

# OTTERBEIN • COLLEGE TOWERS

Spring, 2009

A parting  
conversation with  
**President  
DeVore**





# From the CHAIRMAN

by Thomas C. Morrison, Chair, Otterbein Board of Trustees

## The Legacy of President DeVore

When President DeVore steps down as Otterbein's president on June 30, he will have served a full 25 years, making his tenure the second longest of any president in Otterbein's history. (Rev. Walter Clippinger served for 30 years beginning in 1909.) President DeVore also has the distinction of being the longest current president of a four-year college in Ohio.

Otterbein has undergone a remarkable transformation during President DeVore's 25 years. During this time our enrollment has virtually doubled, from approximately 1,600 to approximately 3,000. During this time, we also commenced offering graduate programs: in Education, Nursing and Business. Our Continuing Studies program has also grown significantly, and we are on the cusp of adding our first doctoral program (in nursing). We have also experienced a remarkable improvement in the depth and consistency of our faculty, 96% of whom now have terminal degrees (versus only 47% when President DeVore arrived).

On the financial side, our annual operating budget now exceeds \$57 million. Our endowment, just \$6 million when President DeVore arrived, now stands at \$57 million, after having reached \$100 million prior to the financial meltdown.

And, as all of you who have recently visited campus know, a remarkable construction and renovation program has transformed our campus during this time. Perhaps the most dramatic accomplishment was the magical renovation of Towers Hall, which succeeded in preserving the historical integrity of this wonderful building while updating it into a state-of-the-art classroom building. A close second was the much-needed, and highly successful, renovation of Cowan Hall. Numerous new buildings have sprung up including Roush Hall, the Clements Recreation Center, Memorial Stadium, two Commons residence halls, the C. Brent DeVore Hall (opposite the football stadium) and the new residence hall at 25 West Home Street. This summer we will complete our move into the new Science Building, a combination of new space and the complete renovation of the old McFadden and Schear Science Buildings. And this fall, we will open our world-class Equine Center on the property northeast of campus on Spring Rd. Finally, we recently began a long-term expansion of our campus to the area west of Alum Creek; that area now includes our Art and Communications Building at 33 Collegeview and a neighboring facility at 60 Collegeview



that we have been using as “swing space” during the work on the Science Building.

But what is most remarkable about President DeVore's tenure is that he has managed to orchestrate this significant transformation of the College's footprint, enrollment and finances *while retaining the culture of caring, civility, inclusiveness and community engagement that is the heart of the Otterbein experience*. Outside consultants have told us that Otterbein is a “national treasure” and that our culture is our single most important asset. Likewise, all three presidential finalists who spent time on campus last fall told us that our culture was unique and palpable.

This culture has been carefully maintained and nourished by President DeVore. It defines who we are and what we are about. It has even led to national recognition. Last year, Otterbein was one of only three schools in the nation (the other two being major universities) to receive the President's Award for General Community Service. This year, we were one of only 51 private schools in the country to be formally classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a “community-engaged university.”

And so, President DeVore is leaving us a college that is much larger and stronger, both academically and financially, than when he came. He is leaving us with a bricks and mortar campus that compares very favorably with the campuses of our competitors. And he is leaving us with programs in integrative studies, community engagement, nursing, musical theatre and equine science that give Otterbein a national reputation. But most of all he is leaving us with our most valuable asset intact and strong: our culture of caring, civility, inclusiveness and community engagement that help define the Otterbein experience. *That is quite a legacy.*

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**On the Cover:** President Brent DeVore and wife, Nancy, with several Otterbein students. Photography by Todd Yarrington.

# From the Readers

Dear Editor,

Thank you and the *Towers* staff for including the Otterbein Sierra Leone Program in the Winter 2009 *Towers* article on Sierra Leone. I was pleased to read the comments James Francis had about his recollections about the program.

There were a couple minor errors in the article that I'd like to correct. The picture captioned as 1969-70 is of the 1970-71 group, and James Leopard was an Otterbein student, class of 1971, not an OWU student.

I'd like to outline a few more things about the program that might be of help in working with the alumni who have an interest or connections with the program or with Sierra Leone.

The program was developed by Dr. Mildred Stauffer with support from Dr. Chester Addington, President Lynn Turner and Mrs. Turner and others. Dr. Addington developed the program for the McCurdy School in New Mexico at the same time and with similar objectives.

Lloyd Mignerey, mentioned in the article, met with Dr. Stauffer a few times and advised her. He was able to help establish contacts in Sierra Leone to help plan the program there. The Bailor family was especially helpful in working out the Sierra Leone end of the program. Max Bailor was a bishop in the EUB Church in Sierra Leone, and his son, **Max Bailor Jr. '53**, was principal of Albert Academy in Freetown.

The Mission of the Board of the United Brethren Church (after 1969 United Methodist) was generous in supporting the program. Several individuals and EUB churches also gave financial support to the program. The 1969-70 group of 15 students was accompanied by President and Mrs. Lynn Turner and Dr. Mildred Stauffer. The Turners met with Otterbein graduates in Sierra Leone and they spoke in several churches and schools there. They returned after about ten days. Dr. Stauffer remained in Sierra Leone to supervise and returned with the students in March, 1970.

The 1970-71 group of 14 students left the USA in December of 1970 accompanied by Dr. Chester Addington who remained with the group through the full twelve weeks. Ten weeks was spent in Sierra Leone with a week each for travel to Amsterdam and Zurich.

*Sincerely,*

Chester L. Addington

Professor Emeritus of Education (1961-1988)

Dear Editor,

Would you like to know who the unidentified student teacher in Sierra Leone is on the cover and the picture in *Towers*? You can imagine what a shock it was for me to find myself on the cover of *Towers*! This is me in 1970 teaching at the primary school in Tiama. My experience in Sierra Leone



was my first experience on an airplane and many more firsts. My eyes were opened to the world outside of the campus and I will never forget the experience. Thanks for highlighting the long history of Otterbein's relationship with Sierra Leone.

And yet another connection for me...My niece, Allison DeOrio, who is a freshman, had her picture on the page about the inauguration and one of her photos also printed.

*Thank you!*

**Linda Whitehouse Pace '70**

To the Editor,

My heartfelt congratulations to Jenny Hill for her wonderful article on Sierra Leone. It is long overdue. As a doctoral student at Indiana University in Political Science, I did the field work for my dissertation primarily in Sierra Leone in 1966 and 1967. As such, I came to know several of the alumni mentioned in the article, and without the help of my classmate, Victor Sumner, my research would have gone much more slowly and certainly with fewer insights. But the real story of Otterbein's relationship with that nation still needs to be explored in greater depth.

First, are we sure that Sylvester Broderick (1924) was the first graduate from Sierra Leone? There has long been a story that one of the first black graduates was a Sierra Leonean, and related to one of the crew of the *Amistad*, a Spanish slave ship taken over by the captives, ending up in Connecticut early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Their case was eventually heard before the U.S. Supreme Court and their attorney was none other than John Quincy Adams, congressman, former president, and son of John Adams. The court found in favor of the mutinous crew and they were repatriated to Sierra Leone. It certainly is worth exploring, as well as records of other Sierra Leoneans who may have made their way to the College in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

More important however, is to fully appreciate not only Sierra Leone and its long relationship to the College, but how



that country is tightly tied to our national history. Sierra Leone was a major transshipment point of slaves during the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, many of whom ended their tragic passage in North America. Bunce Island in the Sierra Leone River estuary was a major slave factory and the conditions there were horrific. As a result of the factory and others along the West African coast, the first British naval squadron, whose mission was to suppress the trade, was stationed in the estuary in 1787, at a colonial settlement called the Province of Freedom, today's Freetown. This was the result of pressure brought to bear on British merchants and Parliament by the Abolitionists. After successfully getting slavery outlawed throughout the British Empire in 1838, the torch was passed to their American abolitionist counterparts in the early 1840s. In 1847 the College was founded in the midst of this anti-slavery furor, and from 1856 to 1859 the first Otterbein missionaries were in Sierra Leone. The point is that Sierra Leone was a major part of the abolitionist movement, and later educated Sierra Leoneans played a major role in spreading education down the West African coast and eventually leading to the end of colonial rule.

Otterbein's contribution to those developments in the past is a story worth exploring. How the College plans to contribute to Sierra Leone's future, especially in light of the recent tragedy there of the civil war, is of key importance, and as yet unknown.

**Neil Leighton '59**

Professor Emeritus, University of Michigan, Flint  
Adjunct Professor of Political Science,  
Michigan State University

Dear Editor,

Sixty-four years post graduation, about the only things that may interest me in most *Towers* are the death notices. In Winter 2009 issue it was: Forrest Lowry (former neighbor), Margaret Cherington Zezech (high school friend) and Mary Jane Kern McBlane (Otterbein classmate).

However, I loved the Winter 2009 issue! First of all, the cover mention of Sierra Leone caught my eye because my sister-in-law, Nancy McQuiston and her husband, Jim, were missionaries there in the 1950s. James McQuiston was an Otterbein alumnus. It would have been interesting to see a listing of alumni serving as missionaries in that article.

Also the write-up on page 30 about Bob Arn pleased me. His wife, Jackie, was a dear friend and public school classmate.

But the big thrill in the issue was on the centerfold! 92 University St. is my "home," even though I have lived in the Washington D.C. metro area since 1950. My parents bought that house prior to my birth in 1923 and my mother didn't sell it until 1972. For many years she rented rooms to Otterbein students. My childhood playmates lived in several of the pictured homes. 67 Grove St. was the Michaels' home. She was my Girl Scout leader and he was my Otterbein College

chemistry professor. When Westerville opened a library at 131 W. Park, I was given #11 on my library card. And 115 University St. was the Lowry home in the 1920s and 1930s – (Forrest mentioned in the obits).

The Winter 2009 issue of the *Towers* brought me much pleasure. Thank you. This issue will not go into the recycle bin.

*With gratitude,*

**Jane Sturgis Kestner '45**

Dear Mr. Routson,

First of all, I have intended for quite some time to write you and thank you for the superb job you are doing with the *Towers*. It used to be a much-appreciated but fairly humdrum production, but under your guidance it has become a visually-arresting, fascinating journal to whose receipt I look forward on a quarterly basis. Thank you!

Let me introduce myself. I am a graduate of the class of 1947. Both my paternal grandparents were Otterbein graduates, classes of 1883 and 1885, I believe. When my very bright grandmother would come from Kansas to Ohio on visits, I would be enthralled by the stories she would tell me. Obviously, some of these dealt with her experiences at Otterbein. She reminisced about some of the fellow students she had known at Otterbein. Two of them bore names which were highly unusual: Emancipation Proclamation Coggeshall and Missouri Bull. I was totally bowled over by the name "EPC," but she thought that Missouri Bull was the winner! I asked her, "Well, what did you call EPC? –Mancy, I suppose?" thinking that shortening would naturally suggest itself from a likeness to "Nancy." She replied, "Oh, no, we always called her 'Prockie'."

I thought that you might want to include a reference to EPC in the *Towers*. It would have been so extremely timely in 2008, the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth. It develops that EPC received her name because her father, the first State Librarian of Ohio, was an ardent abolitionist. Her father became acquainted with Lincoln and was a devoted follower of Lincoln. There is in existence a published life of her father; a copy of it was at one time held in the Otterbein College library in the general collection, not in the Otterbein Room. (It may still be there. It is also available elsewhere.) He was quite a hero. EPC was born in the immediate wake of the drafting of the Proclamation, and her father could not resist the opportunity to memorialize that event by imposing the name of the document as his daughter's name. After EPC's father's death, his widow (presumably through political connections) received appointment as the Postmistress of Westerville. Thus EPC turned out to be a local girl, a "townie." Well, I do believe that in view of Otterbein's overall reputation for inclusiveness, this little historical vignette might prove to be of interest if worked up for publication in one of the *Towers* of the current year. Somewhere I have a copy of the obituary of Prockie's mother.

*Thank You Again, Mr. Routson,*

**Cameron Allen '47**

## What's in a Name? Are We Going...

# BACK TO THE FUTURE

### *Should We Remain Otterbein College or return to Otterbein University?*

**F**or about two years now, the Strategic Planning Council has tackled a wide variety of needs and concerns regarding the future growth of Otterbein. Based on feedback from a variety of sub-committees some initiatives went into research and implementation such as the semester conversion while others are still on the side burner for further review and discussion. One such proposal is a name alignment for Otterbein. Should we consider returning to our roots as Otterbein University or should we remain Otterbein College?

What do you think? To many of us, our roots are Otterbein College. To others, it's dear old Otterbein. Why would we ever want to consider exploring our name from 1917? Those days are long gone. Well they are – but they aren't. Perhaps our founders were visioning where it should be in the future. Otterbein University of Ohio was founded in 1847 by the United Brethren Church. However, it was soon felt by many that in reality Otterbein did not fit the definition of university. In 1917, the Board of Trustees changed the institution's name to Otterbein College. Below is an excerpt from the editorial in the January 1895 edition of *Otterbein Aegis*:

*Otterbein University is what we call our school. But have we a university? To this question there can be but one answer. Then why not call things by their right names? Otterbein College would not sound quite so dignified as our present name, but it would cover all we have without giving a false impression. Call a university a university, and a college a college, and do not cover with a name what we do not possess in fact. True the old name has become dear to many of us, but who would not give it up for the sake of calling our school by its right name? (Otterbein Aegis, v. 5, no. 5, Jan. 1895, p. 1)*

It seems the reverse argument now applies to our current status. Otterbein has grown into a university (or back to a university) over time. But how, you ask?

**We now have the varied and complex academic programs that define a university**—undergraduate, liberal arts, professional studies, and graduate programs, including a pending doctoral program. The *The American Heritage Dictionary*, 4th edition, 2000 defines an university as “An institution for higher learning with teaching and research facilities comprising a graduate school, professional schools, and an undergraduate division.” So in reality, we are technically a university based on the programs we offer.

**University does reflect our new classification as a “regional Masters Medium University” according to the Carnegie Foundation’s classification of universities:**

Like the national universities, these institutions provide a full range of undergraduate and master’s programs. But they offer few, if any, doctoral programs. The 574 universities in this category are ranked within four geographic areas—North, South, Midwest, and West—because, in general, they tend to draw students heavily from surrounding states. Like all *U.S. News & World Report* categories, the groupings are derived from the basic classification framework established by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in 2006. Did you know that 16 of the 19 schools in our self-selected peer and aspirant group are universities? There are many institutions that maintain a small feel even though they are Universities. One-on-one student-faculty interactions would remain a priority. Here in Ohio some that come to mind are Ohio Wesleyan University, Denison University and Capital University.

**Supports major goals of Otterbein’s Strategic Plan**

Some examples include:

- Increase graduate and continuing studies enrollment, with a target 73% of our planned enrollment growth from new graduate and part-time students (rather than full-time undergrads)
- Increase the number of out-of-state students
- Increase international students and exchange agreements
- Improve national profile as an institution

**Maintains viability of critical programs and facilitates the introduction and accreditation of new programs:**

- Doctor of Nurse Practice already approved by the Ohio Board of Regents (with an anticipated 2010 start date)
- At least 5 new master’s programs planned for introduction by 2011
- Meets institutional reorganization and accreditation challenges

So that sounds supportive but who wants to be another OU especially in Ohio? While our official name might be Otterbein University, we would be branding the name “Otterbein.” For instance, most people in response to the question, “Where did you go to school?” would say, “Otterbein” or “Capital” or “Harvard.” Rarely does one refer to the more formal name of a school.

What does the campus think about this proposal? So far, based on the Sub-Committee’s campus-wide survey to solicit the input of students, faculty, staff and administrators into the proposed change, the results are favorable. Of the 419 students who responded 57% were favorable and of the 187 faculty/staff/administrators who replied, 67% were favorable.

So now it’s your turn. What do you think? Please weigh in on this important issue by visiting [www.otterbein.edu/surveys/alignment](http://www.otterbein.edu/surveys/alignment) and let us know your thoughts. Should you wish to participate in a phone survey, please call the Office of Marketing and Communications at (614) 823-1600 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST. Deadline for the survey is May 29, 2009. We’re confident with the input of all members of the Otterbein community, we can make a sound, informed decision as we continue to grow and strengthen Otterbein for the 21st century. ●





## New Deans Appointed to “Schools”

# Otterbein Restructures Academic Departments

The Otterbein College Senate and Board of Trustees recently approved the reorganization of the College’s academic department, creating three new schools and five new deans working under the Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Abiódún Gòkè-Pariola.

The three schools are the School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Professional Studies and the Graduate

School. Two additional deans will oversee Academic Services, as well as College Programs.

The deans, who were hired internally and will begin their new duties effective July 1, 2009, are:

- Paul Eisenstein, dean, School of Arts and Sciences
- Niki Fayne, dean, School of Professional Studies
- Amy Jessen-Marshall, associate vice president and dean of College Programs
- Susan Fagan, associate vice president and dean of Academic Services
- Dean of The Graduate School and Research, search in progress

**Paul Eisenstein**, a resident of Worthington, currently serves as associate professor and chairperson in the Department of English. His specific teaching and writing interests include literature since 1945, holocaust literature, literary and critical theory, and film studies. He participates in the Honors Program at Otterbein and is a founding member of the Program in Critical Theory at Otterbein.

He received his bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees in English from The Ohio State University. He authored the book *Traumatic Encounters: Holocaust Representation and the Hegelian Subject* (State University of New York Press, 2003), as well as 10 essays and articles and over a dozen reviews. Eisenstein is currently at work on another book-length project that treats literary texts that approach the Holocaust in deliberately unrealistic or fantastic ways.

He has been a Bexley Education Foundation Holocaust Scholar-in-Residence at Bexley High School; faculty advisor for *Aegis: The Otterbein College Humanities Journal*; a member of Professional Learning Community for Undergraduate Research through the Center for Teaching and Learning; and

has presented addresses on Literature of the Holocaust for the Governor’s Council on Holocaust Education.

