otterbein. “I still love Otterbein after all these years,” he says. While at Otterbein, he met his future wife, Sally Norton ’69, and he found mentors and role models in coaches Bob Agler ’48, Curt Tong ’56, Bud Yoest ’53 and Ken Zarbaugh ’50. “From minute one they highlighted the best in me. They had only the best interests of the student in mind. That’s invaluable. That’s what you get when you go to a school like Otterbein—caring people.”
Loretta Feller ‘70

Mediator Learned How to be Objective at Otterbein

by Kim Schomburg Nagorski ‘89

As a mediator for the Cleveland office of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Loretta Feller ‘70 has worked with numerous individuals and employers to successfully settle their disputes.

The EEOC started the Alternative Dispute Resolution Program in the mid 1990s. When Feller had the opportunity to lead the initiative in the Cleveland area, she jumped at the chance. As a former investigator of employment discrimination, “I was frustrated with the format of simply investigating someone and deciding there was or wasn’t discrimination,” she says. “There were no opportunities for parties to speak and to work out something for themselves. Mediation focuses on how these parties can settle the dispute in a way that works for both of them.”

As mediator, Feller “doesn’t necessarily try to determine who is at fault. That’s not as important in mediation. Each party gets a chance to talk and explain the dispute from their point of view without interruption.”

The EEOC settles three out of four cases that go to mediation. “It is very rewarding when, as a mediator, you can get the parties to come to an agreement,” she comments. “Occasionally there’s a reconciliation between parties and that is a big thrill. It doesn’t happen often but when it does, it’s pretty great. They actually restore a working relationship and come to trust each other again.”

Having retired last May, Feller says that her Otterbein education was invaluable in her job as mediator and as coordinator of the program, because it “taught me to be objective, not to be just reactive, and that was important for everything I did at EEOC.”

Feller also added that her Spanish major has served her well in her career. “I’m fluent in conversation, which enables me to interview parties in Spanish. We have a large Puerto Rican community in Cleveland who do not speak English, so knowing Spanish made my office more accessible to that population.”

Jennifer Funk Polanz ‘97 is the managing editor-at-large for Green Profit Magazine. Ball Publishing produces the magazine for the retail garden center market. Her responsibilities include the day-to-day operations of the magazine, lining up editorial content and columnists, writing articles and editing for publishing and web content, as well as in-person events and trade show coverage.

Bryan Worra ‘97 represented Laos at the 2012 London Olympics as part of the Festival of the World at Southbank Centre. His poem, No Regrets, was displayed in the outdoor spaces around the Royal Festival Hall and Queen Elizabeth Hall.

His poetry is included in the World Record Anthology being published for the occasion, and read on BBC radio.

Josh Funk ‘98 is the teen programming coordinator at the Fort Meigs YMCA in the Perrysburg/Toledo, OH, area. His ministry includes doing community service projects and social events with teens and helping them become healthy in mind, body and spirit.

Aaron Ramey ‘98 is headed back to Broadway as understudy for the character of Jekyll/Hyde and a company member in Jekyll & Hyde, due to open on Broadway in the spring of 2013 after a 25-week national tour.

Meredith Frey, assistant professor of psychology, and Cynthia Laurie-Rose, professor of psychology, have been awarded $225,700 from the United States Army Research Institute to support their research study, “Predicting Success with Elementary Cognitive Tasks.” This research identifies and measures the aptitudes and skills that are unique to the human performance requirements of Army personnel.
Ron Wiley ’77

Humble Background Makes Him Feel Privileged to Help Others
by Kim Schomburg Nagorski ’89

Coming from “a very humble background,” Ron Wiley ’77 says that without Otterbein’s financial help, “I would not have gone to college. My family couldn’t afford tuition. I feel privileged to be in a position to help others, particularly communities and businesses that may be struggling.” Since graduating, Wiley’s own experiences have motivated him to focus on community service while working within the banking industry and for the state of Ohio.

Since 2010, he has worked with the Ohio Development Services Agency, helping small businesses and minority-owned businesses expand through various programs offered by the state. Just as he has done throughout his career, Wiley is now able to help companies throughout the state “expand and grow and create jobs—which helps everyone.” He is currently the deputy chief of the Finance and Internal Services Division, Office of Loan Administration, at the Ohio Development Services Agency.

