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Otterbein University Update
President Kathy A. Krendl
September 2, 2015

As we begin a new academic year with a focus on diversity and inclusion, I have been thinking about the different ways these concepts affect the climate at Otterbein. For example, on the first day of class I was struck by the diverse profile of our students in the First Year Seminar that Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of University Programs Wendy Sherman Heckler and I teach on Women and Leadership. Nearly one-fourth of the class is bilingual. Several of them have lived not simply in different communities across the United States; they have lived in different countries around the globe. The richness of the experiences and perspectives they bring to the class is not only impressive; it is inspiring.

I was also thinking about these core values as I reviewed the class reading assignments over the weekend. One quote jumped out at me: “The laws of economics and many studies of diversity tell us that if we tapped the entire pool of human resources and talent, our collective performance would improve.” That’s another way for us to apply our core values in defining Otterbein’s climate. In a model community we should strive to tap *the full potential of human resources and talent* across our constituent members – students, faculty, staff, administrators, and alumni. We will be a much more effective institution if we succeed in doing so.

Whether we are thinking about the ways in which diversity and inclusion have the potential to affect and enrich the teaching and learning environment or to contribute to our effectiveness as an institution, the extent to which we fully embrace these core values will determine the outcomes. A model community is strengthened by the ways in which we come together around a common set of goals. My hope is that our focus on diversity and inclusion will help us to realize our vision and that we will reaffirm our efforts to work together in the months ahead.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Graduate School

Eighteen (18) new Graduate students enrolled using the new Graduate Alumni Scholarship for Fall Semester 2015. The new MBA merit-based scholarship was given to an additional 13 new graduate students.

United Methodist Church Affiliation Review

Because Otterbein is a United Methodist affiliated institution, we are required to have a team from the University Senate of the United Methodist Church review our affiliation status every 10 years shortly following our regional accreditation visit. This visit will be held on September 28-30, 2015. An ad hoc committee, led by Academic Affairs in conjunction with the Chaplain’s office and representatives from key areas across campus, prepared the reports and other documents for submission at the end of July. The committee is in the process of working with the team chair on the schedule. At this time we expect to have several open sessions for a variety of campus constituencies on Tuesday afternoon, September 29. More details will be posted on the O-Zone Accreditation tab and in the weekly Tweet as they are available.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES

Outdoor WiFi has been expanded to include several athletic areas. You can now connect your mobile device to the secure high-speed OtterbeinU wireless network at the baseball and softball fields, Memorial Stadium's bleachers, track, and football field. Outdoor wireless access is also available between the academic buildings and the entire Grove Street corridor (Roush Hall to the Campus Center).

Microsoft Office 365 was launched in August, providing faculty, staff, and students free access to the cloud-based Office products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Skype, OneNote, OneDrive). OneDrive will include 1 TB (1000 GB) of storage per user. Along with the cloud version of Office, users can also download up to five 10 copies (5 copies for laptop/desktop, 5 copies for tablet/smartphone) of Office for your personal devices.

In an effort to improve data security and auditor recommendations, Cabinet has approved a campus password policy. This policy will require passwords to meet complexity standards (mix of upper and lowercase, numbers, etc.) along with frequency of change (every 6 months). Implementation is scheduled for September.

Over 70 VDI (virtual desktops) have replaced the desktop computers in residence halls and the Roush Hall student lab. These devices operate in the same manner as traditional desktops while allowing better standardization of software across labs. The 17" display monitors in Roush student lab have been upgraded to ultra-sharp 24" screens to improve resolution. Both projects are contributing to our sustainability efforts by reducing Otterbein's carbon footprint. The VDI desktops utilize 93% less energy while the monitors use 61% less energy than the units they replaced.



Don't forget to take advantage of our mobile app "Otterbein Mobile" for your Apple or Android device.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Where We STAND Matters Campaign Update

Thanks to our development staff and their hard work and partnerships across campus, we are excited to announce that Otterbein has reached the first milestone of \$20 million in the Where We STAND Campaign.

Currently we have a total of \$21,015,370.34 in campaign commitments. Our "Building a Model Community" priority has reached \$11,760,741.95 with "Access and Affordability" climbing at \$5,098,612.57 and the "Campus Renewal" priority currently standing at \$4,115,007.82.

In addition, our fiscal year 2015 cash total reached \$4,499,146, with our Annual Fund number at a very respectable \$899,092.

Alumni Relations

Our Alumni Relations office is hard at work preparing for Homecoming and the Young Alumni Awards coming up in September. Currently the Alumni Relations Executive Director, **Becky Smith**, is travelling with 97 alumni and friends on the Trains and Parks in Colorado Tour.