As the dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Eisenstein will oversee art, chemistry and biochemistry, communications, English, foreign languages, history and political science, life and earth sciences, mathematical Sciences, music, physics and astronomy, psychology, religion and philosophy, sociology and theatre and dance.

**Niki Fayne**, a resident of Columbus, currently serves as professor and chairperson of the Department of Education at Otterbein. She earned her bachelor’s degree in American studies from Barnard College; her master’s of arts in teaching in the area of social studies education from Harvard University; her master’s of arts degree in special education and master’s of education degree in reading and learning disabilities from Teacher’s College at Columbia University; and her doctorate degree in educational psychology from Columbia University. Her teaching and research interests include assessment, learning disabilities and urban education.

As the dean of the School of Professional Studies, Fayne will oversee business, accounting and economics, education, equine science, health and sport sciences and nursing.

**Amy Jessen-Marshall**, a resident of Sunbury, currently serves Otterbein as an associate professor of life and earth sciences and chairperson of the Integrative Studies Program.

She earned her bachelor’s degree in biology from Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota and her doctorate degree from the University of Minnesota.

Jessen-Marshall’s teaching areas include cell biology, microbiology, developmental biology and microbial physiology, in addition to a variety of Integrative Studies courses. Her



Paul Eisenstein  
Dean, School of Arts and Sciences



Amy Jessen-Marshall  
Associate Vice President and  
Dean of College Programs



research areas include environmental microbiology/bioremediation through a Merck Foundation Interdisciplinary Research grant; biochemistry of membrane transport proteins; and scholarship of teaching and learning through a NSF CCLI grant, as well as Otterbein Center for Teaching and Learning.

She has published six papers and presented nearly 20 abstracts and presentations. Her memberships include the American Society for Microbiology (ASM), American Society for Cell Biology (ACB); Sigma Xi Research Society and National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT).

As the dean of College Programs, Jessen-Marshall will oversee the Senior Year Experience (SYE), First Year Experience (FYE), Honors, Environmental Studies, Integrative Studies (IS), Black Studies, Women's Studies and part-time faculty.

**Susan Fagan**, a resident of Westerville, is currently associate academic dean in the Office of Academic Affairs. She earned her bachelor's degree at Seton Hall College, her master's degree in education at the University of Pittsburgh and her doctorate degree in education at Rutgers University.



*Niki Fayne*  
*Dean, School of Professional Studies*

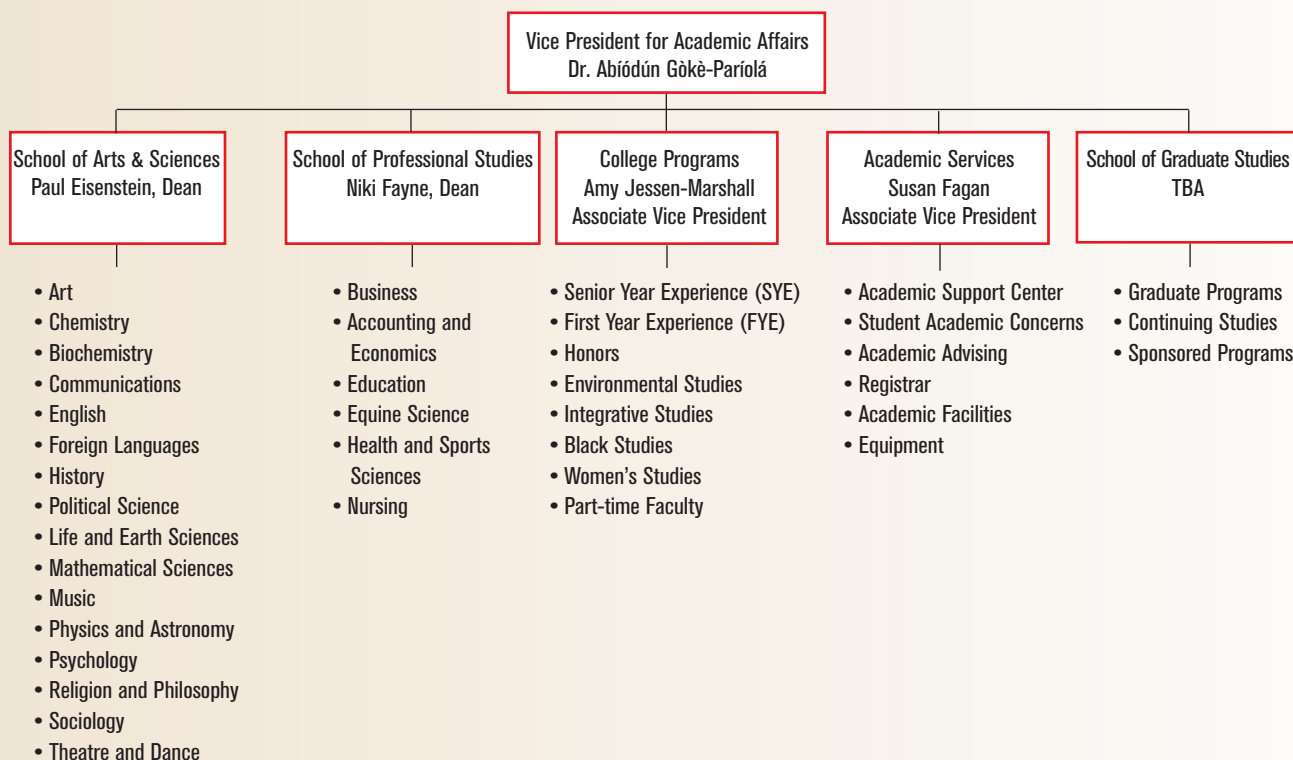


*Susan Fagan*  
*Associate Vice President and  
Dean of Academic Services*

As the dean of Academic Services, Fagan will oversee the Academic Support Center, student academic concerns, academic advising, the registrar and academic facilities and equipment.

The College's reorganization plan also calls for the creation of a School of Graduate Studies. This will help accelerate the efforts to create a graduate culture, key to the establishment of Otterbein's

planned doctoral program in nursing and other new graduate programs currently under development. Dr. Niki Fayne is serving as interim dean of the Graduate School and Research. This position will provide oversight for all graduate programs, Continuing Studies, and Sponsored Programs. The College will initiate a national search for a substantive dean in fall 2009. ●



# Environmental Scientist to be Next Pack Speaker

In support of its commitment to educating students about environmental issues, Otterbein College has selected Dr. Richard Alley, a geologist at Pennsylvania State University, as the 2009 Vernon L. Pack Distinguished Lecturer. Alley will present his lecture, *Get Rich and Save the World—Or Else: Global Warming, Peak (Whale) Oil, and Our Future*, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 27, in the Fritsche Theatre at Cowan Hall.

While on campus from May 18-29, Alley will meet with students in the energy science and society class, advanced environmental studies, and the historical geology class to discuss various topics including the role of energy, global warming science, and climate change.

Alley is the current Evan Pugh Professor of Geosciences and Associate of the Earth and Environmental Systems Institute at Penn State, where he has worked since 1988. He has been involved with environmental issues for more than 30 years. His research interests focus on abrupt climate changes, glaciers, ice sheet collapse and sea level change. Alley teaches and conducts research on climate records, flow behavior and sedimentary deposits of large ice sheets to aid in prediction of future changes in climate and sea level. His experience includes three field seasons in Antarctica, eight in Greenland and three in Alaska. Alley received his Ph.D. in geology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1987.

A leading expert on the subject of climate change, Alley has served both nationally and internationally on advisory panels and steering committees, including chairing the National Research Council's Panel on Abrupt Climate Change and participating in the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. He has advised numerous governmental officials on environmental issues and has published more than 175 papers. His book, *The*

*Two-Mile Time Machine*, won the Phi Beta Kappa Science Book Award in 2001.

Alley has received many awards for his work within the geology field, including his election to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the Revelle Medal of the American Geophysical Union and the first Agassiz Medal of the European Geosciences Union Cryospheric Section. He has also received awards from Penn State, including the Faculty Scholar Medal in Science, the Mitchell Innovative Teaching Award and the Faculty Mentoring Award of the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences.

The Vernon L. Pack Scholar-in-Residence and Distinguished Lecture Series was established through a one million dollar gift from alumnus **Vernon L. Pack '50**, a resident of Westerville, Ohio.

In accordance with the terms of the endowment, a Distinguished Lecturer visits the campus every other year to address important current issues that will allow the Otterbein



Richard Alley

community to reflect on ethical, spiritual and social issues. This program will rotate through the five academic divisions of the College, including arts, professional studies, science and mathematics, humanities and social sciences. On alternating years, distinguished scholars will be invited to campus to reside for up to one academic year as part of the Vernon L. Pack Scholar-in-Residence Series to enrich the educational experiences provided to Otterbein students. ●

## Homecoming 2009!

**Save the date - Oct. 24**

- 100th anniversary of the Marching Band and auxiliary groups
- 25th reunion for Otterbein Christian Fellowship
- 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 year class reunions
- Tours of the new Science Center and McCuan Equine Center
- Annual Tailgate with children's activities
- Inauguration Weekend starts 10/23/09



**[www.otterbein.edu/alumni](http://www.otterbein.edu/alumni)**



# Spotlight on FACULTY

**Name:** Alison H. Prindle  
**Title:** Professor of English  
**Education:** B. A. Radcliffe College, Ph.D. Cornell University  
**Hometown:** Bloomington, Indiana  
**City of residence:** Delaware, Ohio

## What particular topic do you most enjoy teaching?

Shakespeare. It is a great privilege to read, view, and discuss nine or ten of the greatest plays in the English language with Otterbein English and theater majors. The plays continue to astonish and restore, and the students' discussions are rich and stimulating. I teach Shakespeare as both script and text, so we focus both on performance and on language and poetry.

## Why should every person you meet want to know more about your area of expertise?

The discipline of English is not equivalent to the study of grammar, though surely grammar is one foundation block. But when told that I teach English, people sometimes say, 'Oh, I'd better watch the way I speak (or write) around you.' But English is so much richer. It is transformative literature, works like *King Lear* that live with you and in you for a lifetime. It is a window into cultures past and present. It is a set of values about empathy and understanding. It is an agent by which cultures are constructed and thus an object we should analyze and critique. And literature is always evolving, creating new forms and voices to let us see our worlds more clearly.

## What is your favorite aspect of teaching?

I love the students. And there's nothing quite so satisfying as finding the right questions to allow a particular



*Alison Prindle with husband, Dennis, and daughter, Sarah Prindle '07.*

student to become excited by a book, a writing assignment, a piece of poetry, even a well-constructed sentence. I want my students to acquire skills but also to learn to trust their own truths as readers and writers.

## Why do you teach at Otterbein?

I was educated at large universities, and know well their strengths and their weaknesses. In choosing to teach at Otterbein, I chose an institution that sought to be a community, and it is still that aspect of the College that I most value. In the many years I have been here, my teaching load has been primarily in our Integrative Studies core curriculum (once called the Common Courses, as some readers will remember). In the core curriculum, students from all majors come together to ask the great questions about life's meaning.

## What are the best qualities you see in Otterbein students?

Willingness to work hard, respect for college-level work, openness and generosity.

## What research are you currently conducting/projects are you currently working on?

I have done research on the lives and diaries of early modern

women (e.g. Anne Askew, Lady Anne Clifford), on Shakespeare as presented to children (arguing for making Shakespeare an interactive play text, even in elementary school, rather than a picture-book story), and, in the early years of my career, on the Renaissance poets Francesco Petrarca and Thomas Wyatt. At the moment I am a member of an assessment team, with Regina Kengla and Niki Fayne; our project has been to assess student writing progress in the Integrative Studies required literature and composition courses. Our data from the freshman and the sophomore courses is in and shows clearly that our instruction has produced, at every level of ability, real improvement in student writing skills. I am also active in a Professional Learning Community (PLC) at Otterbein, in which we are examining writing pedagogies, with particular emphasis on structuring writing prompts.

## If you were not an educator, what would be your dream job?

I would have loved to have the abilities needed to work in the theater: too late for that now! But when I'm retired, I hope to turn my pen to creative writing, perhaps humorous detective stories. ●

# Recent Awards

## Office of Marketing and Communications

Otterbein College was recognized with a silver award in the 24th Annual Admissions Advertising Awards, sponsored by *Admissions Marketing Report*, for its video viewbook, *Be Yourself at Otterbein*, an online video about how easy it is for students to showcase their individuality and to be themselves at Otterbein.

The production of the video was a team effort among the Office of Admission, Office of Marketing and Communications, and a freelance videographer. WOCC TV-3 students were also involved with the project, contributing some of their footage and selecting the music. The video can be viewed online at [www.otterbein.edu/beyourself](http://www.otterbein.edu/beyourself).

## Tan and Cardinal

Otterbein's student-run newspaper, the *Tan and Cardinal*, was

named a Silver Medalist newspaper by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, as well as winning All-Columbian Honors for its general operations.

## Theatre Lighting Design Student Andy Baker

Senior Andy Baker was selected as the 2008 United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) Undergraduate Lighting Design Award, sponsored by Stage Technology, for his great design potential in the area of lighting in the performing arts. USITT offers only one of these awards to a college student each year. Baker received his award at the USITT national conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, in March.

Baker's portfolio was also selected as part of the Young Designers Forum, where it was reviewed by several directors and designers.

"This is an incredible honor I could not have obtained without the education I have earned at Otterbein. Not only am I excited for this opportunity, but an Otterbein student will have a chance to show what this school can do with other programs, such as CalArts, NC School of Design, and several other nationally-recognized programs," said Baker.

USITT has been giving awards to young designers and technicians in the performing arts for approximately a decade. They are given for technical production, sound design, scene design, makeup design, and lighting design. Only one award is given in each category. Only two of the awards are for undergraduate students: scenic and lighting design.

## Otterbein College Theatre and Dance

Otterbein College was honored with a Roundtable Production Award for the fall 2008 production of *Smokey Joe's Café*. The Roundtable category is the top award given by the Theatre Roundtable, a consortium of about two dozen theater companies in Central Ohio.

Otterbein theatre faculty and students were also recognized, including:

- Award of Excellence in Directing: Ed Vaughan, *Julius Caesar*
- Award of Excellence in Acting: David Baghat, *Peter Pan*
- Design Award: Dan Gray, *Julius Caesar*
- 2009 Roy Bowan Citation by the Central Ohio Theatre Critics Circle for Lifetime Achievement: Randy Skinner



A scene from *Julius Caesar*



A scene from *Smokey Joe's Café*



The Roundtable Awards are given annually to celebrate Central Ohio's past year in theatre and recognizing its key players. Awards are given for best actor, director, designer and show.

### **Oakland Nursery**

Oakland Nursery received the 2009 Community Arts Partnership Award by The Greater Columbus Arts Council (GCAC) in March for its generous monetary support of the Otterbein Summer Theatre.

The Oakland Nursery owners, alumnus **Paul Reiner '68** and his wife, Sheila, have hosted fundraising parties in their home, served as board members, and have always supplied the theatre with beautiful, often exotic, plants both for the productions and for decoration in the theatre lobby.

"It is easy for a business to offer services or goods; to be a consistent monetary supporter season after season, whether the economy is up or down, whether the theatre schedule looks exciting or dull, is a novelty. Oakland Nursery is as much a part of Otterbein Summer Theatre as the actors, carpenters and directors are," said **Elizabeth Minnich Saltzgiver '99**, audience services director for the Department of Theatre and Dance. ●



## **OCAAAN Honors Johnson, Wilson**

The Otterbein College African American Alumni Network (OCAAAN) honored **Melissa Johnson '99** and **Rayshawn Wilson '02** for their professional accomplishments and service contributions made to the college and their communities as the second class of inductees into its African American Hall of Fame.

Johnson is the CEO and president of Velvet Suite Marketing Consulting Group, Inc., which is headquartered in Atlanta, GA. She is the author of the book *Brand Me, Make Your Mark: Turn Passion into Profit* and has consulted with many top organizations. She has shown her leadership skills in assisting various Fortune 100 companies with non-traditional marketing strategies and creative concept development.

She is also the founder of two non-profit organizations, R.E.A.C.H. and Face 2 Face, Expressions in Mime. R.E.A.C.H., Remember to Extend A Caring Hand, was founded in 1994 as a youth outreach program to promote high school volunteerism, and Face 2 Face, Expressions in Mime was founded in 1998 to foster the development of expressions in mime through movement and music.

Wilson is a social worker for the Ohio Department of Youth Services, performing psychosocial intervention, crisis counseling, family, individual and group counseling. Wilson is currently the drug and alcohol education facilitator at Otterbein College, facilitating drug and alcohol classes for college students. Wilson also serves as the lead consultant for Project SOAR for the City of Columbus. He manages individual and group criminal justice trainings and conferences in a variety of areas, including reentry, substance abuse, and mental health.

He volunteers on the Building Vibrant Neighborhoods Committee through United Way of Central Ohio, the Transitions Board at the Columbus Urban League, American Correctional Association and the Ohio Community Corrections Association.

Inductees are selected based on their achievements in their career through publications, lectures, awards and successful career path, service to Otterbein through membership or support of civic, religious or charitable organizations, and community service through leadership and mentoring of youth or volunteer or financial support. ●

# CCE Continues to Receive Accolades for Community Service

The Center for Community Engagement (CCE) continued its dedication to service this year and recently was recognized for its tremendous efforts by three separate organizations.

The College was listed on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction by The Corporation for National and Community Service for its service initiatives. This is the third year in a row Otterbein has been recognized by the Honor Roll and it is one of the highest awards a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. In 2008, the College earned the President's Award for General Community Service.

Otterbein currently has 83 service-learning courses enrolling more than 1,100 students serving the community with approximately 22,320 service hours. In addition to the 11 weekly extracurricular service programs offered at Otterbein, the CCE also coordinates three community plunges annually for students, faculty and alumni and it hosts several projects benefiting Otterbein's campus and the Westerville community.