Wiley started his career at State Savings Bank on High Street, between the OSU campus and downtown Columbus, OH. “The community was in transition—Italian and Victorian villages were taking off. I was making loans to individuals and families to buy houses in the area and to help transform them into the homes that you see today.”

He was also instrumental in the development of the Short North area by initiating the first loan to fix up the Carriage House building. “That was the first major loan in the Short North,” he noted. He went on to make other loans in the Short North area, helping to improve “an area that was pretty desolate at the time.”

“That experience really opened my eyes to community development—that it’s all about transforming not only real estate but lives. What I’ve done ever since has been focused on that.”

Eric Van Wagner ’99 is an audio production instructor at Groove U, a two-year music industry career program located in Columbus, OH.

Tiffany Compan McCallen ’00 is the national community manager with Religion News, LLC. She launched her fourth and fifth community, faith and values news websites as part of a $3.5 million grant this fall.

Michael Mundey ’00 is the new Hilliard Davidson High School boy’s soccer coach. For the past three seasons, he was an assistant coach for the Otterbein men’s team. He concluded his college career as the Ohio Athletic Conference’s all-time leading goal scorer with 65 goals.

Lindsay Chambers ’02 just ended her off-Broadway role in Jurassic Parq.

Eric Lloyd ’02 is a change management and adoption innovation manager at Bluewolf, a cloud technology firm.

Rayshawn Wilson ’02 is the clinical manager at Marion Area Counseling Center in Marion, OH. He is responsible for the overall operations of all drug and alcohol services.

Michelle Eiland ’01 is a resolutions and receiverships specialist with the FDIC in Dallas. She and her sister, Brittany (on the left in photo) attended the Olympics in London this summer. Eiland spent time as a graduate student at the University of Westminster in 2005.

Allison Sayre Paugh ’02 was named the Diamond Award winner for the Mount Carmel Health System in 2012. The award is given to the employee whose service is exceptional for the year. Paugh works as a medical/surgery nurse in the oncology palliative care unit of Mount Carmel East Hospital. She is pictured with President and CEO Claus von Zychlin.

Jeremy Bobb ’03 appears in The One-Armed Man, one act of the off-Broadway play, Harrison, TX: Three Plays by Horton Foote. Set in 1928, Bobb plays a cotton merchant who must deal with a severely injured employee.

2003 reunion year Homecoming 2013
John-Philip Bowen ’04 recorded his first album, Because of You.

Josephine Rose Roberts ’05 is continuing her role of Regina in Rock of Ages on Broadway. She has been performing the role since 2010.

Jeremy Ross ’05 is the assistant principal at Olentangy Meadows Elementary School in Lewis Center, OH. Previously, he taught physical education in Dublin City Schools, Dublin, OH.

Molly Camp ’06 appears as Marian Almond in The Heiress at the Walter Kerr Theatre on Broadway in a limited run from Nov. 1, 2012 - Feb. 10, 2013.

Ben Menard ’06 is working in the Information Technology Services department at Otterbein.

An Academic Affairs team including Paul Eisenstein, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences; Vicki McGillin, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs; Michele Acker, professor of psychology; Carrigan Hayes, assistant professor of chemistry; and Sarah Bouchard, associate professor of biology and earth sciences, has been awarded $79,898 from the National Science Foundation for the ADVANCE at Otterbein University program. Otterbein will conduct a self-assessment to identify barriers to equitable employment for women faculty in STEM disciplines.

Stacie Oliver ’98

National Security, Veteran Affairs, Foreign Relations — She Does it All

By Holly Fenner Ritter ’06

Stacie Oliver ’98 has dedicated much of her life to serving her country, and she doesn’t even wear a camouflage uniform.

Since October 2007, Oliver has served as the national security policy advisor/legislative assistant for Military and Foreign Affairs for U.S. Senator Bob Corker of Tennessee, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Her issue portfolio includes defense policy, arms control, veteran affairs, national security, foreign relations, treaties, intelligence and terrorism.

Oliver previously served as the military legislative assistant for U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel of Nebraska and Mike DeWine of Ohio, where she wrote legislation which became law, including TRICARE for Kids, closing the special death gratuity loophole and Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) child option loophole, and Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) grant eligibility. She also worked as a program manager at the World Federalist Association.

An active-duty Marine spouse, Oliver received the 2006 Gold Star Wives Appreciation Award, the 2006 Military Coalition Freedom Award, and the 2008 MOAA Colonel Paul W. Arcari Meritorious Service Award.

