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Fight for Kaila



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Wise Words

From the Editor

Challenge (noun): something that by its nature or character serves as a call to battle, contest, special effort, etc.

Everyone at one time or another is faced with challenges during their four years of college. Whether it's grades, relationships, health, personal or physical struggles, students often encounter a tough battle that takes strength and determination to get through.

In this issue, we take you into the lives of Cardinals who have confronted some of the most difficult and ambitious experiences life has to offer. Flip to page 16 to see how one of our seniors changed her life by biking across the country to give back. Read page 4 to learn how it is for students in residence life positions to live and work on campus. And don't miss our truly inspiring cover story on page 9 about an Otterbein student who is fighting cancer.

It is our hope that in each of these stories you can find inspiration to help get you through your own challenges.

After being involved in producing these stories as the editor, I've reflected back on the obstacles, big and small, that have made me who I am today. My challenges have made me stronger and ready to take on what's to come during my senior year, and when I head out into the so-called real world. I hope you do the same and you use the spirit of all the people found in these pages to get you through.

And while you are enduring your own hardships do your best to remember others are likely going through something similar or worse.

Be kind. Spread positivity and love. Be your best.

Happy reading!

Sara Anloague
Editor-in-chief

*Sara
Anloague*



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The Balancing Act



By Lillian van Wyngaarden

The dull blue light of unread emails blinks on the iPhone sitting on the paper-infested desk. A whole spectrum of colored Post-it notes line the edge of the desktop computer, framing the screen. Scribbles of phrases and names litter the chalkboard on the wall beside the desk as the air conditioning unit hums its own song to fill the office. The pulsing light is ignored by Stephen for the moment as he focuses on a conversation with a resident assistant, or RA, on his staff about how one of the laundry machines in Davis Hall is not working. Again.

Stephen Palombo is a student hall director.

Along with being a senior middle childhood education major, Palombo supervises a staff of RAs and manages the overall residence hall facilities of the specific buildings

they are assigned to. Hall directors assist RAs with any duties or conflicts along with helping residents, all while being on-call 24/7 in case an emergency happens. It is easy for the 15-hour-per-week position to be packed full, especially with inconsistent washing machines in Palombo's case.

The student hall director position is unique and different from that of an RA in the fact that the hall director does not necessarily live in the facility they are overseeing. Palombo looks over a first-year residence hall, Davis Hall, while living in the Home Street Commons apartments. The on-campus apartments, Home Street

Commons and Park Street Commons, do not have RAs so the student hall directors act as the RA-type figure for residents living in the apartments. Student hall directors do monthly room inspections and take care of issues that arise for residents in the apartments.

The position of student hall director is a relatively new role for students, opening in Spring 2017. The staffing structure of residence life has changed multiple times over the years according to Director of

needed to take a turn, and it turned towards students.

"We wanted to provide more leadership opportunities to students," Benner said. "This was the perfect opportunity for students to broaden their experience, especially if they are interested in student affairs and higher education."

The move from RA to student hall director was easy for someone like Palombo who was an RA for two years and is considering taking his education degree to the next level by going into higher education and getting involved with administration. He uses the opportunity to test his own administrative and time-management skills, preparing himself for a job after graduation.

Time management is crucial in performing any job while being a student, and being a student hall director is no exception. The student hall directors face similar challenges of balancing academics alongside residence life duties like the RAs, according to one of the assistant directors of residence life, Brent McNulty.

"I'm not going to lie, it's definitely been a change of pace as far as switching from an RA to a hall director," Palombo said. "I've gotten used to it now and am able to balance all of my school work and activities with it. It's just one of those things you have to figure out along the way."

With the new responsibilities and more required hours of being a student hall director come new benefits as well. RAs typically are provided with free housing and

This was the perfect opportunity for students to broaden their experiences, especially if they are interested in student affairs or higher education.

—Tracy Benner

Residence Life Tracy Benner. The current structure bases roles on levels of education. It consists of two master-level assistant directors who supervise seven hall directors. Five of the hall directors are students and two are bachelor-level staff members who take on the title of hall director and residence life coordinator. The two bachelor-level hall directors maintain responsibilities within the student affairs office, setting them apart from the student hall directors.

The structure within the past few years consisted of strictly administrative staff members, but when several staff members left in the spring of 2017, the structure



Stephen Palombo meets with students about living in Davis Hall. Photo by Lance Kriesch

a stipend of \$500 at the end of the school year, meaning they receive \$55 a month. Student hall directors are provided free housing as well but get a raise in stipend to \$3,600 for the school year, receiving \$400 a month.

The benefits are not just monetary. Palombo says he gets a completely different perspective on how residence life is run and how to best manage his peers. Since he often is working among and overseeing them, Palombo said he is able to get a better hand on how to deal with situations involving his friends.