*The CCE CardinalCorps Leaders coordinate 13 weekly service organizations that help meet the health, education and environmental needs of our community.*

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching named Otterbein a "community-engaged university" in recognition of its "curricular engagement and outreach and partnerships."

"The new Carnegie classification recognizes Otterbein's connectedness to our local community," said Melissa Gilbert, Director for the CCE. "We share this national recognition with the community partners who work with us everyday to strengthen our local neighborhoods and provide deep learning experiences for our students."

"As a 2008 recipient of the President's Award for General Community Service, we knew we were deserving of this honor from the Carnegie Foundation, but as a first time applicant, this is quite an accomplishment. It is also an

acknowledgment of the fine work that our staff and all the individuals involved with engagement on campus have done," said Bob Gatti, vice president for Student Affairs.

Otterbein also was named in the *2008-2009 Guide to Service-Learning Colleges & Universities*. The guide is a resource for college-bound students wanting to make a difference in their communities through service while earning college credit. The guide offers insight to students on what service-learning is, how they can get involved and which colleges excel at service-learning.

The guide will help attract students interested in going to a college dedicated to service learning and social change, said Gilbert. "We are very fortunate to be listed in the guide. Our real hope is that it will recruit students committed to service," she said. ●

## Sustainability Policy for the College Established

The Otterbein Board of Trustees recently voted to adopt a Policy of Sustainability for the College.

"Institutions of higher education increasingly realize the vital role they play in preparing future leaders to effectively confront the environmental, economic and social challenges that lie ahead," said Heidi Ballard, associate professor and chairperson of sociology. "The commitment to sustainability in facilities, curriculum and community outreach signifies Otterbein's commitment to position our institution, and students, to effectively meet the challenges of the 21st century."

The policy states, "Otterbein College is committed to environmental stewardship and the concept of Sustainability throughout every aspect of campus life. Otterbein recognizes the need to respond to the challenges of climate change and to develop integrated goals and objectives which will reduce the impact on the environment and eventually lead to climate neutrality."

Some areas through which the College will promote and encourage sustainable practices include: educational programming and research; facilities planning, operations, purchasing, and maintenance; residential life and dining services; and outreach and partnership with the community.

The College's Standing Committee on Sustainability will be charged with making recommendations to the College to further sustainable practices in the areas of curriculum, facilities, campus life and community outreach; establishing partnerships with other institutions in the community; serving in an advisory capacity to departments and offices on campus; and promoting an institutional culture that supports sustainability.

More information about Otterbein's commitment to sustainability can be found online at [www.otterbein.edu/sustainability](http://www.otterbein.edu/sustainability). ●





*Otterbein students instruct students from Oakstone Academy of Westerville in the microbiology lab.*

## Science Outreach Helps Elementary and Otterbein Students Alike

The Life and Earth Sciences Department hosted 36 high school students from Oakstone Academy in Westerville at its microbiology lab to conduct experiments using bacteria and viruses in February. Oakstone Academy is just one of many schools in the Westerville, Columbus and central Ohio communities to engage in science through the expanding Science Outreach Program at Otterbein.

For the past seven years, Wendy Johnston, part-time faculty in the Department of Life and Earth Sciences, has traveled to local elementary schools to conduct Science Outreach programs, including demonstrations and hands-on activities.

“At first, we would recruit volunteers from the Life Science and Chemistry departments to go with us on outreach days,” Johnston said. “I then started building outreach events into any class that I taught which included a lab period, including general chemistry, genetics, and immunology.”

In 2008, Johnston began offering a Science Outreach Practicum course for Otterbein students, designed to give life science majors, as well as other service learning and education majors, a way to apply the material they have learned by bringing the field of science to K-5 elementary students.

“This course reaches out to elementary schools in the surrounding

areas, bringing hands-on learning for both the elementary children and for the Otterbein students taking the course,” Johnston said. “In designing science demonstrations and experimental activities, Otterbein students are challenged to bring their expertise in their major to a broader audience. This process engages students in a critical assessment of the most effective means of communicating difficult concepts to a diverse group.”

This year, the program has expanded to include middle and high school students. Johnston said they are piloting a peer mentoring program where they train middle school students to assist with elementary outreach days.

“I feel strongly that this program has great benefit to both Otterbein science majors and to the children we reach, fostering a valuable relationship with our community,” Johnston said. “It would be fantastic to offer our outreach events to more schools.” ●

### EXPAND. EXPLORE. EXCEL.

#### *We're looking for your support of the sciences at Otterbein!*

The Otterbein Board of Trustee members challenge all of us to affirm our commitment to provide a better educational opportunity for our students by supporting the Science Campaign. Their initial, collective support for the project totaled \$1M.

Recently, these Trustees and other current and former Board members stepped up their support and added \$400,000 to the effort. Now, they would like the Otterbein Community and friends to match their \$400,000 commitment.

Thank you for considering how you will help complete this ambitious project; affirming commitment not just for today's students but for future generations. Please watch for materials in the mail, or support the campaign online at [www.otterbein.edu/makeagift](http://www.otterbein.edu/makeagift).

**CAMPAIGN FOR THE SCIENCE CENTER**





# A Parting Conversation with *President DeVore*

*English Professor Jim Gorman interviewed President Brent DeVore about his 25 years at Otterbein's helm, his early years, the many changes Otterbein is undergoing and his impending retirement.*

**R**ecently, President DeVore sat down with English Professor Jim Gorman to talk about “that next phase” of his life and to reflect on his time at Otterbein. Brent will be leaving Otterbein after a distinguished career of 25 years. He and his wife, Nancy Nikiforow, the former director of grants and special projects at Otterbein, will also be leaving their residence, the Clements Foundation-owned house at 111 North West Street.

**Jim:** So, I want to ask you about your early life, growing up. I just taught a lit. course, *Growing Up in America*. At the end of the course, students write a long essay about their families—the roots essay. Some exciting discoveries come

through this assignment. For example, one student, Karen Castro, discovered that her great grandfather was the president of Ecuador. What about your roots, Brent? Are there any such dramatic stories in the DeVore family?

**Brent:** I don't know how dramatic. My mother's mother emigrated from Scotland when she was three years old. I learned the exact age from Ellis Island.com. It was not easy, though. Her name was Elizabeth Ferguson, a very common name. There were about 65 Elizabeth Fergusons. Her family came in and headed to where the jobs were. Just like the Somalis are heading to Minneapolis and Columbus these days, the Fergusons went to

Southeast Ohio and worked in the coal mines. Elizabeth grew up there, met her husband, raised a family. The men worked the coal mines, died and were buried on the hill above it. My father's family came from England and France. My grandparents settled in the Cambridge, Ohio area. Neither my mother's parents nor my father's parents had high school educations. They lived the hard life. Both my grandfathers died when I was one year old, so I didn't know them. I just knew my grandmothers and they were hard-working people. They ate all the wrong food and still lived well into their 80s.

**Jim:** So, you were the first in your family to be educated beyond high school?





**Brent:** The second. My father attended Mount Union College where he played three sports. He graduated in the middle of The Depression, taught for two years and, for whatever reason, he left teaching and went into business. When he was 50 years old he was working at a Sears store in Zanesville, Ohio, when the superintendent of a local school district asked, "Carl, didn't you used to teach?" My father told him that he had taught biology, chemistry and physics. "Well, we have an opening next fall," the man said. My father went off to teach and it revived his life. He taught until he was 72.

**Jim:** What about your early life in Zanesville? Can you tell about your schooling, early interests, jobs.

**Brent:** I attended the public schools. We lived in a very modest house of about 600 square feet. My bedroom was the hallway between the kitchen and the bathroom. My mother took in laundry to help with expenses. She taught me to iron men's shirts when I was ten years old. Outside the home, I got my first job when I fibbed about my age, saying I was 16 when I was 15. I worked in a movie theatre as an usher for 50 cents an hour and after

two weeks was promoted to running the concession stand at 75 cents an hour. That's the biggest percentage salary increase I have ever received. In my college years, I came back to Zanesville in the summer and worked factory jobs. One summer I worked in a camp program with volunteers and helped young people understand the world beyond themselves. That's what got me interested in the non-profit sector and that's where I headed after college.

**Jim:** And that was at Ohio University?



“Outside the home, I got my first job when I fibbed about my age, saying I was 16. when I was 15. I worked in a movie theatre as an usher at 50 cents an hour and after two weeks was promoted to running the concession stand at 75 cents an hour. That’s the biggest percentage salary increase I have ever received.”

~ Brent DeVore

**Brent:** Yes, I thought I was going to go to college and play football, but I tore the cartilage in my left leg my senior year. So when I graduated from high school, I took a job in a factory. When September came around, I thought I should at least take a couple of courses at the branch campus. At the end of that term I quit the factory job and started as a mid-year student at Ohio University in Athens, in business. As an elective, I took a journalism course and enjoyed it so much that I decided to major in journalism. I’ve used the things you learned in a 101 journalism class, the inverted pyramid and the who-what-when-where-why questions every day of my life, especially in a college setting.

**Jim:** How do your father’s and mother’s lives and values show up in the man we know at Otterbein?

**Brent:** My mother died at 71, my dad lived to be 86. That was one of the things that brought me here. He was a widower living in Zanesville. I’m an

only child and I was in West Virginia and had a chance to come back and be closer to him. Even though we had very little in material things, my parents believed that you should give back to other people. All of us got to where we are today by symbolically standing on the shoulders of others. When my father passed away, I established the Carl and Helen DeVore Memorial Humanitarian Award. It is an award given each year at the Honors Convocation for the student or students who did something out of the ordinary in community service. I’ve been telling students at freshman orientations for the last 15 or so years that when you come to Otterbein you will have three immersion experiences, two of them are required: immersion in the liberal arts gives you breadth, immersion in your major gives you depth. The third one is completely voluntary. I call it immersion in another culture experience. That means if you grew up in a small town, we want you to do some work in the

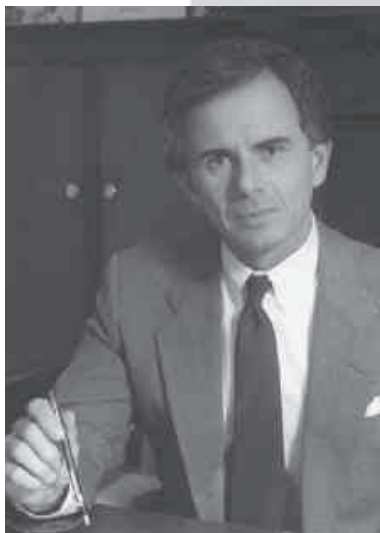
inner city. If you’re from the inner city, come out and do something else. The students have grabbed hold of it and the faculty too. We have many service-learning courses and a very dedicated Center for Community Engagement. When we first started having dinners to honor students for community service, we could hardly fill a table. Now it’s the whole dining hall or the Chapel. To top it off, last year we received the award from the White House for community service along with the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Colorado.

**Jim:** Why do you think that Otterbein students have taken to service so well?

**Brent:** No matter where I have gone in 25 years of meeting alumni—regardless of their generation—there is a groundedness about them. I think a lot of that has to do with our lack of pretension and how well it matches the students who come here. Our alumni and our students have a groundedness that says we have a responsibility to give back.

**Jim:** Do you think that lack of pretension begins at the top, begins with you? You’re not shy, I know that, but I think you are humble, Brent. You’re quick to credit others for successes, like the building of Roush Hall, for example. In addition to humility, though, what do you see as the important values and personality traits that have helped you succeed, not just at Otterbein but other places?

**Brent:** You have to value the worth of all persons. Several years ago I found, through the Scarborough Mission, a chart that listed the Golden Rule in





13 different religions. In Christianity, of course, it is "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." But the same idea exists in other traditions. In Buddhism: "Treat not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful." In Judaism: "What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor." In Hinduism: "Do not do to others what would cause pain if done to you." In Islam: "Not one of you truly believes until what you wish on others you wish on yourself." I have them printed on a chart that hangs above my desk at home. It's there to remind me each day of the value of each person. The value of Otterbein goes back to every person here. There is no hierarchy here, as far as I'm concerned. Several weeks ago when we had all the snow, who were the most valuable people on campus? The service department, who took care of the ice and snow. Or the cleaning staffs. And, all the time, especially, the faculty in teaching.

**Jim:** You've been in academia all your life, but you're not an academic, you're not a professor. You don't come from the classroom into educational leadership, you come from the financial side. Yet, you have convinced the faculty, I think, that you are serving in their best interests. How have you done that?

**Brent:** I feel I'm an academic in my own way. I put value on what happens in the classroom and in the institution's mission to change lives, guide lives. I am a strong believer in the approach that you wake up every day expecting the unexpected and be open to opportunities. I expected to work in a newspaper, that didn't work out. I moved into volunteer health work, at the lung association, then the heart association. I received a call one day that Kent State was looking for someone to work with their annual giving. I saw a chance to do that and also earn a master's degree. That led me to Hiram College and when I was there—true story—one of the board members by the name of Galen Roush, the chairman and founder of Roadway Express, asked, "Young man,

what would you like to do?" I said, "Mr. Roush, I think I would like to be a college president, but I haven't had a long career in the classroom." He paused and said, "I never learned how to drive a truck." His point was you can lead a group even if you don't have their specific skills. But if limited teaching experience would not be a barrier, not having a doctorate would. So I went back to Kent State and in two years and ten months, working fulltime with two small children at home, I earned a doctorate. I knew that was the entry card I needed to be considered for a presidency.

**Jim:** Let's go back to the liberal arts for a second. That is one of the immersion experiences you talked about earlier, and it's the one that students resist most, I think. Why do you think colleges like ours think the liberal arts are so important to students' maturation?

**Brent:** I remember some years ago talking to a manager of a CPA firm. As he was coming up through the ranks, he said, the farther up he went the more he was dealing with people from different backgrounds. He said he literally had to go back and immerse himself in courses that gave him breadth. The liberal arts prepare you for life. When I talk with alumni, they often say that the best courses they took were the Integrative Studies. They aroused their curiosity, they gave them the breadth to talk with people from a variety of backgrounds. Again, they don't use that in choosing a college. It usually comes down to their major, the fit, or somebody they know. But the liberal arts is often what they mention most after graduation.

**Jim:** Let me ask you about another Otterbein tradition, the fact that the president interviews every faculty candidate. Why do you do that, why is that so important? And what questions do you ask?

**Brent:** I'm retiring in less than 12 weeks, but at 2:30 today I'm interviewing a candidate for next year.



President C. Brent DeVore took a dip at the WOBN dunking b during Unity Day Saturday. Photo by Kris Gross

From a 1994 T&C

Why? Because you're only as good as the people around you. What questions do I ask? Very seldom do I drill down into the candidate's area. Quite frankly, there are some disciplines I wouldn't be able to drill very deeply. I'm looking for the person who cares about teaching and learning, who cares about students and who wants to be involved on campus. If I hear them say, "All I want to do is research and teach my classes," I say thank you very much, but it's not the right fit. A few times a year I go over to the Academic V.P. and say that this is a wonderful candidate for someplace else, but not for Otterbein. And, frankly, you meet some wonderful people. I like to ask, "When you are not doing this, what do you like to do?" It is amazing what you hear from candidates. Everything from skydiving to scuba diving. The message I'm getting from them is what you and I know, that you need balance in your life. You're a runner, Jim, it balances you when you



teach. I like to hike, because then I'm not going to meetings. As I look back over the years, I'm amazed at what we have accomplished in bringing talented people to this campus.

**Jim:** Silver lining question. A lot has happened at Otterbein over the last five years. Yet, out of change comes new leadership and rather bold academic initiatives. We're converting to a semester calendar and more importantly we're dividing the college into schools, arts and sciences, professional studies and graduate studies, each with its own dean. Do these changes merely recognize the kind of school we've been for the last ten years or do they signal that Otterbein will be a vastly different institution in the next decade?

**Brent:** I think those changes symbolize what we have been becoming over the last several years. When I arrived at Otterbein we were a traditional undergraduate college. I said that I would like to start a conversation about graduate education. At that point I had conversations with Dr. Chester Addington, who was chair of the Education Department. He was a distinguished member of the faculty and had a lot of credibility.

With a committee, he began a year's exploration. And the new program passed the college Senate without a dissenting vote. That was a huge change for us. We began to evolve. Next was the MSN, then the MBA program, and more Continuing Studies offerings, both on campus and in outreach situations. As to our new division into schools, we've been talking about that for a few years.

**Jim:** Then, let me ask about another possible change. What's in a name?

**Brent:** I said at a Board meeting discussion earlier this year that it wouldn't be a big change for us because we were founded as The Otterbein University of Ohio. I say with tongue in cheek that the name was changed in 1917 to Otterbein College because the marketing people got involved and *The Otterbein University of Ohio* wouldn't fit on a sweatshirt. Way too long. But also, timing is everything. Such a change should be made when the public says that it is obvious. It shouldn't be done at a time when people would say, What are they doing? But whatever our name, we'll still have the same values. My branding is Otterbein. I hardly ever say Otterbein College. I'm the president

of Otterbein. You're a professor at Otterbein. Again we have been evolving to this over time. The change has been given credibility from the outside because of the Carnegie Commission's reclassification from a regional comprehensive college to a master's level institution. The schools with which we are now being compared include Butler, Drake, Valparaiso, Xavier—all of these are universities, institutions that are comprehensive in nature in what they offer. Their average enrollment is 4,800 students, and we're 3,200. I've been saying that we ought to take that as a goal over the next decade, to get to that 4,800 to 5,000 number. People will say, will we be different? Yes, we will, we'll have more breadth and depth in our programs, we'll have even more talented faculty.

**Jim:** Are the alumni on board?

**Brent:** The conversation is continuing. When I hear from alumni who were here when we were 800 to 1,000 students, they say the College isn't the same. I say you're right. When we had 800-1,000 students only half of the faculty had terminal degrees, and now it's 96 percent. Change is good if you hold onto your values as an institution.