Oliver also served as the key volunteer with the 1st Battalion 6th Marines at Camp Lejeune in 2005 and as command ombudsman for the Navy Medicine Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education Command at Bethesda National Naval Medical Center from February 2007 through January 2008.

Along with her bachelor of arts degree in international studies, she has completed a diploma in national security from the U.S. Naval War College Command and Staff College, an advanced certificate in nuclear surety from the Defense Nuclear Weapons School and a master’s degree in education, curriculum and instruction from The College of William and Mary.

Otterbein University Board Chairman Tom Morrison said, “Stacie’s contributions to her country in the government and military arenas are outstanding examples of Otterbein’s tradition of community service.”
Jennifer Leigh Williams ‘00

A Matter of Justice … and Doing the Right Thing Every Day

By Holly Fenner Ritter ‘06

Jennifer Leigh Williams ‘00 knows a thing or two about breaking through barriers. As an assistant United States attorney, she is often the only woman in the courtroom, representing the U.S. in criminal investigations and prosecutions in the Central District of California, the most populous federal district with more than 18 million people.

In the organized crime and drug trafficking unit, Williams works closely with the DEA, FBI and IRS, along with local task forces, such as the LAPD, in investigating high-level national and international drug cartels and large violent street gangs for violations of federal drug, money-laundering and racketeering statutes. She also investigates the diversion of highly addictive prescription drugs and related violations of health care fraud.

“It sounds idealistic, but my mission at work is to do justice. That’s an incredible feeling,” she said. “I work closely with other federal prosecutors and agents who have dedicated much of their lives to public service. They try to do the right thing every day, and they inspire me to do my part.”

Williams, who holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Otterbein and a law degree from The Ohio State University, said she was drawn to criminal law early in law school “because of its inherent human element and relevancy.”

“I really value the opportunity to work on cases that are important to the public and that add to our society’s development,” she said.

Williams said she was inspired to become an attorney because of her passion to read, write and learn, and credits her Otterbein education for paving the way for her future.

“I had several professors, including Dr. Aristotelous, Dr. Hinton and Dr. Place, who taught me critical thinking and problem-solving and who instilled in me a love of learning,” she said. “Most importantly, the Otterbein community, including my close friends, professors and role models such as Rev. Monty Bradley, impressed upon me that before being anything — a doctor, a teacher, a lawyer, et cetera — you must learn to be a good you.”
Megan Hartley ’10 was promoted to marketing program manager at the American Red Cross in Columbus, OH in May. She maintains community partnerships and plans blood donor recruitment campaigns.

Rianna Joslyn ’10 graduated in May with a master’s degree in global affairs with a concentration in global governance and public management from George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.

Zach McGrain ’10 is an academic advisor at Ohio University.

Pamela Miller Maynard ’10 is employed by the Pinon Unified School District, Pinon, AZ. Located on the Navajo Indian reservation, she serves the Navajo population as director of band, choir and drama. She also serves as the head cheerleading coach, senior class sponsor and district administrator.

Kayleigh Hanlin ’11 is the advertising and custom media coordinator at Great Lakes Publishing, Cleveland, OH. She works with the sales team for Ohio Magazine and with the custom publications team assisting with organization and editing.

Trenton Weaver ’11 appears in a reality show in Denmark, Alt for Danmark.

JP Lococo ’12 is a ticket sales representative for Major League Soccer’s Columbus Crew.

Nadia Taylor ’12 is a RN at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, OH.

Maurice Tillmon ’12 is a pediatric nurse on the neurology unit at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, OH.

Andrea Weekly ’12 was accepted into the management associate program through Park National Bank, Newark, OH, in July.

Sheronda Whitner ’12 is the human resources manager at Diversified Health Management in Columbus, OH. DHS is a home health care agency that provides nursing; occupational, speech and physical therapy; social work and home health aides.

Alumni, Students, Faculty, Friends ...

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Mallory Alexin Sribanditmongkol ’08 received her master of science degree in integrated marketing communication degree from West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, in June 2010. She is the communications and marketing manager for the American Association of Service Coordinators in Powell, OH.