Marketing and Communications

Our Marketing and Communications team has increased its social media presence with thanks to Social Media Manager, **Will Elkins**. They have also seen significant gains in LinkedIn membership thanks to active collaboration from the Career Center. We continue to see increases in Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn membership.

The support staff and administrators continue to produce excellent results during this interim period. They are looking forward to the announcement of a new Vice President in the near future and to the new challenges ahead in the second phase of the comprehensive campaign.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Office of Diversity: Diversity Lecture Series Welcomes Keynote Speaker Frederick Aldama

Each semester, the Office of Diversity invites a member of the community to speak on an area of diversity that they are passionate about. As a precursor to Hispanic Heritage Month, we have invited Frederick Aldama to speak on his thoughts and experiences circling Latino pop culture.

Frederick Luis Aldama is a University Distinguished Scholar as well as an Arts & Humanities Distinguished Professor of English, Spanish and Portuguese at The Ohio State University. He is also founder and director of LASER & the Humanities & Cognitive Sciences High School Summer Institute. Aldama will be speaking on Thursday, September 3, at 7pm in the Chapel.

New Athletic Program

Otterbein University will be starting a wrestling program with the goal to begin varsity competition during the 2016-2017 academic year, competing as a winter sport. We are hopeful to hire a coach sometime during the fall so we can begin recruiting prospective students. Surveys of prospective and current students show strong support for wrestling.

Otterbein Fraternity Recognized

Phi Delta Theta Ohio Xi Chapter fraternity at Otterbein University received three (3) awards at the fraternity's national convention this summer, including a national scholarship award. Congratulations to Phi Delta Theta!!

The **Otterbein University Student Government (OUSG)** is up and rolling and excited to get the school year started. Student Government's distribution of the Student Life Fee will be among the most visible changes to our campus community. Student organizations that are registered with the Center for Student Involvement will be eligible to apply for funding for the school year to pay for operational expenses, organizational development, and hosting programs on campus for the entire campus community. Questions about student organizations can be directed to the Center for Student Involvement at CSI@Otterbein.edu and questions for OUSG can be sent to StudentGovernment@otterbein.edu. Both of these areas are coordinated by **Colette Masterson**, Associate Director of the Center for Student Involvement cmasterson@otterbein.edu.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Please join me in welcoming the following new members of the Otterbein community (July and August Hire Dates):

Lavona See, Union County Partnership Enrollment Coordinator, Enrollment Management
Kathryn Cook, Associate Director of Admission, Enrollment Management
Caren Francis, Fiscal Coordinator, Center for Student Involvement
Lindsay Kerka, Administrative Assistant, Education
Andrew Lugar, Admission Counselor, Enrollment Management
Jennifer Markovich, Admission Counselor, Enrollment Management
Levi Maxwell, Admission Counselor, Enrollment Management
Oluwaseyi Odunaiya, Admission Counselor, Enrollment Management
Chrysten Regelski, Assistant Athletic Trainer/Clinical Instructor, Athletic Department
Jamie Whetstone, Grants Coordinator, Office of Sponsored Programs
Patricia Turpin, Assistant Director of Institutional Research, President's Office
Elizabeth Berkley, Assistant Professor, Biology and Earth Science
Jason Kieber, Assistant Professor, History and Political Science
Jeremy Llorence, Assistant Professor, English
Kristy McCray, Instructor, Health and Sport Sciences
Leigh Anne Meyer, Instructor, Nursing
Mark Mineart, Associate Professor, Theatre and Dance
Amy Smith, Instructor, Nursing
Christine Zamaripa, Instructor, Nursing

The following individuals have left their positions with Otterbein. We wish them much success in their future endeavors:

Frank Rydzewski, Building and Special Projects Manager, Service Department
Dave Bell, Director of Plant Operations, Service Department
Lynn Rowland, Senior Staff Accountant
Claire Parson, Administrative Assistant, Education
Frank Cirivello, Scenic Builder/Fabricator, Theatre and Dance
Bryan Payton, Assistant Track Coach, Athletic Department
Justin Ferguson, Admission Counselor, Enrollment Management
Margaret Underwood, Faculty, Music
Lisa Patterson Phillips, Director, Office of Diversity – Student Affairs
Sunhwa Jung, Faculty, Education
Elizabeth Doyle, Admission Counselor, Enrollment Management

As always, if you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me or a member of Cabinet.

Sincerely,



President Krendl

Otterbein University Vision

Otterbein University will be nationally recognized as a model community of educators, leaders, and learners who set the pace for higher education and contribute to the common good.