*Opposite page: Upper far left: Brent serves up a soft drink at a student social function. Lower far left: Shaking hands with then Chairman of the Board Edwin "Dubbs" Roush '47. Upper left: At an unknown conference early in his career. Lower left: Taking in lunch with his wife, Nancy, and new students at an Orientation lunch on the lawn. Right: Ever present at the podium in Cowan Hall. This page: Upper left: Working with Habitat for Humanity. Lower left: The Clements Center Dedication and Opening. Upper right: A light moment with Petie Dodrill H'94 and Jane Horn '50. Lower right: Being honored by Anne Gonzalez '04, the mayor of Westerville, on C. Brent DeVore Day. For more photos, go to [www.otterbein.edu/engaged](http://www.otterbein.edu/engaged).*

**Jim:** What's been your greatest challenge at Otterbein?

**Brent:** It's hard to name a particular challenge. I could say building a building or raising money. But the biggest challenge has always been personnel, the people. Every time there's a failure with a person, the first question I ask myself is what could I or we have done differently to see this coming? What could we have done differently to avoid a failure between people? The biggest challenge is always trying to draw the most from your colleagues. You want in any organization to hire the best and the brightest with complementary skills. Your skills should complement the person next to you, so we become better when all our talents are put together. We always enter a Board meeting with the goal that a trustee will leave the campus better informed than when he or she arrived. You want to draw on their particular wisdom on important issues so that we learn from them. But each of them should leave better informed, to be advocates for the institution.

**Jim:** There are so many excellent colleges in Ohio and ones that are

doing what we do well. What is the difference with Otterbein? What is our excellence?

**Brent:** We do best in dealing with the whole person. We want to see that complete development of a person in body, mind and spirit. I think we practice that fairly well. We want students to leave here with a sense of mindfulness, being knowledgeable, caring about others, with a commitment to being involved with the world, a commitment to accepting all persons regardless of their backgrounds. I came here from Davis and Elkins College in rural West Virginia, but where seven or eight languages were being spoken by the men's soccer team. Our diversity percentage was one and one-half percent and I jokingly said that included those from Mansfield who were left-handed. I remember saying that this is not representative of the world or the state or the city of Columbus. I said, let us work on that and we have. Our minority population is up 13 percent. But there are two levels of diversity. One level is a matter of numbers. The more in-depth sense of diversity is when you have diversity within a minority group. You have athletes, you have musicians, you have theatre majors, English majors.

When you get that, you begin to attract more and that leads to more and more.

**Jim:** Yes, it doesn't do much to have ten percent African-American students if they're all football players and the theatre majors never talk to them.

**Brent:** Exactly. Let me tell you about an up-and-coming group, the African-American Alumni Network. They met recently at the Columbus Urban League, where one of our graduates, Eddie Harrell, is president. They weren't just there to share jokes about their Otterbein years. They were there to talk substantively about what is going on in their lives, and about the responsibility of each person in that room to help recruit students to Otterbein, to be available as a support system to mentor them. It was wonderful. Nancy and I came out beaming. That group will help us greatly.

**Jim:** Let me ask you about an even more challenging subject, money. It may be a stereotype, but there are too many students here who are working too much to get the value out of their education. They don't have reading time, they don't have study time, etc.

They see the value of a private college education and yet to make it happen means two or three jobs. What do you tell those students when you meet them, or those parents, especially in this recent economic downturn?

**Brent:** It is a hard message. I remember years ago when I was at Hiram College, where I oversaw both admissions and development, the areas that brought revenue into the institution through tuition and gifts. One day we sat around with wrinkled brows, saying that when tuition hits \$5,000 a year we'll be closing the doors. Well, tuition is five times that now. I am concerned about that. I exchanged emails today with the father of a current student who is an educator himself. He was saying that, while his daughter has had a wonderful experience here, he didn't know whether it was worth it. With the economy now, and with little chance of a job, and debt coming due for her, what would it be like? I didn't have an easy answer for him. It is going to be more challenging. Institutions will be increasing their financial aid, but I share your concern, Jim. I talk to students who have two or three jobs. Sometimes they say that

gives them discipline—to learn to do so much in so little time. In some cases, that's true, but not in all.

**Jim:** So, is there a solution?

**Brent:** Higher education is going to have to become more of a priority for institutions and for governments at all levels. We are only as good as the education of our people. We need to have options in this, too, because private education is very important. Some students just aren't going to make it at public universities. Students who graduate from Otterbein are contributing as much if not more than graduates of public institutions. But the future will be a tremendous challenge. Obviously, fund raising and increasing the endowment and scholarships will be helpful going forward. We will be increasing financial aid in this difficult time. And we are saying to students, if your family's finances change contact us immediately. This has been an issue going back 30 years and will continue to be an issue. But you're correct, it will be a more prominent issue in the next decade. I heard a great line the other day: "Money is power—to do good." Money

gives you choices as an individual. It doesn't give you happiness, it gives you choices. And it is the same with institutions. Money gives them choices.

**Jim:** And one of the institutions is the family. We've got to get the money message out to families, about the value of a college education. Some families don't have trouble with the high cost of new cars, but with education it is different.

**Brent:** That's a very good point. What are a family's priorities? The priority of a parent—your first goal is to help your children be independent of you. Yes, you still want them to visit once they move out, but you want to help them develop the lifestyle, the confidence, the skill sets to be successful and independent of you. You can't do that on the cheap. And you can't expect others to pay for it, or all of it.

**Jim:** In these times, Otterbein will have to be careful with spending in all areas. What about co-curricular activities, especially athletics, over the next 10 or 15 years. What do you see, at private colleges in general, not just Otterbein? How do we justify expenditures on athletics when most students are here just for the classes?

**Brent:** Well, actually, athletics is a big recruiter. Athletics at Division III provides opportunities for those students with good athletic skills—but not necessarily the best skills—to continue to have balance in their lives. They can participate in classes, in social situations and in athletics. Over the years I've watched our teams getting ready for their seasons. You have some highly skilled athletes on a team and some who are not quite as skilled but are playing because they love the game. They've actually come to Otterbein so they can continue to participate. Not everybody is six feet eight and weighs 320 pounds. But we still put the classroom ahead of athletics. If a student has an exam, the coach will put that ahead of the athletics. Athletics is always going to be there. As a division





We do best in dealing with the whole person. We want to see that complete development of a person in body, mind and spirit. We want students to leave here with a sense of mindfulness, being knowledgeable, caring about others, with a commitment to being involved with the world.

~ Brent DeVore

across the nation and certainly in our conference, we're going to look for ways to operate less expensively.

**Jim:** As an English teacher, and as a reader who never has enough time, I have to ask you what books you have in mind for the first idle hours of your retirement?

**Brent:** I have a stack of books that I have been collecting for so long. It's going to depend on the mood I'm in each day. I have some writing projects I hope to get to also. I have two drawers in my desk at home that are filled with every speech, talk, article that I've written over my career. That will be a project, to try to put it together in some organized fashion. I think that is what I would love to do next, this next phase, is to have some time to spread these writings across the table and look back at things—essays, speeches, articles—that I've written over 27 years as a college president. To see if they make any sense now and if I can do something with them.

**Jim:** That next phase, Brent?

**Brent:** Yes, that next phase. I'm still investigating. I'm having conversations with a lot of different organizations, from consulting to mentoring programs or perhaps an interim position for a short period of time. I'm looking at a lot of options, whether they are compensated or volunteer. There will be some place else to give back to, some thing else to do. It's very challenging, this transition.

**Jim:** Yes, you are losing both the home office and the *office* office. Have you located a home to move to?

**Brent:** Nancy and I have decided to rent for a year or so. And, as I said before, wake up every day expecting the unexpected and be open to opportunities. It will work out, as I know Otterbein's future will too. There are exciting times ahead for Otterbein. ●



*Left and upper left: President DeVore enjoys a tailgate party for the class of 2009 at his home on West street. Above: Brent and Nancy at the Otterbein African American Alumni Network get-together at the Columbus Urban League.*

Look out, World...

# HERE THEY COME!

Each year, hundreds of seniors graduate from Otterbein and go out into the broader world to make their mark. This year, nearly 600 students will graduate. Here, we profile just a few of the fine students to watch as they flourish in their careers, as reported by rising public relations professional **Raven DeVoll '09**

and talented photographer **Greg Beers '09**.







## Emmanuel T. Brown “Manny”

Hometown: Columbus, Ohio

Major: Sociology

*“Otterbein has really made a difference in my life and I hope to be able to give back to the institution the way it has given to me.”*

**1. Has there been a faculty member who has inspired you?** Dr. Heidi Ballard of the sociology department and Dr. Marsha Robinson of the history and political science department have contributed instrumentally to my personal and academic development. The wisdom that both of them have shared with me, I will forever cherish.

**2. What are your most significant accomplishments?** My greatest accomplishment has been the ability to serve the campus community and to usher in an era of numerous changes to the institution. Having the opportunity to serve on Otterbein’s Board of Trustees as a Student Trustee has been very rewarding as I vote on changes that are not only beneficial to the institution, but also to the longevity of the College as well. Also serving as the student representative for the Presidential Search Committee really opened my eyes to how others outside the Otterbein community admire Otterbein.

**3. What was your initial reaction when you found out Vanderbilt University offered you the Dean’s Scholarship to receive your master’s of Divinity degree?** I was thrilled by Vanderbilt’s generosity because the institution had been my top choice for graduate school. Immediately after the conversation with Vanderbilt, I called Dr. Ballard who I celebrated with because she really believed in my ability to compete for such an award. Not having to worry about paying for my graduate education is really an unexpected blessing.

**4. What changes do you hope your generation brings to this country?** I hope that my generation raises the bar on active participation in our communities while helping one another. I also hope that there is innovation in medicine and science to better the lives of our citizens.

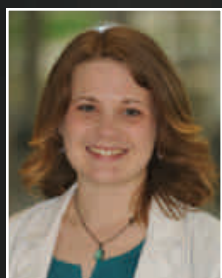
### **Finish these sentences:**

**I am most proud of...**my education and the life-long relationships I have formed during my matriculation at Otterbein.

**Someday I hope to...**be able to help change someone’s life the way Otterbein has changed mine.

**I am inspired by...**my quest to make a difference and hope to fill the void where I see so many needs in our world.

all photos by Greg Beers '09 except Lindsay Draper photos by Karl Kuntz courtesy of the Department of Theatre and Dance



## Shelly Hobbs

Hometown: Pataskala, Ohio

Major: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Minor: Chemistry

*"Otterbein is a wonderful school. I think I've succeeded in my education as well as service and leadership in and out of the classroom."*

### 1. What do you plan to do after graduation?

I will be attending Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine this coming fall. I plan to become a rural family practice physician so that I may help those in need of medical care. I have also been offered a full scholarship to join the Air Force to become a doctor in the service. I plan to take this opportunity so that I may serve others all over the world as a representative of our nation's armed forces.

### 2. What is your most significant accomplishment?

I believe the most significant thing I have accomplished is that I have found what I was meant to do in life—to serve and help others as a physician. I worked very hard to reach this goal, and I am happy to say that I was able to make a choice between some very prestigious medical schools. It was the hardest decision I have had to make in my life, but I am grateful that I was given a choice. To me, that shows that I am heading in the right direction.

### 3. How did you become interested in the sciences and what keeps you motivated towards these goals?

Many of my relatives are in nursing and the medical field, so I have always been interested in science. Science is a very challenging subject, and I have always believed in living up to one's full potential. It is fascinating to me, and medicine is my passion in life. I think that it is this passion for what I am doing, knowing that I will someday be able to make a positive impact in someone else's life, that is the driving force behind my goals. This goal has always felt right. It is as if I was meant to follow this path.

### Finish these sentences:

**I am most proud of...** working hard and making informed decisions.

**Someday I hope to...** make a difference. We are all part of the same big picture, and I would like to have a positive impact on that picture!

**I am inspired by...** honest people who work hard to get where they are going.





## Chelsea Merriman

Hometown: Hilliard, Ohio

Major: Psychology

Minor: Religion

*"It's great to know that Otterbein has a vested interest in the success of all its students. I am representing a class of amazing students."*

**1. Has there been a faculty member who has inspired you?** Dr. Noam Shpancer from the psychology department has definitely influenced the lens in which I view the world, through his amazing lectures and stories of his life experiences.

**2. What do you plan to do after graduation?** After graduation I am planning on starting a career in national community service. In the future, I see myself making an impact on how community service is viewed across the country. My goal is to engage every American in participating in community service on a more regular basis.

**3. What are your most significant accomplishments?** I feel as if I have been incredibly fortunate to accomplish a number of things during my tenure at Otterbein. I feel as if the present class of students has a deeper involvement on our campus and in our communities, through the programs that I have been in partnership with through the Center for Community Engagement. Also, it was quite an honor to receive the Spirit of Lassie Award in 2008 in recognition of my commitment to promoting community service and service-learning across the country.

**4. Being involved with community service initiatives are very important to you. I know you established a program at the United Methodist Children's Home. How do you feel after you complete a project?** My commitment to service here at Otterbein has mainly focused around a weekly service project at the UMHC. It has been a labor of love in the deepest sense—the program has had its share of ups and downs, but at the end of the day, I always know that my volunteers have made a lasting impact on the lives of the youth at the home. It is by far the most rewarding program I have ever been a part of.

**5. What changes do you hope your generation will bring to this country?** I believe that we will be the generation of hope. This is the generation that has proven to be flexible, resilient advocates of change. Thus, I know we will continue to hold our standards high and will move forward with hope on our side.

**Finish these sentences...**

**I am most proud of...**discovering my true capacity.

**Someday I hope to...**impact the life of every person.

**I am inspired by...**perseverance, inspiration, reason and inquiry.





## Caitlin Ward

Hometown: Avon Lake, Ohio

Major: English

Minor: History

*"With just a short time remaining at Otterbein, work is piling up and causing stress. Being reminded that the Otterbein community supports me helps keep me on track."*

**1. Has there been a faculty member who has inspired you?** It is difficult to choose one faculty member considering how much the English department professors have motivated and influenced me. However, I met Dr. Eisenstien as a freshman and his encouragement prompted me to switch my major from education to English. He inspired me to believe in my writing and to take risks in my interpretations of the readings.

**2. What are your most significant accomplishments?** As the communications intern at the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association I have been able to create publications for their membership. It's gratifying to see your work printed in thousands of copies. I also feel that living in Ireland for a while is an important accomplishment. It had been my dream for years and I was able to achieve it through Otterbein.

**3. How do you define success?** Success is based on happiness and balance. Too much of anything—work, family, even luxury—can cause you to lose focus. A quote that comes to mind is, "Happiness is more important to success than success is to happiness."

**4. When did you first realize your interest in English?** In all honesty, it should have been a major I was drawn to immediately. As a child in elementary school, I always got in trouble for reading in class. I was the kid who stuck a book inside the textbook, as if the teacher wouldn't know!

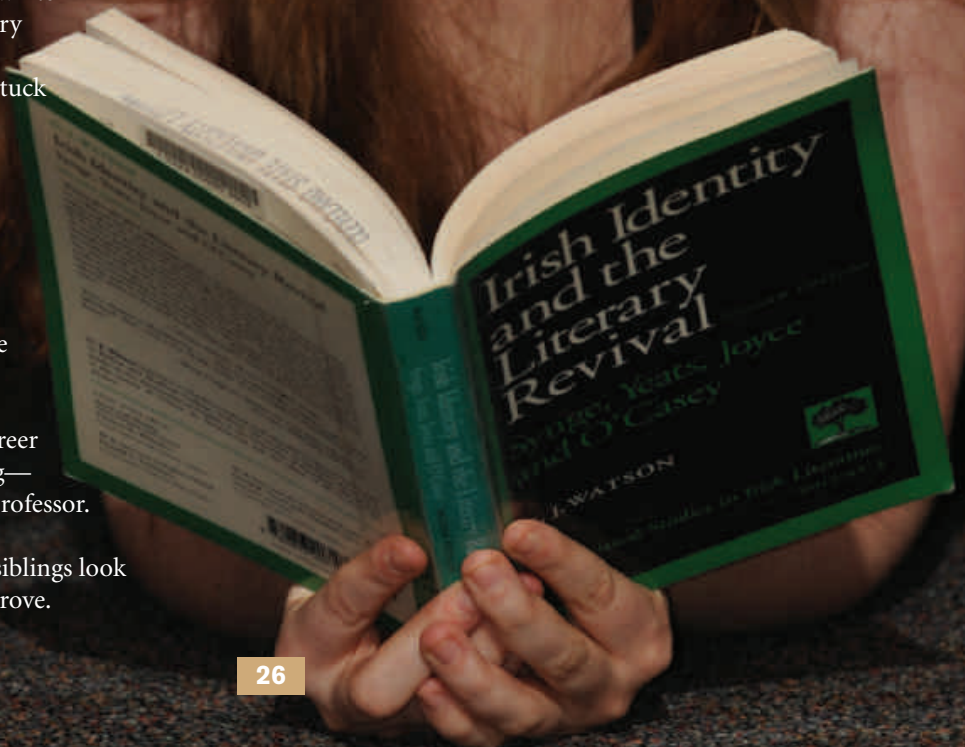
**Finish these sentences...**

**I am most proud of...**

accomplishing goals I have set for myself and making new ones for the future.

**Someday I hope to...** make a career out of reading, writing and learning—hopefully as a venerable literature professor.

**I am inspired by...** the ways my siblings look up to me and how I can always improve.







## Lindsay Draper

Hometown: Columbus, Ohio

Major: Health Promotion and Fitness

Minor: Dance

*"I have truly enjoyed being a student for the past three years and am very excited to represent Otterbein in the next chapter of my life."*

**1. Has there been a faculty member who has inspired you?** Yes, all of the faculty within my major have held some role in my life the past few years, but my advisor, Dr. Kim Fischer, has been a rock to me along my journey. When I am succeeding and doing well she is full of praise in hopes that I will keep moving forward. However, when I am having a difficult time, or slacking off she has never been afraid to discipline me to get my passion for life going again. I am so thankful to have an advisor truly care what direction I am taking my life and guide me on my way. She is not the type of professor to hand her students knowledge; she has really made me work for my education. I feel because of what she has taught me, not only my education but also about life, I will reach even farther for my dreams.