Christine Kuester ’12 is a retail guest service manager at Disney’s Hollywood Studios in Hollywood Hills Merchandise. She manages three stores in her area and is in charge of the cast members who create magic and provide customer service to the guests.
A Letter from Teddy

The letter at left came to Otterbein in 1899, two years before Theodore Roosevelt became president of the United States. So now we know that in addition to being known as a Rough Rider, “speaking softly and carrying a big stick,” and coining the term “square deal,” President Roosevelt was also an honorary member of the Philophronean Literary Society of Otterbein University. In case you can’t read the faded text, it says, “Mr. L. S. Hendrickson, Westerville, Ohio. My dear sir: -- I have your letter of the 25th inst and feel very much honored at my election as an honorary member of the Philophronean Literary Society of Otterbein University. Wishing you all possible success, I am, Faithfully yours, T. Roosevelt.”

Presidential Flight

J. Gordon Howard (president of Otterbein 1954-1957) smiles from an Air Force helicopter in the summer of 1954. The president went to visit Otterbein AFROTC students at Summer Camp, and as part of his tour he got a ride in the helicopter.

Who are they?

See yourself in this photo? We don’t know a lot about it, but the wood panel and hairstyles might indicate early 80s. If you’re from this era, dust off those fuzzy memories and give us a hand in identifying these folks. Better yet, pull out your old Sibyls and do some detective work. We’ll look forward to hearing from you.
Marriages


Josh Crow ‘05 to Samantha Chapman, June 11, 2011.

Colleen Shaver ‘06 to Sam Holton, May 5, 2012. The wedding party included Kacy Walton ‘06.

Kristine Knauff ‘08 to Todd Wigginton, May 28, 2011.

Erica Wilkins ‘08 to Todd Trainer, June 30, 2012. Matron of Honor was Beth Williams Joy ‘08.


Rebekah Clevenger ‘09 to Jud White, Dec. 10, 2011.

Lindsay Draper ‘09 to Ross Marks, June 23, 2012. The wedding party included Anastasia Bailey ‘11.


Send your wedding photos and accompanying information by email to classnotes@otterbein.edu or go to www.otterbein.edu/classnotes.
Now it's easier than ever to submit your classnote! Go online at:
www.otterbein.edu/classnotes

Online forms are available to submit new jobs, family additions, awards and all of those other life changes. Photos can also be included, just follow the easy steps. Photos should be high resolution, which means the shortest side should be at least 800 pixels long.
Births

Jennifer Gibbs ’94 and husband, Chad Thibodeaux, a son, Lance Xavier, April 5, 2011. He joins big brother, Seth, age 4.

Meghan Hassler Reinick ’94 and husband, Seth, a daughter, Emmeline Marie, Jan. 27, 2012.

Jennifer Morgan Flory ’95 and husband, William, a son, Iain Griffin, Sept. 19, 2011.


Kristin Lanier Fox ’00 and husband, Daniel, a son, Asher Matthew, June 14, 2012. He joins big brother, Eli, 2.

Anthony Fulton ’00 and wife, Anne, a son, Miles Spencer, Feb. 6, 2012. Miles shares his middle name with great-uncle, Robert Spencer Fulton ’57.

Amber Brusco Gibbs ’00 and husband, Jonathan, a daughter, Hope Josiana, April 10, 2012. She joins big brother, Elijah.


Micah Fitzgerald ’01 and wife, Kyla, a son, Wendell, July 12, 2012.

Sarah Frajter Delly ’03 and husband, Matt, a son, Andrew Matthew, Feb. 16, 2012.


LeeAnne Mizer Jurkowitz ’03, and husband, Joe, a daughter, Kate Elizabeth, May 2, 2012. She joins big sister, Jenna, 2.

Katie Ferraro Minneci ’03 and husband, Tim, a daughter, Nina Rose, Aug. 16, 2012.

Katherine Nikzad-Terhune ’03 and husband, Jon, a son, John Gabriel Terhune, May 25, 2012.

Kelli Weiland Rex ’03 and husband, Scott ’03, twin sons, Charlie and Miles, Dec. 2, 2011.

Jill Brodt Busbey ’04 and husband, Justin ’04, a daughter, Caroline Anne, June 7, 2012.

Amber Camarillo George ’04 and husband, Daniel ’03, a son, Dominic Joseph, Dec. 10, 2011.

Jennifer Morgan Flory ’95 and husband, Seth, a daughter, Emmeline Marie, Jan. 27, 2012.

Jeanne Pearson Heintzinger ’06 and husband, Geoff, a son, Nathaniel Benjamin, Nov. 17, 2011.