**2. Tell me about your most significant accomplishments.**

Graduating from college will be an accomplishment I will be very proud of, but my most proud accomplishment is dance. I've been a dancer most of my life and feel I am the person I've become because of it. Dance has made me complete in many physical and emotional ways.

**3. What motivates you?** Dance is a large part of being motivated. Moving through the busy, stressful times that come in any college student's life, I look forward every day to the next time I can dance either in class or on stage. I find through this stress relief, my classes and work are more tolerable. My family is a great motivation, too. My parents dedicated themselves to both me and my two older brothers and our dreams to be the best we could be in whatever we choose.

**4. When did you realize your interest in the health promotion and fitness field?**

I wanted to choose a field of study that could possibly be

related to dance, hoping some day to use them both to help others become more physically fit and have fun, too.

**5. Ultimately you want to go into dance after graduation, where do you see yourself performing or working?**

New York City is most dancers' ultimate goal. Whether it be with a private dance company or on the big stage, I realize that I may see many smaller and varied

jobs that this field can offer along the way. The more experience, the better.

**8. How do you define success?** As I hope for myself, I believe that anyone who can do what they love, especially as a profession, can consider their self very successful.

**Finish these sentences:**

**I am most proud of...**making my family, mentors, teachers and friends proud of my success.

**Someday I hope to...**entertain and educate people, by doing what I love to do.

**I am inspired by...**the challenge of the times and to help others be better people.





## James Prysock

Hometown: Columbus, Ohio

Major: Sport Management

Minor: Business Administration

*"I feel like all my hard work and dedication at Otterbein has paid off."*

**1. How do you define success?** Success is the balance between work, commitment and happiness. It is waking up, going to work and saying, "I can't believe they pay me to do this!"

**2. What are your most significant accomplishments?**

Some of the things I have accomplished include receiving the Freshman of the Year Award, the Frederick Douglass Accomplishment Award, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Peace and Justice Award. The most significant accomplishment to me is the Martin Luther King Jr. Award. Receiving an award in the name of a man who stood for so much while being nonviolent meant a lot to me.

**3. What motivates you?**

My drive and motivation derives from wanting to make myself successful and making my family proud.

**4. What is the Ubuntu Mentoring Program and how did you become involved with it?**

Ubuntu is a mentoring program through Otterbein College and Columbus Public Schools.

The goal is to get students motivated to set goals, career plans and go to college. Ubuntu is an African word that means community. We use the mindset that we can build each other up and help each other succeed. I have been a mentor since my freshman year.

**5. What changes do you hope your generation will bring to this country?**

Our generation has been labeled as a privileged generation full of potential for success, but not possessing the work ethic to obtain it. As college students, we strive to prove the latter part of that theory wrong. I believe it will be our generation that finds the cure for once-labeled "incurable" diseases. I believe it will be our generation that finds new and innovative ways to better business structures. I think it is us that will help uplift the current condition of our country and be leaders instead of followers.

**Finish these sentences:**

**I am most proud of...**America for desiring change.

**I am inspired by...**my family, friends and professors desire for me to succeed, and I hope to give back to them one day.

**Someday I hope to...**change someone's life and continue to break any stereotypes placed upon me.





## Whitney Prose

Hometown: Kilbourn, Ohio

Major: English and Creative Writing

Minor: Environmental Studies and Japanese

### **1. What experiences and organizations have helped you learn, grow and discover?**

Freshmen year the Emerging Leaders Institute really connected me on campus. I met a lot of the students I still collaborate with, and I got to know my way around the campus offices. I've also been blessed to be in the Cardinal Corps Leaders – which is really how I began to utilize these ELI connections. Classes really give me the theories, but it's campus organizations that let me test the theories and see which ones fit my personal life.

### **2. What do you hope to do after graduation and where does Japanese fall into your life's goals?**

After graduation, I hope to go on to graduate school and eventually get a doctorate degree. I really wish to continue educating people about environmental issues--the forum for that conversation is all up to God. Perhaps I'll teach in churches, or in Japan, or in China (I'm learning Chinese now), I don't know. I'm open to wherever He sends me! In the meantime, I just like East Asian languages.

### **3. You founded and are heavily active with Plan-It-Earth. Where did your passion for the organization and environmental studies come from?**

Mom would walk the farm fields and show us flowers. She would ask, "Have you ever seen anything so perfect? God is even more perfect for He created this..." She didn't know it, but she was setting a pattern for me that I still follow today. I feel closest to God when I am in nature. I see the order, laws, and balance of Nature and believe they are reflective of their creator. At Otterbein I learned to back this spiritual belief with empirical evidence and logic that nature truly is immensely valuable.

*"I am nothing more than a catalyst. The energy I've channeled has always been present at Otterbein. I have simply focused it."*

**4. How do you define success?** Success is giving my best and knowing I couldn't give more. Success doesn't ride on grades, evaluations, or "failures." These are all secondary means of evaluation. To me, my personal success is determined by, if at the end of a job, I can look back and say I honestly gave it my all. If I have, then whatever outcomes happen, I am happy to accept and learn from them.

### **Finish these sentences:**

**I am most proud...**of the radical green steps Otterbein has taken in the last four years.

**Someday I hope to...**be "Dr. Prose."

**I am inspired by...**God's wonders in nature.

# ClassNOTES

Compiled by Laurie Draper. Submit information for Class Notes and Milestones to Classnotes, Office of Advancement Resources, Otterbein College, One Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio, 43081 or email: [classnotes@otterbein.edu](mailto:classnotes@otterbein.edu)



## 1950

**George Schreckengost** recently came out of retirement at the age of 80 to be the pastor of the Sebring United Methodist Church, Sebring, OH.



## 1954

**Glynn Turquand** won the 2008 Silver Senior MVP award at El Niguel Country Club. He won all but one of his six golf matches and averaged 2.3 points per match out of a maximum of 3.



## 1968

**Pat Roth Cory** and her husband, Tom, lead nature and travel photography workshops near their home in Chattanooga, TN, across the U.S. and internationally.



## 1970

**Gordon Bury**, past commander in chief of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, was one of 12 special guests and speakers at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington DC on Feb. 12, 2009. The ceremony paid tribute to the Abraham Lincoln, 16<sup>th</sup> president, on the day on which his 200<sup>th</sup> birthday was celebrated. By special invitation by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Gordon then attended the Congressional Tribute: The Celebration of the Lincoln Bicentennial in the Rotunda of the United States Capitol. Opening remarks were made by President Barack Obama. The United States Army Chorus performance during this ceremony included the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*, written by Julia Ward Howe, one of Gordon's relatives.

## 1971

**John McIntyre** was awarded the Distinguished Teacher Educator Award by the Association of Teacher Educators at their annual conference in Dallas. This lifetime achievement award recognizes significant contributions made to the field of teacher education. John is a professor in the

Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL.

**Please Note!**  
**The 30th (1974)**  
**and 35th (1979)**  
**Class Reunion**  
**Years have been**  
**moved from Alumni**  
**Weekend 2009 to**  
**Homecoming 2009.**



## 1974

**Brian Vail** recently received the Tucker Award, an award given to individuals who care about others and go above and beyond to make Mount Gilead, OH a great place to live.

## 1976

**Thomas Harbrecht** went from high school coach and math teacher to Navy SEAL and finally to landscape painter. His paintings include scenes from central and southeastern Ohio, as well as off-the-beaten-path in Florida, and were exhibited at the Ohio State University Faculty Club in January 2009. He was a founding member and former board chairman of the Ohio Plein Air Society,

dedicated to the education, awareness and advancement of fine art painting in the plein air tradition. He has had exhibits throughout Ohio.

**Carol Ventresca**, after 30 years of service to the state of Ohio and The Ohio State University, has retired and is pursuing a new career path as the executive director of Employment for Seniors, Inc., a nonprofit organization located in Columbus, OH. The mission of EFS is to place qualified older adults in gainful employment which is mutually beneficial to both the individual and employer. EFS is able to provide services free of charge to both clients and employers through generous contributions from individuals, businesses and granting organizations.



## 1979

**Steve Comstock** opened his first season as the high school boy's basketball coach of his alma mater, River Valley HS, Caledonia, OH. Steve was surprised that the coach of their opponent was a former player of his when he coached at North Union HS in Richwood, OH.



## 1983

**Brenda Fairchild Daubenmire** and husband, **Bill Daubenmire '82**, celebrated their 25th anniversary on Oct. 8, 2008. Family and friends attended a party given by their four children, Amy, Drew, Cara and Jenna. Bill has been a Western Southern Life Insurance agent for 24 years in Newark, OH. Brenda is lead mammographer at Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster, OH.



## 1984

**Melanie Miles** is a freelance costume designer living in Bexley, OH. She will be the costume shop manager for the Barrington Stage Center in the Berkshires for the summer.

## 1985

**Tyra Horn** was inducted into the Harrison County, OH, High School Sports Hall of Fame. She was a 1981 graduate of Jewett-Scio HS, Scio, OH and the first female in Ohio history to win a high school state track and field championship by throwing the shot put. She also set the school, county and Inter Valley Conference record in the shot put and softball throw.

## 1987

**Michael Maxwell** has been selected by the Pontifical College Josephinum to serve on its Alumni Committee, which plans

## 1977

**Katie Willard Troebbs** has joined the Directors Guild of America and has just completed serving as unit production manager for the first scripted programming for BET, a 10-episode series called *Somebodies*. She recently returned from Flint, MI where filming concluded on *All's Fair in Love* starring Christina Ricci, Ann-Margret and Cedric the Entertainer. Back home in Atlanta she is prepping *Get Low* with Robert Duval, Sissy Spacek and Bill Murray. She is also preparing to serve as producer on *Between Yesterday and Tomorrow*, a feature film starring Della Reese, Bill Cobbs, and Louis Gossett, Jr.



and implements alumni events throughout the year. Michael also volunteers at the Josephinum every Saturday in the archives/alumni relations office. The Josephinum, in Columbus, OH, is the only Pontifical college located outside of Italy. Michael was a seminarian at the Josephinum during the 1992-1993 academic year.

## 1988

**Micki Glassburn Lamb** is a counselor of children, adolescents, families, and a supervisor at Tri-County Mental Health and Counseling Services in Athens, OH. She lives in Athens with her husband, Jody, four year old son, Leighton, one dog and two cats.

## 1988

**Timothy (T.J.) Gerckens**, who recently assumed the role of managing director for Contemporary American Theatre Company, Columbus, OH (CATCO), did a lighting design for *La Sonambula* at the Metropolitan Opera in NYC. T.J. is best known for his design of *Metamorphoses*, for which he won awards all over the country, including a Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Lighting Design Off-Broadway in 2002.



## 1989

**Jennifer Nichols Day** is currently working on her Ph.D. at the University of Michigan and working for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in Ann Arbor, MI as regional coordinator for the Great Lakes Region.

## 1991

**Ben Hodges** promoted his books on the program *Stage & Screen* on KXL 88.9FM in Los Angeles, CA in Feb. 2009 with Mark Gordon. It can also be accessed on iTunes.

**Bryan Knicely**, president of the Greater Columbus Arts Council, was pictured in *CityScene's* Nov./Dec. issue, receiving a plaque presented to the city by *AmericanStyle* Magazine. They voted Columbus, OH a top 10 destination for the arts - ahead of marquee cities including Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

**Zeke Avradopoulos** is in her first feature film, *Paul Blart: Mall Cop*, after being in the profession for only two and a half years when it was filmed. She plays opposite Kevin James and Jackie Sandler in the Victoria's Secret scene.

## 1993

**Christie Anderson** started a three-year residency



## Author Reveals his Experience as a Child Prisoner of War

by Wavalene Kumler Tong '59

Few who knew **Curt Tong '56** when he was an Otterbein student or professor and basketball coach (1963-1972) knew about his life in the Philippine Islands. He rarely talked about his first 11 years in the Pacific, so it would surprise many to learn that he and his family spent over three years incarcerated by the Japanese Imperial Army during World War II. Only recently has Curt begun to revisit those dreaded memories and to share them with family and friends.

The result is his recently published memoir, *Child of War: Son of Angels*, written from a child's perspective, aged 7- to 11-years-old. His account describes the joys of island life prior to Pearl Harbor and the suffering, starvation, anxiety, as well as compassion and the occasional humor of imprisonment during WWII. From the character and leadership "styles" of the various Japanese commandants who governed them, to the conditions, camaraderie and struggles within the internee community, his story reveals that love was key to their efforts to survive. Also key to the story is the friendship with **Carl B. Eschbach '26**, a United Brethren missionary also stationed in the Philippines.

Life for the Tong family began in the Philippines when Curt's parents were missionaries to Davao, Mindanao, in 1931. There, Curt and his sisters (**Eloise '54** and Annarae) were born. His mother, Margaret, and the children moved to the mountains of Luzon to attend school in 1941. They left their father, Walter, in Mindanao to continue serving the Filipinos and Aborigine tribes.

After only three months of classes, the Philippine Islands were attacked, almost simultaneously with Pearl Harbor, and schooling ceased. Weeks later, Curt and his family surrendered with many other Americans and British as captives of the Japanese military.

While Curt's dad was interned in far-off Davao, Carl—known as Uncle B to the Tong children—became Curt's surrogate father for most of the war years. Fortunately for the Eschbach family, mother Ruth returned to the States with their children prior to the war. Uncle B was not only Curt's "father" but the chosen leader of the internees throughout captivity in three different concentration camps.

The prisoners were freed and returned to the United States when the Japanese were defeated in WWII. Influenced by surrogate father Carl, Curt and Eloise both attended Otterbein. Curt earned 12 varsity letters in baseball, football

and tennis, and led the baseball and football teams as captain his senior year. An ROTC student at Otterbein, he served in the Air Force after graduation, undertaking pilot training and coaching the Strategic Air Command basketball team, which won the Air Force Tournament. While in the service in 1958, Curt married **Wavalene "Jinx" Kumler Tong '59** in a ceremony officiated by Carl Eschbach and Walter Tong. Returning to civilian life, Curt earned his M.A. and Ph.D. at Ohio State University while teaching and coaching at Bexley High School.

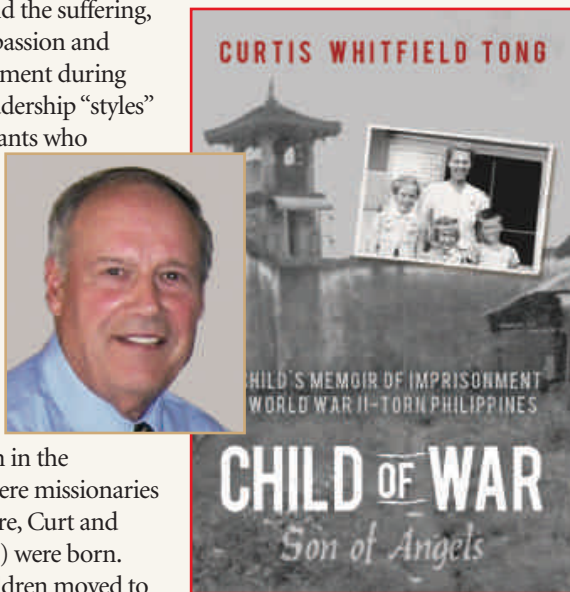
In 1963, Curt became head basketball coach, assistant football coach and professor of physical education at Otterbein, earning coaching honors and spearheading winning seasons until 1972.

In 1972, Curt left Otterbein for the University of Vermont, where he developed a graduate program in physical education. In 1973, he began a decade of coaching the men's basketball team for Williams College (Mass.), also coaching the women's tennis team and serving as chair of the physical education department. His last professional move was to Pomona College (Calif.) where he was the athletic director and taught creative writing from 1983 until retirement in 1998.

During numerous sabbaticals and throughout retirement, Curt traveled to teach and coach worldwide, most often in Asia, including Japan, China and the Philippines.

In late October, 2008, Curt, Eloise and Annarae returned to their birthplace. They were invited to represent their parents at the centennial celebration of the Davao United Church of Christ. The celebration honored the men and women who were instrumental in founding the parish and rebuilding the church after the war. This was a memorable trip, and the first time that Eloise had set foot on the islands since liberation in 1945. Not only were the trio honored in Davao as they celebrated the centennial, but they also visited Manila and Baguio, both sites of incarceration. Physically, much had changed, thereby making recognition of former landmarks a challenge. However, the delicious fruits, warm climes and generous, loving Filipinos had not changed.

Curt and Jinx have three children and seven grandchildren and are retired in Williamstown, Mass. ●





## 1993

**Jeri Malmsberry Close** has been named the new vice president, county executive for the Columbiana County, OH Huntington Bank market.

in veterinary oncology at Washington State University in Pullman, WA. She will complete her training and obtain board certification in July 2011.

**Tom Anderson** led a meeting of the Wayne-Holmes Marketing Network on Feb. 11, 2009. The topic was "E-Marketing: What Every Organization Needs to Know." Tom is the founder of Excelleweb of Columbus, OH, an interactive design and web marketing firm.

**Anne Jellen Kaufman** became the coordinator of equine facilities and riding, division of Academic Affairs and Student Life, at Bethany College in Bethany, WV. The riding program uses her farm, Pegasus Farm Equestrian Center.

**Kara Putinsky McCoy** will have an article published in the *Journal of Teacher-Initiated Research* this year.

**Amy Fribley McKinlay** has been designated a certified specialist in Family Relations Law by the Ohio State Bar Association, effective Jan. 2007.

**Lisa Postiy Muller** and family recently celebrated the tenth anniversary of their first son's birth and death with a Memorial Service on Aug. 1.



Donations were made in Eric Joseph Muller's name to Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital research and development and health care for the many children and their families that need Saint Jude's help.

**Mary Rose Ronzio Walsworth** retired in 2003 from Lincoln Electric, Columbus, OH and is currently planning a move to North Carolina.



## 1994

**Shannon Cochran**, professor of ethnic studies at Bowling Green State University, was a guest speaker at the Defiance College, Defiance, OH, Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration on Jan. 22, 2009.

**Todd Crain** appeared in the play, *23 Knives*. The play, based on a true story of the secret exhumation of Julius Caesar's body, played at the Harold Clurman Theatre, NY.

**Eddie Harrell** was appointed as chairman of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission by Governor of Ohio Ted Strickland.

**Chris Troyer** developed the Live Like a Champion program in an effort to emphasize the importance of healthy, positive lifestyle choices. The program targets youth who are transitioning from junior high to high school and aims to provide them with real life examples of how to overcome challenges ranging from academics, to extra-curricular activities, to social concerns, and even healthful living. His "messengers" include a panel of Otterbein College athletic training students who provide honest, open insight into their own challenges and suggestions of how they were able to overcome these trials and be successful college

students. Troyer is currently a certified athletic trainer in Dublin City Schools.

## 1995

**Sandy Crow Mealy** is self-employed in the decorative painting and mural business.

**Jim Ziogas** has joined National Environmental Coverage Corporation (NECC), a wholly owned subsidiary of Rockhill Insurance in Medina, OH, as assistant vice president and Midwest regional manager.

## 1996

**John Steiner** returned for a fifth time to the Marion Civic Chorus as they presented *The Messiah* and served as a soloist. He currently lives in Columbus, OH, and is a singer, song writer/arranger, voice teacher, choir director, conductor, pianist, actor and columnist.

## 1997

**Katie Peyton McGrath** was recently named director of human resources

## 1998

**Brian Batch** has recently been promoted to manager of Global Editorial, Design, and Production Operations at the McGraw Hill Companies. Brian oversees all book publishing operations across all North American Divisions and the global production suppliers, including oversight of all facilities in India, to which he has traveled. Brian and his wife, Lisa, live near Worthington, OH.



## Alumnus Shares Hard Road, Importance of Completion

by Raven DeVoll '09

After 22 years, Matt Whitis can finally say he graduated from Otterbein College. Although it was a long and tumultuous path—in and out of prison, drug and alcohol abuse and even thoughts of suicide—Whitis believes his past experiences have helped form him into the man he is today.

Whitis began his Otterbein career in 1986. He planned to enter the education field and knew that Otterbein was known for its great program. He also chose Otterbein because of cross country coach Dave Lehman.

Other inspirational people who touched Whitis' life during his short time at Otterbein were Bob Gatti, current vice president for student affairs, and Becky Smith, current director of alumni relations. "The close knit community helped me grow, and you wouldn't get that at a big university," he said.

After one quarter at Otterbein, Whitis was enjoying his classes and was excelling at cross country, but admits to partying a little too hard. He realizes now that he was an alcoholic and drug addict by the end of high school. Threatened with not being allowed to participate in the nationals cross country competition because of his habits, Whitis transferred to Malone College in Canton, Ohio.

"I went somewhere else, but took my problems with me," he said. At Malone, he was kicked out of school and eventually off campus property after only one year.

He then enlisted in the army; his initial duty began in Desert Storm in 1991, but he quickly returned to the states and entered the Ohio National Guard. While overseas he became ill with Desert Storm Syndrome, an illness caused by exposure to pesticides, affecting 200,000 veterans. Whitis lost 70 pounds and all the hair on his body, broke out in skin rashes and suffered from mental anguish. This illness did not help his drug and alcohol addiction, but tormented him even more.

After moving back to northeast Ohio and getting married, his wife's son died at the mere age of 3 ½ from the stomach disease, peritonitis. This traumatic experience pushed Whitis over the edge. "It really took me all the way down to the darkest, black hole I've ever been to in my life," he said. He no longer cared about living. Instead he was incarcerated after countless DUI's, disorderly conduct, domestic violence and a felony charge. Gatti, always faintly present in Whitis' life, reappeared by writing a letter to the judge vouching for him. This letter gave Whitis only 5 ½ years in prison instead of the allotted 15.

Once he got out of prison, Whitis struggled in and out of rehabilitation centers, not knowing how to fix his problem. He was on the brink of suicide before finally entering the House of Hope Rehabilitation Center in Columbus and lived there for six months while working on himself. He went back to work when he finished and soon was in contact with Gatti again, who convinced him to return to Otterbein.

After acquiring enough credits, Whitis completed training, classes and tests through the State of Ohio to become an alcohol and drug counselor. With only one class left at Otterbein, he was offered a job as a case management counselor at the North Central Mental Health Services in Columbus in 2003, and never got around to finishing the final class.

Whitis came back to school in 2008 to finish and graduated from Otterbein this past December with a bachelor's degree in sociology. He was motivated to go back because of his personal belief of the importance of completion, an idea he shares with his patients.

With this belief and help from Otterbein, Whitis was able to graduate. "I can't imagine another school being so supportive of one individual. I still have letters and cards from Becky Smith while I was in Desert Storm. And Bob helped me outside of Otterbein. He took me to treatment once because I couldn't drive. It speaks volumes of the school itself to have people like that work there," he said.

Running has also been a huge motivator in his recovery. He currently runs 110 miles each week. He participates in USA Track and Field which has taken him all over the country with his cross country skills. "God allowed me to keep my motivation and ability to run. As a young kid it was my passion, and during my darkest times I was unable to run. But now I can," he explained.

Whitis offers incoming freshmen advice. He believes it's important for students to connect with organizations on campus in order to get the most out of their experience. "Align yourself with doing the right thing. Also, make the contacts with people rooted in the College, like Bob and Becky, who are such good people. They've been great supporters of mine this whole way," he said.

Whitis currently lives in South Carolina with his wife where he hopes to receive his master's degree in social work at the University of South Carolina. He eventually sees himself helping others by getting them to look at life differently and asking for help when they need it. ●





of Fahlgren, Inc., an independent marketing communications agency in Columbus, OH.

**Kate Altier Reagan** has accepted a position with The Ohio State University as an assistant capital planner in the Office of Planning and Real Estate.

## 1998

**Laura Wesley Geiger**, along with her husband and children, Zachary, 5, Wesley, 3, and Abigail, 1, have relocated to Pittsburgh, PA. Laura is working for the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center as an at large nurse practitioner in the emergency departments at eight of their locations.

**David Vastine** opened his own Internal Medicine practice, Asbury Internal Medicine, in Knoxville, TN in March. David and **Courtney Vanderpool '99** have been married for almost ten years.



## 1999

**Amy Giera Pierce** is a registered nurse for the Medina County, OH Public Health Department. The department offers a free well baby check-up for all babies in Medina County. Amy is one of four nurses that visit new babies in their homes.

## 2000

**Jennifer Russell Huff** was unanimously approved by the Richwood Village

## 2003

**Kelly McNamara** received her MA in psychology from the University of Kansas in 2007. In Jan. 2008 she joined the Geary Institute at University College Dublin (UCD) in Ireland for the opportunity to work on innovative new research on early childhood interventions. The program aims to improve levels of school readiness in several designated disadvantaged areas.



Council, Richwood, OH, to fill a vacant city council seat.

**Joe Wilkins** is employed by Ohio Health and works solely with Otterbein. He works with the football team, women's basketball team and baseball team as a strength and conditioning coach. Joe has made presentations at the Ohio State Baseball Coaches Association clinic as well as to members of the Ohio Athletic Trainers Association.

**Jennifer Williams** is an assistant United States attorney with the U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Department of Justice, Central District of California.

## 2002

**Chris Lenz** has accepted the offer of membership from Mensa, a society for those in or above the 98th percentile on standardized IQ tests.

**Clayton Oyster** has been hired by Iowa State University as the Cyclones' assistant strength and conditioning football coach. He previously

worked at Rice, where he designed and implemented comprehensive year-round speed, strength and conditioning programs for baseball and assisted in the same role for the Owl football program.

## 2003

**Jeremy Bobb** co-stars in Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Donald Margulies' new play *Shipwrecked...*, at Primary Stages in NYC. He plays over 20 characters ranging from a dog to the Queen of England. *The New York Times* said of his performance: "The actorly delight with which Mr. Bobb dips into all sorts of accents and voices, creating quickly etched comic portraits in just seconds,

is a real pleasure; you can't wait to see what new guise he'll appear in next."

**Shaun Morrison** is living in Toledo, OH, practicing orthopedics as a physician assistant.

**Denise Pope** has been chosen by the Westerville, OH, school board as a new board member.



## 2005

**Matt Heizman** is an English teacher at Poly Returnee Education Institute in South Korea. He uses cross curriculum keyboarding techniques to teach the English language,

## 2004

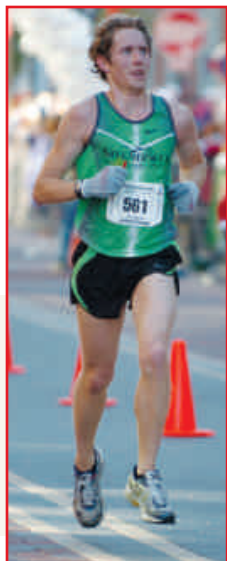
**Emily Chandler** was recently honored by the Kannapolis, NC, City Board of Education for achieving certification from the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards. The certification is considered the highest professional credential in teaching.



communication and writing. His father, Chris, is working with 44 sixth grade students at Van Wert, OH Middle School to learn the techniques to communicate with the South Korean students as pen pals.

## 2007

**Ted Dille** is teaching at Logan Elm High School, Logan, OH, where he is a math teacher as well as



the varsity baseball coach. Recently, Logan Elm schools held its athletic hall of fame induction ceremony, honoring him with the Award of Merit.

## 2008

**Lucas Buck** is the sports director of the High Plains Radio Network in Levelland, TX. He is the voice of all of West Texas high school sports and the South Plains Junior College Texans.

**Stefanie Campbell** is employed by Northlich Public Relations, Columbus, OH, a full-service public relations agency with offices also in Cincinnati

## 2006

**Michael Cauley** is an inventory assistant for Acorn Farms in Westerville, OH. He is also training for his second marathon in Boston.

## 2005

**Kelley Youman Truxall** is a current contributor for *ThisWeek* in Olentangy and won a third-place award from Suburban Newspapers of America (SNA) in the category of Best Continuing Coverage for her stories on the controversial Target store planned in Powell, OH.



and Cleveland, OH. They handle national, regional and local public relations programs for clients in a variety of industries.

**Heather Gilbert** is with the American Cancer Society. She is a staff person working with the organization of Relay For Life fund raising.

**Stephanie Houck** is the director of special events for

the Arthritis Foundation, Central Ohio Chapter.

**Matt Lofy** is employed with Ron Foth Advertising, Columbus, OH, as a creative production assistant.

**Sarah Jacobson Vith** is working in the Vice President's Office for Student Affairs and taking graduate classes for student affairs in higher education at Wright State University, Dayton, OH. ●

# Strike up the Band!

**It's the 100th Anniversary of the Otterbein College Cardinal Marching Band, Homecoming Weekend, October 23 – 24, 2009.**

All Otterbein alumni who performed with the Cardinal Marching Band and auxiliary groups are invited to participate.

Conductors currently scheduled to appear are **Jeff Boehm '82**, Jeff Kunkel, Russ McCutcheon, Jim Morgan, **John Orr '79**, **Jim Shackson '61**, **Gary Tirey H '90** and **Don Wolfe '71**. Relive classic Otterbein standards like *Ol' Man River* and the beloved *Otterbein Love Song*.

Calendar a social event at Old Bag of Nails on State Street, Westerville on Friday, October 23, participation in the Homecoming parade and other activities on Saturday, October 24, and a band concert that evening at 8 p.m.

Let us know if you are interested in being a volunteer to recruit members to return for the celebration.

**Registration brochure will be mailed in August.  
614-823-1650 • [www.otterbein.edu/alumni](http://www.otterbein.edu/alumni)**

**See you in October!**

*It's a Centennial Celebration!*





# MileSTONES

Compiled by Laurie Draper. Submit information for Class Notes and Milestones to Classnotes, Office of Advancement Resources, Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio, 43081 or email: [classnotes@otterbein.edu](mailto:classnotes@otterbein.edu)

## Wedding Album



**1987**

Susan Maxwell Wenar '87  
with husband, John Erik



**1993**

Holly Ross Tong '93 with  
husband, Antonio



**2000**

Amanda Delp Brown '00 with  
husband, Robert



**2002**

Annette Williams Crabtree  
'02 with husband, Mike



**2004**

Stacie Stromski Durig  
'04 with husband, Josh



**2005**

Selby Nippert Beers '05 with  
husband, Kevin '05



**2005**

Marissa White Grayem '05 with  
husband, Paul



**2006**

Caitlin Czarnecki O'Brien  
'06 with husband, Michael



**2006**

Shannon Harrell Hoehnen '06  
with husband, Jason '06



**2007**

Tracey Berg Fulton '07 with  
husband, Patrick



**2007**

Karen Beers Horvath '07  
with husband, Andrew '07



**2008**

Kelly Bradley Walk '08 with  
husband, Tim

## Marriages

### 1975

**Susan Emrick** to David Cattran, July 19, 2008.

### 1986

**Linda Cole** to Jeff Maxwell, June 28, 2008.

### 1987

**Susan Maxwell** to Johnerik Wenar, Dec. 27, 2008.

### 1993

**Timothy Kirk** to Jane Douglas, Aug. 31, 2008.

**Holly Ross** to Antonio Tong, Jan. 23, 2009, in Montego Bay.

### 1995

**Michelle Johnson** to Ken Ball, Oct. 13, 2007.

### 1998

**Wendy Erin Grove** to Gabe Hafner, Sept. 8, 2007.

### 2000

**Amanda Delp** to Robert Brown, Aug. 9, 2008.

### 2001

**Christine Marie Abraham** to Joshua Pepper, Nov. 8, 2008.

**Amy Heidt** to Shawn O'Neal, Sept. 6, 2008.

### 2002

**Annette Williams** to Mike Crabtree, Nov. 14, 2008, in Nashville, TN. Ceremony was conducted by **Chad Bragdon '09**.

### 2003

**LeeAnne Mizer** to Joe Jurkowitz, Nov. 1, 2008. The wedding party included **Kristin Matthews Bradley '03** and **Nicole Bridgman '03** as bridesmaids, and **Ashley Good Black '03** and **Janna Proper Mast '03** were greeters and guest book attendants.

**Amy Lenzmeier** to Derick Ruff, July 12, 2008.

### 2004

**John Chaney** to Ashley Williams, Aug. 23, 2008.

**Stacie Stromski** to Josh Durig, June 21, 2008. Several OC alumni attended and participated. OC bridesmaids include **Mackenzie Scott Whitaker '04**, **Kelly Farmer Stahley '04** and **Heather Reichle '06**.

### 2005

**Katherine Chrismer** to Wesley Barnes, Aug. 9, 2009.

**Selby Nippert** to **Kevin Beers '05**, June 29, 2008.

**Staci Hilborn** to Santel Grant, Dec. 27, 2008.

**Marissa White** to Paul Grayem, Oct. 25, 2008.

**Tiffany Bassett** to Tristan Haas, Nov. 30, 2008.

### 2006

**Brynne Leigh Bowers** to James Hanning, Nov. 22, 2008.

**Jeanne Perason** to Geoff Heintzinger, Nov. 8, 2008.

**Shannon Harrell** to **Jason Hoehnen '06**, July 14, 2006.

**Caitlin Czarnecki** to Michael O'Brien, Dec. 27, 2008. The wedding party and guests included **Steve Czarnecki '09**, **Liz Shivener '09**, **Lizzie Schleicher '06**, **Gretchen Streiff '06**, and **Peter Hampton '07**.

### 2007

**Tracey Berg** to Patrick Fulton, Nov. 15, 2008. The couple was surrounded by friends, family, and Otterbein family including classmates of 2007, and actives and alumnae of Tau Delta.

**Kate Cavagnaro** to Ryan Brooks, Dec. 20, 2008.

**Emily Ellis** to Christopher Day, Aug. 8, 2008.

**Karen Beers** to **Andrew Horvath '07**, Dec. 27, 2008. In attendance were **Ned Forman '54**, grandfather of the bride; **Barbara Klenk Forman '57**, grandmother of the bride; **Richard Beers '79**, father of the bride; **Nancy Forman Beers '79**, mother of the bride; **Kevin Beers '05**, brother of the bride; Gregory Beers, current student and brother of the bride; and several other Otterbein relatives and friends.

**Amanda Riffle** to Corey McEnhill, Sept. 6, 2008.

### 2008

**Meghan Johnson** to Casey Boyd, July 15, 2008.

**Sarah Jacobson** to William Vith, Aug. 2, 2008, at the Springfield Art Museum.

**Kelly Bradley** to Tim Walk, Aug. 8, 2008.

## Additions

### 1988

**Lisa Rindfuss Huston** and husband, **John Huston '89**, a son, Connor Theodore Huston, June 18, 2008.

### 1993

**Tracey Young Babcock** and husband, **Doug '93**, a son, Jonathan Daniel "Jack" Babcock, Nov. 3, 2008.

**Erin Meinberg Barrett** and husband, Dean, a daughter, Nora Christine, Aug. 21, 2008. She joins big sister Ella, age 3.

### 1994

**Sarah Drye Burre** and husband, **Craig Burre '93**, a daughter, Katherine C. Burre, April 27, 2007.

### 1995

**Sandra Crow Mealy** and husband, Shane, a son, Lucas Shane, Aug. 8, 2008.

### 1996

**Debra Dellinger Lehman** and husband, Jeff, a daughter, Josie Suess, May 27, 2008. She joins big brother Jakob, 3.

### 1997

**Jesse Truett** and wife, Karen, a son, Sam, April 25, 2008.

### 1998

**Tara Hill Freter** and husband Adam, a son, William Vaughn Freter, Jan. 20, 2008.

**Dawn Torchia Hunter** and husband, Chad, a son, Noah, April 29, 2008.



## Baby Album



**1993**

*Jonathon Daniel Babcock*



**1995**

*Lucas Shane Mealy*



**2000**

*Michael Wulfric Buoni*

Submit photos to  
[classnotes@otterbein.edu](mailto:classnotes@otterbein.edu).  
Photos should be at least  
1,000 pixels on the shortest  
side and jpeg format is  
preferred.