Ashley Garris McWilliams ’06 and husband, Chris, a son, Trevor Michael, July 25, 2012.


Pamela Miller Maynard ’10 and husband, Brent, a son, Xander Michael Paul, Jan. 23, 2012.

Deaths

Bonita Engle Burtner ’33 passed away June 27, 2012, at the age of 100. She was an accomplished pianist, teaching many years. She was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, E. Edwin Burtner ’33; father, Jesse Engle ’14; and cousin, Janet Roberts Fleck ’47. She is survived by her son, Robert; two grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; sister, Alberta Engle Messmer ’40; nieces, Carol MacKenzie Kruger ’70 and Michelle MacKenzie Foster ’02; and relative, Barbara MacKenzie Campbell ’71.

W.D. Courtright ’40 passed away April 25, 2012. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during World War II as a captain and fighting at the Battle of the Bulge. He was employed for more than 46 years at the Owens Corning marketing division. He was preceded in death by sisters, June Courtright Stewart ’40 and Bonnie Courtright Snelling ’46; and relative, A. Monroe Courtright ’40. He is survived by his wife, Frances Cummins Courtright ’43; daughter, Deborah Klinec; two grandchildren; nieces, Kristi Snelling Courtright ’80 and Mary Jane Stewart-Griffin ’75; and relatives, Kristy Courtright ’68 and Karla Courtright Banning ’70.

Benjamin Glover, Jr. ’41 passed away June 27, 2012. He was employed by Ohio Farm Bureau and Nationwide Insurance, ultimately becoming
an independent insurance agent. He lived for more than 50 years in Westerville. He is preceded in death by his wife, Marilyn; sister, Nelle Glover Stuart ’28; brothers, Harold Glover ’34 and Hugh Glover ’34; and sister-in-law, Margaret Moore Glover ’33. He is survived by children, Ronald, Suzanne Johnson, Timothy and Jefferson; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and five step-great-grandchildren.

Ruth Wolfe Hogan ’43 passed away June 13, 2012. From 1964 until her retirement in 1977, she taught English at Dickson Junior High School, Swissvale, PA. She was a member of the Grace United Methodist Church, Indiana, PA, where she taught children’s Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. She was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Donald Hogan ’49. She is survived by son, William; daughters, Nancy Anderson and Ann Hamrock; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and two great-great-granddaughters.

Richard Hartzell ’44 passed away June 22, 2012. He graduated from Western Reserve Medical School, Cleveland, OH, and established a medical practice in Grantsburg, WI. In 1970, he became one of the first board-certified family physicians and in 1984 was named Wisconsin Family Physician of the Year. He also taught medical students through the University of Wisconsin, and held a special place in his heart for his patients from the Chippewa Indian Tribe of Danbury and Webster, WI. He was a Mason and a Shriner. He was preceded in death by brothers-in-law, Reginald Shipley ’27 and R.E. Shipley ’34. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Janet Shipley Hartzell ’45; sons, Richard and William; daughters, Sharon D’Arco and Susan Wallerstedt; four grandsons; two great-grandsons and nephew, Roger Shipley ’64.

Betty Strouse Kent ’45 passed away Aug. 27, 2012. She worked for the Farm Bureau but primarily served the ministry in the Presbyterian Church. She was a member of Broad Street Presbyterian Church, Columbus, OH, where she volunteered for more than 20 years in the food pantry. She is survived by her husband of 66 years, Raymond Kent ’48; daughter, Katherine Ayers; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Jeanette Burkhart Selby ’45 passed away July 16, 2012. She was a member of the West Virginia University Campus Club, and a lifelong member and friend of the Ruby Memorial Hospital, WVU. She was preceded in death by her husband of 54 years, Paul Selby, Jr; brother, William Burkhart ’43; parents, Hazel Burkhart Campbell ’30 and Ray Burkhart ’27. She is survived by her sons, Stephen and Daniel ’75, five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

William (Gene) Steed ’48 passed away June 3, 2012. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and the 11th Airborne Division serving in World War II. He was a teacher, coach and administrator in the Butler County, OH, School System. He was preceded in death by his son, William Wesley Steed. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, June; son, Ted; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Robert McAllister ’49 passed away Oct. 23, 2011. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving in World War II. He was a licensed funeral director employed by Winter’s Funeral Home in Richwood, OH, before owning his own funeral home in McClure and Wapakoneta, OH. He was a legislative director for the Ohio Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors, retiring in 1983. He was preceded in death by a son, Brad; and one grandchild. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Donna; son, Dean; daughters, Bethany Schellin and Ann Robinson; eight grandchildren, including Rebecca Robinson ’07; and four great-grandchildren.

Betty Brown Maus ’50 passed away Jan. 10, 2011. She was a retired school teacher, having taught 26 years in the Warren and Ravenna, OH, and Houston, TX, school systems. She was a member of the First United Church of Christ, Sugarcreek, OH, and the Eastern Star Newton Falls Lodge. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Bonnie. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Glenn; daughter, JoEllen Wellington; son, Lynn; and four grandchildren.

John Steele ’51 passed away June 10, 2012. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Navy. He taught in Plumwood, Olentangy, Hartford and Whitehall school systems, all in Ohio, retiring as principal of Beechwood Elementary School, Columbus, OH. He was the first varsity basketball coach at Whitehall. He was a charter member of the Eastview United Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Jeanne; children, Brad, Janet, David and Carol; six grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Gerald Wirth ’56 passed away June 16, 2012. He was a chemist and manager of the plutonium lab at Monsanto Chemical Co., Miamisburg, OH, until his retirement in 1988. He graduated from law school in 1973 and became an attorney with a practice in Miamisburg until 2008. He is survived by...
his two daughters, Barbara Wirth and Teresa Wirth Casto ’84; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Jacqueline Reed Parker ’64.

Shirley McCullough Payton ’57 passed away May 21, 2012. She was preceded in death by her husband, Clyde Payton. She is survived by daughters, Pam Payton and Lynn Gomez.

Ronald W. Smith, Sr. ’57 passed away Aug. 11, 2010. He was a member of New Life Church, Gahanna, OH. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Jane Boothe Smith ’57; son, Ronald W. Smith II ’90; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Richard Myers ’58 passed away June 24, 2012. He served as a minister from 1961 through 1998, retiring from the Detroit Conference of the United Methodist Church. He was co-founder of Whitefish Point Bird Observatory and past president of the Michigan Audubon. He is survived by his wife, Linda; sons, Andrew, Christopher, and Kirk; daughters, Michele Crawford and Cheryl Nickolaou; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Thomas Phillips ’59 passed away Sept. 7, 2012. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and the Ohio Army National Guard with 32 years service, retiring as a Lt. Col. He was a teacher, administrator and school board member in the Jefferson Local Schools, West Jefferson, OH. After his retirement from education, he was mayor of West Jefferson from 2004-2008. Phillips was a member of the West Jefferson First Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife, Patricia; daughter, Ellen Long; son, Tom Phillips; and two grandchildren.

Charles Roth ’59 passed away July 2, 2012. He was a practicing psychiatrist before his retirement. He is survived by one daughter, Ann Phillips; and three grandchildren.

Penelope Redmond Rudolph ’68 passed away March 29, 2010. She was a teacher in various countries throughout the world and specialized in teaching English as a foreign language. She was a member of the American Association of University Women, sat on the board of the National Alliance on Mental Illness and was a lifetime member and leader for the Girl Scouts of America. She is survived by her husband of 37 years, James; daughter, Maureen; son, Edmund; and one grandson.

Richard Fridley ’69 passed away June 5, 2011. He was a retired physical education instructor in Lancaster City Schools, a member of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (volleyball) and a lifetime member of the NRA. He is survived by his sons, Casey ’94 and Stephen; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Deborah Miller Crooks ’72 passed away June 30, 2012. She was a teacher at Big Walnut High School, Sunbury, OH. Following in her father’s footsteps, she raised and raced harness horses on the family farm in Washington Court House, OH. She is survived by her husband of 36 years, Dan; son, Jared; daughter, Megan Crooks Pillifant ’06; and two grandchildren.

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Karen Schmidt ’72 passed away May 30, 2012. Her career was in human resources, most recently at Kellogg’s Snacks. She retired to Oregon in 2010. She is survived by daughter, Kendra Yao; son, Zachary Meyer; and two grandchildren.

Joanna Fabian Gatten ’86 passed away July 30, 2012. She is survived by her husband of 23 years, Jim; and children, Heather, Zach and Jessica.