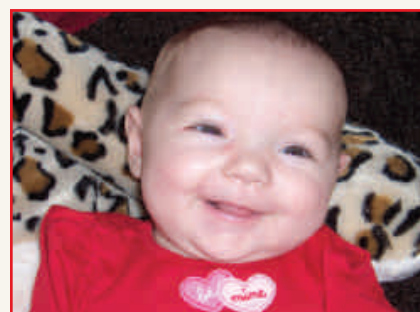
**2002**

*Cameron Alexis Cave*



**2002**

*Isaac Christopher Reash with siblings,  
Ellie and Jacob*



**2003**

*Rebecca June Koval*



**2005**

*Mitchell Carl Perkins*



**2005**

*Ella Rae Andrews*



**2005**

*Jordin Jevelyn and Kristin Lalena Lynch*

**Julie Good Rine** and husband, Troy, a son, Brody, Jan. 28, 2008.

**Albert Wheeler** and wife, Kari Ann, a daughter, Ellie Mae Wheeler, Sept. 9, 2008.

**1999**

**Courtney Vanderpool Vastine** and husband, **David '98**, a son, Alexander Kenneth Vastine, Aug. 21, 2007.

**2000**

**Selena Evilsizor Buoni** and husband, Matthew, a son, Michael Wulfric, April 9, 2008. Proud grandparents are Scott and **Glorene Shearer Evilsizor '74**.

**2001**

**Jennifer Eckert Schroeder** and husband, Dave, a son, William, Mar. 19, 2008. He joins big brother Andrew, 4.

**2002**

**Carla Stauffer Cave '02** and husband, **Ryan Cave '02**, a daughter, Cameron Alexis, Dec. 7, 2008.

**Theresa DeCenzo Reash** and husband, Kevin, a son, Issac Christopher, Feb. 26, 2009. Sister, Ellie, and brother, Jacob, welcomed their little brother home.

**2003**

**Jennifer Groseclose Koval** and husband, Erik, a daughter Rebecca June Koval, Dec. 1, 2008.

**Kimberly Leonhard Miller** and husband, **Timothy '03**, a girl, Lauren Jolee Miller, Oct. 18, 2008.

**Andree Mock**, a boy, Jarin C. Mock, May 20, 2008.

## 2005

**Hallie Lucas Andrews** and husband, David, a daughter, Ella Rae Andrews, Jan. 17, 2009.

**Kristin Eichhorn Perkins** and husband, Roger, a son, Mitchell Carl, Jan. 21, 2009.

## 2006

**Scott Bruce** and wife, Shanna, a son, Colin Scott Bruce III, Nov. 19, 2008.

## 2008

**Jennifer Lynch-McKinney** and husband, twin girls, Jordin Jevelyn and Kristin LaLena, Jan. 2, 2009.

## Deaths

### 1935

**Kenyon Harris** died Feb. 23, 2009. Preceded in death by his wife, Violet, he is survived by son and daughter-in-law, **Alan '69** and **Julia Gauch Harris '69**; and daughters, Susie and Elaine.

**Evalyn Wiseman** died Nov. 1, 2008.

### 1936

**Anita Bundy Cheek** died May 5, 2008. Anita was preceded in death by her husband, **Harold '36**, sister-in-law, **Helen Cheek Haines '42** and brother-in-law, **Donald '40**. Surviving are her children, Marilyn Cavern, Robert, and Ronald.

### 1943

**Harry Rhoads** died Jan. 31, 2009. He was a general practitioner for 36 years in Moxham, PA. and a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. Harry was a member of the Park Avenue United Methodist Church and belonged to the Elks

Club. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Kenneth Rhoads and **C. Donald Rhoads '50**. Surviving are sister-in-law, Dorothy Rhoads; nieces, Diane Rhoads, Linda Hafer and Carol Cyphers; nephews, Kevin Rhoads and Earl Freeman; special friend, Philip Sapala; and seven great-nieces and nephews.

### Lillian Warnick Schenkel

died Oct. 17, 2008. She is survived by her husband, Kenneth; and children, Eric, Joan and Evan.

### Charlotte "Betsy" Smith

died Aug. 18, 2008. Betsy received her masters in public health from Case Western Reserve, Cleveland, OH. During World War II she was commissioned in the Army and worked at a hospital in Charleston, SC, serving returning wounded soldiers. She was recalled to service in Germany, then to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C., during the Korean War. President Eisenhower was among the many patients for whom she prepared special diets. Her many distinguished careers in dietetics included one with the U.S. Public Health Service, the State of Ohio, and the U.S. Army Reserves. She was a member of the Westwood First Presbyterian Church, Westwood, OH; loved music, traveling and volunteer work, including serving the immigrant community as a traveler's aid. Surviving are her sister, Genevieve, and many nieces and nephews.

### 1944

**George Longhenry** died Dec. 17, 2008. He was retired after 35 years with Ross Laboratories, Columbus, OH. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Juanita; children, Sandy Rosselet and Chris Longhenry;

three grandchildren; one great-grandchild; brother, Dick; and many friends and family.

**James McQuiston** died May 2, 2008. He was preceded in death by his first wife, **Nancy Hulett McQuiston '43**.

Survivors include his wife, Wanda; his son, James and daughter, Cynthia Prochow.

### 1945

**Ula Bigham Morse** died Dec. 18, 2008. She is survived by her children, William Morse and Janet Touvell; sister, Marjorie Bigham; and six grandchildren. Ula was an analytical chemist, retired high school teacher, Avon sales representative, and 4-H Club Leader. She was a member of Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church, in Dayton, OH; the Association of University Women; Red Hat Society Club and the Huber Heights Senior Citizen Center.

### 1946

**Audrey Cover Conklin** died Nov. 18, 2008. Audrey was an active member of the Ortega, FL, United Methodist Church where she taught Sunday school and served as president of the United Methodist Women. Her memberships include the Daughters of the American Revolution and Delta Kappa Gamma educational group. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harry and brother, William. Surviving are many family members and friends.

### 1947

**Beryl Hardin Schrank** died Feb. 7, 2009. Preceded in death by her first husband, **Maurice Gribler '45**, Beryl worked for the United Theological School and the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church. She is survived by her husband, Gerhardt; and children, Jeffrey

Gribler, **Mike Gribler '71**, **Cathy Gribler Speelman '71** (**David '68**); sister, **Joanne Klepinger Dittmer '50**; stepchildren, Scott and Mark Schrank; 10 grandchildren, including **Nick Speelman '03**, **Jennifer Speelman Gibson '01** and **Darcie Gribler D'Ascenzo '97**; and 11 great grandchildren.

### 1948

**Alice Broadbent** died on Aug. 22, 2008. Alice retired from the Dayton, OH school system after 25 years and was a lifetime member of the Otterbein United Methodist Church. She was preceded in death by brothers, Howard Windham and Jim Broadbent; and sister, Bobbie Krull. Alice had many grand and great grand nieces and nephews and is survived also by her special friends, Tom and Sue Hasty.

**Lawrence Hervey** died Nov. 3, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Jeanne.

**Richard Pflieger** died Dec. 26, 2008. Originally from Columbus, OH, Dick moved to Daytona Beach, FL in 1985 to serve as the executive director of the Daytona Beach Community College Foundation. He received a master's of education from the University of Arizona and Doctor of Education from the University of Florida. As a former football head coach, he was inducted into the Gahanna, OH High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 1991 and the Otterbein College Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008. He was also an avid tennis player. Dr. Pflieger served in the Navy in WWII and was a member of the Christ Presbyterian Church in Ormond Beach, FL. Survivors are his wife of 62 years, **Dorothy Mikesell Pflieger '48**; two daughters, Jean and Janet; one son, John;



five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

**Robert Wilcox** died Feb. 21, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor. Robert ("Wax") worked for Schuman and Sorrell and ABN Realty. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Westerville, Westerville Historical Society, former member of Maennerchor Club, and an Air Force veteran of WWII.

## 1949

**Jean Carbaugh Cox** died Dec. 17, 2008. She is survived by her husband, **Austin '49**; sister, Carolyn Carbaugh **Wimberly '49**; and children, Jerrel, John, Jeffrey, Jason and Joy.

**Artie Swartz Starr** died Oct. 6, 2008. She was a member of the Chamber Hill United Methodist Church, a retired Central Dauphin School District teacher, and a former member of the American Association of Univerity Women, Harrisburg, PA. Her first husband, Leonard, preceded her in death. Surviving are her children, Sallie Schimmel and Scott Starr; grandchildren, Marissa and Teegan Starr; and sister, Beula Seller.

## 1950

**Edgar Bartley** died Dec. 16, 2008. Mr. Bartley retired after teaching for 33 years for Rockingham County Schools, VA. He served in the US Army during World War II with the 83rd Field Hospital in the Third Army. He was elected to the Dayton, VA Town Council in 1951. He retired from public office in 2001 after serving as mayor for 16 years. He is survived by his wife, **Virginia Ruebush '49**; his children, Douglas, Jeff, and Jacquelyn; brother, Thomas; and three grandchildren.

## 1951

**Donald Hoover** died Dec. 6, 2008. An avid golfer, he and three friends founded the Johnstown High School Golf Booster Club. He was a member of the Licking County, OH, Republican party where he served on the executive committee, the Johnstown Lions Club, the Licking County Board of Elections, and a lifetime member of the Johnstown United Methodist Church. Surviving are his wife of 59 years, Betty; children, Suzanne Adams, Scott and Ronald Hoover and Sandra Morris; eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his brother, Keith, and sister, Velma Ashbrook.

**George Young** died Dec. 13, 2008. George received his master's degree in education from Bowling Green State University. A member of the First United Methodist Church of Shelby, OH, he served as deacon, elder, sunday school superintendent and teacher, and member of the choir and bell choir. Other memberships included the Shelby and Shiloh Masonic Lodges, and the Scottish Rite, Valley of Canton. He was a veteran of the US Navy and served as a fireman in WWII. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Jean '51**, and daughter, Susan. Survivors include three sons, Daniel, Timothy, and **David '78**; six grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

## 1952

**Maribelle Lemley Custer** died Oct. 3, 2008.

**Hugh Welch** died Sept. 29, 2008.

## 1954

**Bruce Levering** died Jan. 28, 2009. Beginning in 1956, Bruce built or purchased several nursing homes and health centers throughout Ohio. In 1974 he founded Levering Management, Inc. In 2006, the Ohio Senate recognized Bruce for 50 years of service. Because of his love for farming, he was a partner in Foote Elevator, Fredericktown, OH, and in 1977 became owner and operator, changing the name to Leve Agriman Feed and Supply. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Joan; his children, Cynthia, William, Jeffrey and Kenneth; eleven grandchildren; two sisters, Elizabeth May and Alice Levering; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Kathryn; and two brothers, **E. P. '52** and Charles.

## 1955

**Arden Mercier** died Oct. 13, 2008. Arden's career included owning and operating the Pizza Station in Wabash, OH, pastoring several small E.U.B. churches in Ohio and teaching history at Huntington College and Ball State University, IN. He was a member of the United Methodist Church in Huntington. He is survived by his wife, Nancy; sons, Andrew, Phillip and David; brothers, David and Jack; sisters, Lenny Jacobs, Martha Pfluge, Patricia Byrd, and Cynthia Sturrett; and seven grandchildren.

## 1957

**John Gibson** died Nov. 26, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Barbara. John taught in the Ohio school system for 13 years, and then went on to work as a criminal investigator for the Internal Audit Division of the IRS.

## 1960

**George Howe** died Aug. 21, 2008. Surviving are his wife Margaret, and daughter, Suzanne Howe.

**Jean Miller Nickol** died Feb. 13, 2009. Surviving are her children, David and Cinda.

**Charles Woods** died Feb. 14, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Marie, and three children, Linda Rogers, Deborah Beeman and Charles Woods.

## 1963

**Anthony Stoddard** died April 27, 2008. Mr. Stoddard earned his master's degree at New Haven State College, CT. He then taught in secondary schools on the east coast until 1975 when he enlisted in the US Army. His service time was spent performing intelligence and personnel work until honorably discharged in 1988. Survivors include his wife, Judith; children, Marc and Elliott; brother, William Stoddard, and sister, Ann Saunders; and many extended family members.

## 1966

**Nicholas Anspach** died Jan. 23, 2009. Surviving are his wife, **Sally Banbury Anspach '64**; children, Julia Stoner and Jamison Anspach; five grandchildren; and relatives, Thomas and **Sharon Banbury Shoaf '67**. Nicholas received his master's of education from Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH. He served 40 years as a teacher and administrator at Northern Local schools, Perry County, OH; Columbia schools and Keystone schools, Lorain County, OH. He was a member of Thornville Masonic Lodge, Order of Eastern Star, and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Dublin, OH.

## 1967

**Kay Templeton** died Aug. 11, 2007.

**Helen Collins Ware** died Feb. 3, 2009. Helen was an employee of the Ohio State Legal Department. She received her master's degree from Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH. Helen taught at West HS, Columbus, OH, and retired from the Ohio State Department of Education. A life member of the NAACP and involved with the National Council of Negro Women, Helen was a member of Karats, Inc. She was preceded in death by her husband, Howard; son, Ulric Findlay; and brothers, Louis, Daniel, Harry, Edward and Robert Collins. Helen is survived by her brother, George Collins; and sisters, Edna Covington, JoAnn House, Ida Hall and Mildred Harrison; and many nieces, nephews and special friends.

## 1968

**James MacKenzie** died Dec. 26, 2008. He served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force in Viet Nam and was a member of the Church of The Master, United Methodist, Westerville, OH. James was preceded in death by his father, Arthur, and grandfather, **Jesse Engle '14**. Survivors include his wife of 35 years, Pei Hsiu; children, **Michelle MacKenzie Foster '02** and Michael MacKenzie; grandson, Zaine Foster; mother, **Alberta Engle Messmer '40**; sisters, **Carol MacKenzie Kruger '70**, **Barbara MacKenzie Campbell '71** and **Marilyn Mackenzie '73**; and numerous other family members and friends.

## 1971

**Charles "Charley" Shaffer** died Dec. 10, 2008. Charley received his master's degree

in computer science while at Bell Telephone Laboratories, Columbus, OH, where he was employed and later retired after more than 30 years of service. His greatest joy was his family. His interests included woodworking, the outdoors, and tending to his horses. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Sandra; daughters, Lauren and Lesley Shaffer; son, Mike Shaffer; grandchildren, Amity, Amanda, Hailey and Hayden; sister, Patricia Shaffer; stepfather, Paul Humphrey; and his children, Doug and Pam. Preceding him in death was his brother, Ed Shaffer.

## 1973

**Carolyn Ogline Strandquest** died Dec. 25, 2008. Surviving are her husband, John; three children, Ryan Strandquest, Allison Carey and Jenna Ballard; three grandchildren, David, Nikole and Kendal; mother, Margaret Ogline; and brother, James Ogline. Carolyn was the director of operation for Valencia Enterprises, a division of Valencia Community College, Orlando, FL.

## 1982

**Jeff Baugh** died Feb. 10, 2009. Surviving are his children, Courtney, Leanne, Edward, and Zachary; his mother, Aloha Baugh; sister, Lela Creighton; grandfather, James Thompson; and many other family and friends. He was preceded in death by his father, **Gene Baugh '60** and grandparents, Lela Thompson and W. Clyde Hendren. He was a member of Peace Lutheran Church, Gahanna, OH.

## 1985

**Margaret "Peggy" Longacre** died Nov. 16, 2008. Peggy attended the University of

Dayton and Ferris State College, Big Rapids, MI, receiving her bachelor's degree. She obtained her associate's degree and became a registered nurse having worked for Panasonic, Troy, OH and Behr Thermal Co., of Dayton, OH. She is survived by her husband, Greg; two brothers, Tim and Kevin Smith; three sisters, Sandra Hale, Monica Charek and Connie Hawken; and several nieces and nephews.

## 1991

**Jayne Smith** died June 29, 2007. Surviving is her mother, Verda.

## 1993

**Gary Miller** died Dec. 20, 2008. He served in the US Army from 1966 to 1969, including two tours of duty in Vietnam as a communications expert. Gary was a telecommunications executive with Embarq for 38 years. Surviving are his parents, Levi and Pauline Miller; his wife, Jean; daughters, Tiffany and Taylor; sisters, Shirley Croft, Geneva Donohue, Roberta Brown and Christine Butler; brothers, David, Kenneth, Eric and Leonard Miller; and 13 nieces and nephews.

## 1994

**Theresa Reuther** died Dec. 3, 2008. Her nursing career included work as an oncology staff nurse, adjunct clinical instructor of medical/surgical nursing at Columbus State and home care nurse manager at Hospice at Riverside/Grant Hospital, Columbus, OH. In 2000, Theresa received the OhioHealth Patient and Family Nursing and Education Award. One of her many loves was soccer, as she was a charter member of the Columbus Crew Soccer Nation.

## 2004

**Kathleen Curtis** died Nov. 21, 2008.

## Friends

**Albert Lovejoy** died March 8, 2009. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was on the faculty at Lynchburg College in Lynchburg, VA from 1950 to 1957 and on the faculty at Otterbein College from 1957 to 1988. In 1988, he and his wife, Eunice, moved to Prescott, AZ, following his retirement from teaching. He took classes at Yavapai and Prescott Colleges, usually in creative writing, American and English literature, and philosophy. He was active in the local chapter of the Archaeology Society, the Prescott Audubon Society, the Prescott Art Docents, the Prescott Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, and the Granite Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation. After his service in the Army Air Corps as a weather observer, 1943 to 1946, he became an enthusiastic supporter of the United Nations and was in several organizations supporting the UN. He is survived by Eunice, his wife of 62 years, their sons and their families: Ed and Susan and Ed's daughter, Elisa; David and Amparo; and Stephen and Cathy, their daughter, Adrea and her husband, Rudy Rodriguez, and their child and Albert's first great-granddaughter, Adela. The Lovejoys recently established **the Bernadine Edwards Endowed Award** at Otterbein to provide financial assistance to adult female students at least 40 years of age. ●



# Investing in OTTERBEIN

compiled by Lori Green

## Investor Spotlight

### Students Start Philanthropy During College Years

By Kelly Butler '10

Many adults and alumni are philanthropists. Philanthropy is defined by Webster's Dictionary as an active effort to promote human welfare. Otterbein's own definition is the giving of time, treasure and talent.

Three Otterbein students in particular have given not only their time and talent to the college, but also have shared financially by donating to the Annual Fund.



Allison Raygor

while working with the Phonathon, and I got a better appreciation for it," explained Raygor. "Students don't realize tuition is not enough to educate the students. Without the Annual Fund, the cost would be around \$40,000 a year."

These students have decided not to wait until their alumni years to give back. "I think it is important to start a precedence of giving young because it will become a habit for when we are older," Brown stated.

Berrichia added, "Giving as a student sets an example for others to support Otterbein and increases the chance you will give after you graduate."

Senior Allison Raygor, International Studies major, Emmanuel (Manny) Brown, senior Sociology major, and Gina Berrichia, junior English major, are all student philanthropists.

The Annual Fund ensures that Otterbein lives up to its mission to help its students be educated, productive and caring citizens upon graduation. "I learned the importance of giving to the Annual Fund

For these three students, philanthropy was learned at an early age. "My parents always led by example and donated their time and money to causes they felt were important," Berrichia said. "However, the decision for me to be a philanthropist is my own. I give because I am grateful for what I have received."

Funds are typically tight for college students, but those that really want to give find a way. "I could live without a lot of things I buy, so figured I might as well invest in my undergrad education," Raygor stated.

"Whenever you really want to do something you find a way," Brown added. "Students should realize that no amount is too small."

Many students are unaware of the Student Alumni Association that exists on campus.

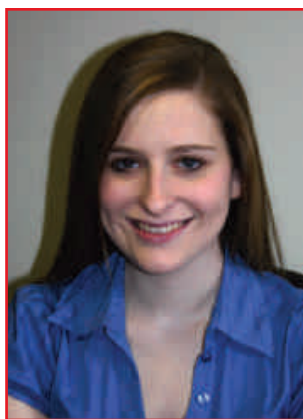
"Students today, alumni forever" is the group's motto. "This is our first year coordinating with the Alumni Club of Central Ohio," co-chair Raygor said. "So we are a fairly new group but hope to add more students annually."

All three students plan to continue giving after they graduate. Brown stated, "I'm excited about giving as an alumnus. It is a way for me to give back to Otterbein."

"I hope to support students who are in a similar financial situation as I was, just as current alumni support me," Berrichia added. ●



Emmanuel "Manny" Brown



Gina Berrichia



## New Grants

Paul Baldrige, Otterbein's Recycling Coordinator, has been awarded \$8,588 from the **Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO)** in support of his project "OTTERCYCLE!: A Recycling Awareness and Expansion Program for Otterbein College." This campus-wide recycling grant is designed to promote recycling awareness, expand collection opportunities, involve the College Community, and explore the use of recycled-content products. Support of Plan-It Earth's Recyclemania contest will be part of the grant-related activities, as well as a spring litter campus clean-up. Participating students will be issued T-shirts to show their spirit and promote the program. In addition, signs, banners, and posters will promote recycling awareness, and new collection containers will be purchased for general and special use areas. Finally, a new Otterbein College exterior sign will be purchased that is made of recycled HDPE plastic materials.

**The Merck Institute for Science Education** has awarded \$60,000 over three years to fund the project "Student Scholars for the 21st Century," directed by Joan Esson of Chemistry and Biochemistry and Amy Jessen-Marshall of Life and Earth Sciences. This award will support the new curricular initiative by providing funding for four undergraduate research experiences annually, covering stipends, research supplies, and student travel to disseminate project findings. In addition, this funding will support supplementary programs designed to engage all summer research students in an enriched research experience and to expose them to possible career paths.

Dr. Craig Johnson and Otterbein's Department of Music have been awarded \$4,800 from **The Presser Foundation** to support a scholarship for a student majoring in music based on merit and artistic potential.

**The National Science Foundation** has awarded \$482,992 to Otterbein over four and a half years in support of "Cardinal Science Scholars: Enhancing Student Opportunities and Retention in Biochemistry, Chemistry, and Physics," under the direction of Joan Esson and Brian Sell of Chemistry and Biochemistry. These funds will support scholarships for at least 30 students who are planning on majoring in chemistry, biochemistry, and physics. In cooperation with the Office of Admissions, talented students with a demonstrated financial need will be recruited from Ohio schools, specifically targeting women and minorities. Scholarship recipients will be selected based on academic performance and an essay about career goals. Once awarded, students will participate in a week-long summer immersion experience, programming at the Center for Career Planning, residence in a living/learning house, a year-long seminar focusing on career options, and mentoring involving a triad of the scholar, an upper-level student, and an Otterbein alumnus. ●

## New Endowed Funds

### The Knight Family Fund for International Study

Created with a bequest from **J. Robert Knight '28**, this endowed fund will provide financial assistance to a student pursuing an educational opportunity with a study abroad program or international learning opportunity approved by the College.

### The Dr. John H. Laubach Internship for Political Science

Created by **Stephanie Souryasack-Werth '93** and **William Werth '93**, this endowed fund will be used to provide financial assistance to a political science student who is pursuing an internship opportunity. The Werths established the fund to honor the memory of Dr. Laubach who went above and beyond his role as a professor here at Otterbein. He was a mentor and friend and was highly regarded among the Otterbein community.

### The Nancy Friedt Fund for International Study

**Nancy Friedt '66** has created an endowed fund that will provide financial assistance to a student pursuing an educational opportunity with a study abroad program or international learning opportunity approved by the College.



# Alumni NOTES

compiled by Becky Fickel Smith '81 and Bonnie Robinson

## Otterbein Clubs Help Alumni Network

You've heard it said it's not what you know...it's who you know. Actually, it's both. But during these tough economic times career networking has become an absolutely critical part of daily life. As Otterbein alumni, you know *what* you know. You received an outstanding education at this fine institution! But did you know that networking with Otterbein alumni can fulfill *who* you need to know?

Otterbein Alumni Clubs and Networks are here to assist with the "what" and the "who" now! Clubs and Networks provide a conduit to your alma mater and to alumni from all walks of life. You never know who you are going to meet at an alumni event. Maybe an alumnus can open a door to a new career for you – or perhaps you can provide the key to another alumnus. One thing we all know is that you can never have too many Otterbein connections.

As alumni, you can also help the newest generation of alumni start their careers. The Otterbein Alumni Club of Central Ohio is hosting events for the Class of 2009 this spring to welcome them into the alumni family. Imagine how daunting it must be for a new graduate to be entering the workforce in today's economy. These alumni will be there to welcome the newest alumni with open arms.

The Ohio alumni clubs are connecting with the young Cardinals even before they start their academic careers at Otterbein. Each August, the incoming students and their family members receive a warm Otterbein welcome at the Summer Send-off cookouts around the state. While enjoying homemade fare, the students learn about Otterbein traditions and their parents can rest assured knowing their sons and daughters have made the right choice about where to attend college. In fact, they are just leaving one small family to join a much larger family at Otterbein!

***If you have been curious about Otterbein's Alumni Clubs and Networks, now's the time to spread those Cardinal wings...get involved!*** The various clubs and networks are in the process of planning networking events, community service and social activities for the remainder of 2009 (and 2010 is already looking great!) Be sure to watch the alumni website ([www.otterbein.edu/alumni](http://www.otterbein.edu/alumni)) and read "Cardinal Connection" so you are in the know!



*Networking events bringing together current students and alumni is a great benefit to both.*



*Students receive a warm welcome at the 2008 Akron/Canton Summer Send-Off.*



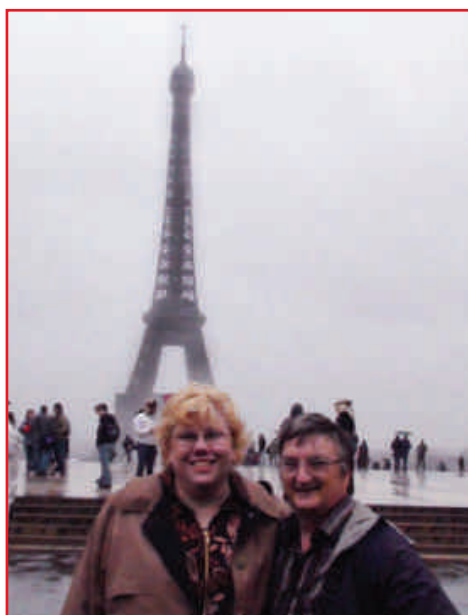
*Alumni enjoy a dinner at the Otterbein Alumni Club of Cleveland.*



## A 1973 Music Reunion!

Several 1973 music education graduates have been having mini-reunions for years. In 2008, seven (out of eight grads in the class) got together in late November. They are David Leist, Cheryn Alten Houston, Dan Clark, Bob Day, Helen Herbst, Vicky Sinclair Capper, and Debbie Sahr Munsch.

## Cardinals in Flight



The Otterbein International Travel Program visited the "City of Lights", Paris, France on March 6 – 14, 2009. Traveling with other universities, the Otterbein contingency visited the Louvre Museum, Notre-Dame, Chateaux Country by Train, Normandy, Eiffel Tower and Versailles. **Top:** Scott '75 and Sandy Carihfield Lynn '75 find the going a bit wet in front of the Eiffel Tower. **Above:** Jon and Teresa Pauley '94 Krukowski explore Omaha Beach in Normandy.

## Save the Date for AlumMatters

Register online for these events at [www.otterbein.edu/alumni](http://www.otterbein.edu/alumni), click "Events/Registration"

**May 17** – Class of '09 and Alumni Club of Central Ohio – Meet ya' at the Dog Joint in Uptown Westerville

**May 27** – Alumni Weekend registration deadline

**May 30** – African American Alumni Network Cookout Cookout, Alum Creek Park off Main St., 12 - 3 p.m.

**June 8** – Zero Year Reunion for the Class of '09, 4:30 p.m., Clements Recreation Center

**June 9** – Class of '09 Master's Reception, 4:30 p.m., Roush Hall

**June 12 - 14** – Alumni Weekend for Class of '49, '54, '59, '64, '69

**June 12** – Unveiling of the President's Gallery, 2nd floor of Towers Hall, 4:00 p.m.

**June 13** – Alumni Awards Luncheon, 12 noon, Campus Center

**June 14** – Alumni Club of Akron/Canton, 12 – 4 pm – "Dawg" Day Afternoon (family and canine friendly picnic (Stow, OH)

**June 27** – June Bug Jamboree, Waynesville, Ohio

**August 9 - 14** – Summer Send Offs for new students and parents, 6:00 p.m.

Cleveland – Sunday, Aug. 9

Akron/Canton – Monday, Aug. 10

Central Ohio – Tuesday, Aug. 11 & Wed, Aug. 12

Dayton – Thursday, Aug. 13

**September 10** – New Student and Parent Legacy Lunch, 11:30 - 1:30 p.m.

**September 24-27** – Cardinal Migration to Asheville, NC

**October 7** – Networking in the Gallery, 6 – 8 pm, Roush Hall for students-alumni in Humanities/Non-Profit

**October 16** – "Out for Blood" OC and Capital Blood Drive in Central Ohio

**October 23** – Presidential Inauguration, 10:30 am, Rike Center

**October 24** – Homecoming



**OCF 25: 1984-2009**

## **Celebrate 25 Years of Otterbein Christian Fellowship**

*Reunite with your OCF family for  
dinner and a praise celebration!*

**Saturday, October 24, 2009  
(during Homecoming Weekend)**

Contact [alumniinfo@otterbein.edu](mailto:alumniinfo@otterbein.edu) to:

- Submit your OCF photos from years' past
- Be put on the Reunion mailing list
- Tell us how OCF impacted your life

***Look for us on Facebook!***

**African American Alumni Network sponsors....**

**A Spring Cookout** to congratulate the Class of '09, welcome the Class of '13 and their parents, and share some fun and good times! Bring the fam!

**Saturday, May 30 from 12 noon to 3:00 pm**  
**Alum Creek Park off W. Main Street (down the street from the college)**

**\*\* playground for the kids, music, beach volleyball, basketball court, frisbee, corn hole\*\***

Chef **DeLane Crutcher '05** will be grilling and we need your favorite side dish to make up the buffet. Bring summer reading books for our service project, W.C. Cupe School.

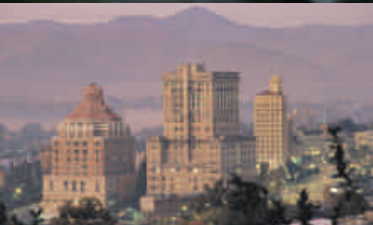
**FREE!!** But let us know you are coming so we have enough hotdogs, hamburgers and cake.

[www.otterbein.edu/alumni](http://www.otterbein.edu/alumni) click 'events/registration' by May 27.  
Questions? Call 614-823-1650

*Calendar the Fall Homecoming Dinner for Friday, October 23, 6:30 pm; Presidential Inauguration at 10:30 am, October 23*



## **Cardinal Migration Heads to Asheville, NC in September, 2009**



**Thursday, Sept 24 – Pre-migration  
Sept 24 – 26 – Migration  
Sunday, Sept 27 – Post-migration**

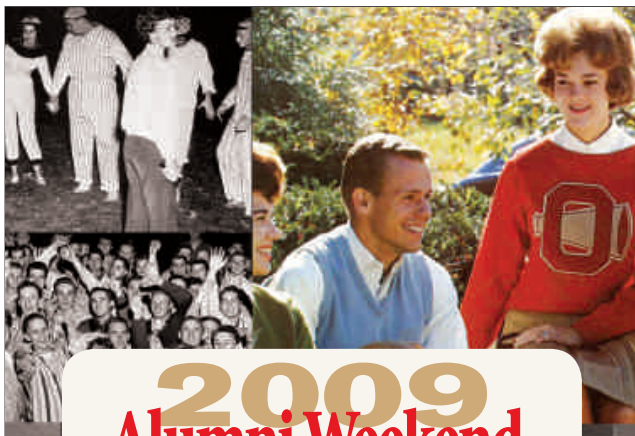
**Host Hotel: Renaissance Hotel; special  
Otterbein rate of \$144/night plus taxes; phone  
1-800-468-3571. Sites to visit include: Biltmore  
Estate, Grove Park Inn, Blue Ridge Parkway,  
Artist Walk, and much more...**



*Asheville...anyway you like it!*

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## 2009 Alumni Weekend

**Saturday, June 13**

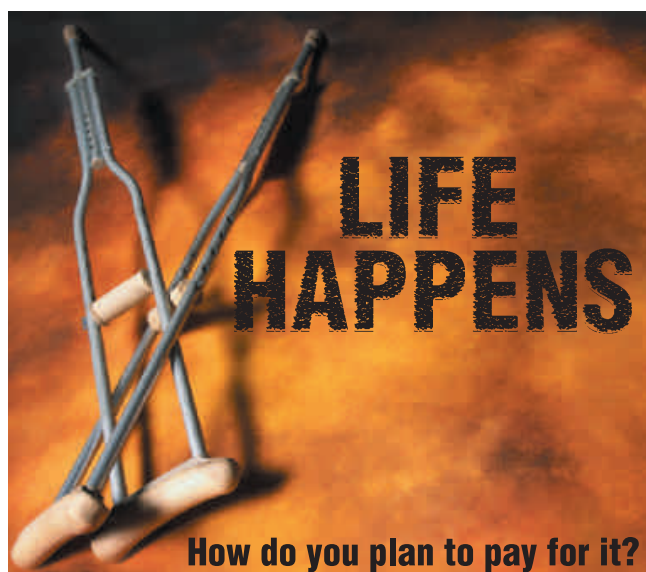
*Engaged in Tradition...Filled with Pride...Committed to Lifelong Learning*

- Tours around the campus including the new Science Center
- Viewing of the new President's Gallery in Towers Hall
- Classes without Quizzes taught by students and alumni
- Reminiscing through the late 50s and early 60s with Joanne Van Sant and Margaret Lloyd Trent '65
- Class photos, class reunions and annual Alumni Awards Luncheon

*Call a fellow classmate and meet them at the 'Bein!*

[www.otterbein.edu/alumni](http://www.otterbein.edu/alumni) • 614-823-1650 • 1-888-614-2600

**Hurry! Registration deadline is May 27!**



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*October 23 - November 3, 2010*

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Date & price are tentative & subject to change.

*Prices include a **Special Price Reduction** of \$2000 Off Per Stateroom for a limited time.*

Uncover the cultural and historical riches of the Mediterranean while cruising aboard the luxurious and intimate 684-passenger **Oceania Cruises' Regatta**. Lose yourself at sea in the comfort and luxuries of fine cuisine, upscale amenities, country-club atmosphere, an attentive staff, and lavishly-appointed staterooms. This dynamic cruise begins in Athens, before traversing the deep blue sea, with stops in some of Europe's most enthralling ports. Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of Turkey, Greece, Corsica and Italy, each destination with something distinctive to experience. A true Mediterranean odyssey!

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## Institutional Mission

The mission of Otterbein College is to educate the whole person in a context that fosters the development of humane values. Otterbein College is a private, church-related, four-year coeducational college that sponsors traditional and continuing education programs of liberal arts and professional education at Baccalaureate and Master's levels. Our commitment is to the liberal arts as the broad base of all learning.



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Please contact Jennifer Waddell '01, Director of Annual Giving at (614) 823-1948 or [jwaddell@otterbein.edu](mailto:jwaddell@otterbein.edu) with any questions.

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