Glenna Pflanz ’86 passed away Aug. 31, 2012. She worked at St. Ann’s Hospital, Columbus, OH, as a registered nurse for 25 years. She was a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Westerville, OH, and also attended St. John the Evangelist Church, Logan, OH. She is survived by her husband of 35 years, Bill; children, Sarah Dillon and Kevin Pflanz; and two granddaughters.

Carolen Koleszar MSN ’07 passed away Aug. 31, 2012. She was a certified nurse practitioner, an instructor at Otterbein, and the founder of her health care practice, Health for Everyone. She is survived by her husband, Thomas Hamilton; children, Ross Wilson, Stephanie D’Agostino and Natalie Wilson.

Marvin Hamlisch H’96 passed away Aug. 6, 2012. A friend of Otterbein since 1989, Hamlisch was the commencement speaker for the class of 1996 and was presented with an Honorary Doctor of Art degree at the ceremony. Hamlisch also composed and conducted an original composition for Otterbein’s Sesquicentennial Celebration in the fall of 1996, which was performed by the Wind Ensemble and combined choirs. He wrote the music for such Broadway shows as A Chorus Line, which received the Pulitzer Prize; They’re Playing Our Song; The Goodbye Girl and Sweet Smell of Success. He composed more than 40 motion picture scores, including his Oscar-winning score and song for The Way We Were and his adaptation of Scott Joplin’s music for The Sting. He is survived by his wife, Teresa Blair-Hamlisch ’77 and sister-in-law, Charlotte Blair ’88.
Cardinal Tales

by Becky Fickel Smith ’81, executive director of Alumni Relations

When college starts in the fall, several involvement fairs provide new students with avenues to join more than 90 campus organizations. Many students arrive with athletic sports as a focus of their extracurricular involvement. Others want to provide a service to help in community engagement offerings. Host and Tour Guides and Orientation Leaders choose to welcome prospective students and their parents. Campus Programming Board members, Greek officers, student senators, work study students and many other positions provide opportunities for students to learn how to serve and lead others for a lifetime. Where did you find a place to devote your time?

Otterbein Professor John Kengla teaches servant leadership in his classes. Students learn the definition of servant leadership as “devoting oneself to serve the needs of the organization … to build a sense of community.”

How can Otterbein alumni be leaders and serve the needs of Otterbein? How can you continue your connection with your alma mater and be an advocate?

- Serve as a career panelist for academic classes or college visit days;
- Recruit future undergraduates and graduate Cardinals at college fairs in your region;
- Serve as an athletic alumni representative for your college sport;
- Make a gift to the Annual Fund;
- Plan your class reunion or an affinity gathering;
- Host an internship;
- Make career connections with students through job shadowing or mentoring students and alumni;
- Join an alumni network such as Young Alumni, African-American, Theatre, Friends of Music, MBA; or
- Add Otterbein to your estate plans.

Was YOUR Otterbein experience transformative, empowering, enriching, life-changing, collaborative, relational, nurturing and service-oriented? Now it’s time for you to provide your servant leadership skills and serve the needs of Otterbein and our students, the future leaders in our communities.

Becky Fickel Smith

Cardinal Footnote:
Complete the Otterbein Cardinal Get Involved form at www.otterbein.edu/alumni/getinvolved.

Destination: Orlando, Florida

Traveling with Otterbein has its own Cardinal Rewards! The 19th Otterbein Cardinal Migration to Orlando, FL, offers you “behind the scenes” exclusives rather than what every Florida tourist witnesses. Special Cardinal Offerings include:

• Lunch with a NASA astronaut (Pre-migration)
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*You must be 16 years or older to participate in the behind-the-scenes tour so the magic lives on within the young. Walt Disney World tickets are available after 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at a discounted price only offered to migration guests. Tickets can be purchased at the hotel front desk during the stay.

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Club News

As part of Otterbein Day at the Columbus Zoo on Oct. 6, alumni and their families were treated to a special animal presentation, which included a visit from a fox, an armadillo, a penguin and a baby kangaroo.

Alumni and friends on the Baltic Treasures Alumni Cruise (right) take a moment to share their Cardinal Pride before a group dinner aboard the ship. Throughout the July 11-22 trip, alumni traveled to Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Denmark and Germany.

Graduates of the first class of the Otterbein University/Grant Medical Center Nurse Anesthesia Program were honored at an Awards Ceremony on August 17. Pictured are Program Director Elizabeth Seibert, Jason Carrier, Mary Bellew, Kelly Clark, Brian Mesarchik, Kathy Williams, Marcy Eckhart, Brian Church, Michael Lucas and Assistant Program Director Brian Garrett.

Scott Hill ’85 and Mark Puskarich ’86 (top) gathered with Judy McLaughlin Davis ’78 and Mary Ann Wilson Mason ’78 (above) during the annual Track Reunion at the home of Otterbein Track Coach Dave Lehman ’70 on Aug. 12.

Erin Deel ’02, Amanda Burns ’02 and Maggie Ellison ’10 enjoy an evening of lifelong learning at the Columbus Museum of Art on July 19.
The second annual Young Alumni Awards kicked off Homecoming Weekend on Friday, Sept. 21. This year’s class of awardees offered eight striking examples of Otterbein’s mission in action through their work and commitments as leaders.


“There was great emotion in the room as our awardees described the value of an Otterbein education, the importance of faculty and staff mentors, and the lifelong value of integrative studies.”- President Krendl

“Thank you for professors who are committed to opening students’ minds to the wider world and sparking a passion for lifelong learning.” – Sarah Martindell ’08

For more photos from the evening, visit www.otterbein.edu/alumni/awards/young alumni.
Homecoming 2012 - Sept. 21-22

The CARDY Party! ★★★★

A L U M N I  M A T T E R S
Otterbein’s mascot Cardy led a great campaign for Homecoming 2012! The weekend was highlighted by the spirited parade, the victory of the nationally ranked football team over John Carroll (21-7), and the Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science dedication ceremony.

Throughout the weekend, alumni enjoyed affinity reunions for the Angel Flight/Air Force ROTC 60th Anniversary, African American Student Union 25th reunion, basketball reunion for alumni in the classes of ’64-’71, Cochran Hall reunion with firefighter John Bokros, and an all-alumni past kings and queens gathering with the 2012 Homecoming court.

Several academic departments held open houses. On Friday, the Department of Communication had alumni guest speakers in a variety of classes throughout the day and Quiz and Quill held a reading that attracted about 40 participants. On Saturday, the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Physics hosted scientific demonstrations with a reunion of emeriti faculty. The Concert Choir invited alumni to join them in an evening concert.

To see all Homecoming photos, go to www.otterbein.edu/alumni/photos

Join us on Facebook for Otterbein photos everyday!
More Homecoming Photos ... Some Reunion and Group Shots

Angel Flight (above) and Air Force ROTC (right) 60th anniversary

Alumni softball game

African American Student Union reunion  Theta Nu 95th anniversary

Concert Choir with alumni concert

To see all Homecoming photos, go to www.otterbein.edu/alumni/photos
Mark your calendar to join us for this weekend of events, awards, athletics, arts and reunions. Here are some of the highlights:

- Golden Reunion for the Class of 1963
- Founders Day Convocation “Snapshots” on Friday, April 26
- Alumni Awards and Luncheon
- “Behind-the-Scenes” Tour for the theatre performance, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying
- An Exhibit Remembering Dean Van
- Women’s and Men’s Lacrosse home games with pre-game Lacrosse 101
- Men’s Tennis
- Baseball vs. Capital with baseball alumni reunion
- President’s Chat and Coffee
- Alumni Cardinal Couples Reunion
- And much more
Save that Date!

Register online for these events at www.otterbein.edu/alumni, or contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-888-614-2600 or 614-823-1650.

November 17 / Athletics Meet and Greet in Pittsburgh
November 30 / Tree Lighting and Holiday Dinner
January 18 / Alumni Council Meeting
January 26 / SW Florida Alumni Club Theatre Matinee
January 26 / Athletics Meet and Greet in Berea/Cleveland
January 27-February 7, 2013 / Tahitian Jewels Cruise sponsored by Go Next and Oceania Cruises
February 14-17 / Cardinal Migration Orlando (see page 41)
March 15 / SW Florida Alumni Club Trip to Baily-Matthews Shell Museum
April 26-28 / Spring Alumni Weekend
September 20-21 / Homecoming 2013

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Annual Fund by the Numbers

$827,679 Last year’s record-breaking Annual Fund total.

73% of last year’s Annual Fund total came from Otterbein Alumni.

616 New donors who gave to Otterbein’s Annual Fund for the first time last year.

578 Donors have given to the Annual Fund for more than 25 years.
Tiffany Green ’13, a sociology major, enjoys some al fresco studying on a recent fall day on campus.