“Through my time as a student director so far, I feel like handling situations with people that may also be my friends has actually become one of my biggest strengths,” Palombo said. “It was always one of my biggest struggles when I started out as an RA, but now I know how to deal with that thin line.”

Residence life plans on keeping students in the hall director position in the future. According to Benner, the students

themselves will dictate how long the structure involving students will last because of the level of interest students have in taking on the role of hall director. Benner says they hope to also make sure the needs of residents will be met by having students in that role. Since there is a limited amount of training that can be given to an undergraduate student, residence life will evaluate after each year to make sure the student hall director structure is effective. The strong leadership skills in the student hall directors like Palombo this year have instilled confidence in the new structure.

“We wouldn’t have restructured if we didn’t feel like the new structure had longevity to it,” Benner

said.

Any RAs with a year or two of experience are eligible to apply for the student hall director position, which is similar to the RA hiring process in that there is an application and interview process. So like the washing machines in Davis Hall, it looks like students as hall directors are here to stay for now.



Stephen Palombo works as a Hall Director over seeing students in Davis Hall. Photo by Lance Kriesch

Best places to celeb

By Abby Studebaker

Photos by Lance Kriesch and Madi O'Neill



Known as: Bull's
1770 N High St
Weekend hours: Friday and Saturday
9 pm – 2:30 am



From smoke machines to disco balls, Bull's is the place to go for a party atmosphere, with loud music and a fun crowd no matter the day.



Known as: Jimmy's
1 S State St
Weekend hours: Friday
11 am – 2:30 am,
Saturday 9 am – 2:30
am

Jimmy's features a large Mediterranean menu, a patio with a waterfall and a laid-back bar atmosphere inside. A seat at its bar is the perfect place to sit back and watch the big game.

Known as: Las Margs
706 N State St
Weekend hours: Friday and
Saturday 11 am – 11 pm

This Mexican restaurant features the best margaritas around served in classes the size of your head. The colorful décor is perfect for 21st birthday photos.



Ugly Tuna Saloona
Known as: Ugly
1546 N High St
Weekend hours:
Friday and Saturday



Known for its famous "fishbowl" cocktails, Ugly is the go-to spot for OSU and Otterbein students alike. Its fun, nautical décor makes it worth the trip downtown—just look for the Ugly Tuna Saloona sign and go up the escalators.



rate Twenty-Fun



Known as: Classics
740-742 N State St
Weekend hours: Friday and
Saturday 11 am – 2 am

Classics features a relaxed atmosphere with plenty of games to keep the 21st birthday fun going, from pool tables to darts. With Classics Pizza right next door, it has everything you need in one stop.

Known as: Midway
1728 N High St
Weekend hours: Friday 2 pm – 2 am,
Saturday 12 pm – 2 am

Renovated in 2012, Midway's large patio offers bar-goers a place to breathe. Go upstairs for dancing and DJs, or just head downstairs for craft beer and sports.



Known as: the Deli
41 N State St
Weekend hours:
Friday and
Saturday 11 am –
around 11 pm

Home of the Temperance Row Brewing Co., the Deli features craft beer brewed in house. The drafts rotate seasonally, so try a flight to get the full experience or celebrate with a whole pint.



Known as: Cantina
491 N Park St
Weekend hours: 24/7

Cantina is one of the few downtown bars that offers "College Night" on Thursdays, where everyone 18 years and up is welcome! It's like a sports bar and dance club all wrapped up into one.



Where in the world

By Lillian van Wyngaarden

Maya walked to the bus station, the warm, sticky air of Singapore, hanging over her. A slight breeze cooled her face as the sounds and symbols of Mandarin Chinese circled her brain after her kumon, or tutoring, lesson. She stopped as usual at the convenience store to pick up cheesy sausages or banana gummy candy with an ice tea for her hour-long commute home. She sips her tea as she waits for the bus, not feeling a care in the world.

Maya Venkataraman was 11 then, but she is now a 20-year-old sophomore majoring in both psychology and creative writing at Otterbein. However, Maya's story did not simply start in Singapore and end in Ohio. She has lived in other states and countries, making travel and cultural amalgams an integral part to her life. Yet, maintaining this aspect of her life alongside American culture is not always as easy as sipping tea and eating cheesy sausages due to struggles of acculturation.

Originally from India, Maya's parents began their life in Oklahoma with their first daughter, Maya's older sister, Priyanka. Five years later the family moved to Kuala

Kumpur, Malaysia, where Maya was born, in 1997. The family moved to Singapore soon after, where Maya gained a brother and lived there for 11 years, until moving back to Malaysia where Maya graduated high school. Her parents and brother continue to live in Malaysia today.

Although her family spent time in the U.S., Maya said one of the hardest parts of transitioning to life in the U.S. is the lack of diversity in the community and adjusting to American traditions. "Living here isn't as diverse of a community anymore," said Maya. "Living in Asia, I was exposed to all sorts of culture. It's very different coming here and not being used to some of the traditions and seeing the way everyone seems to know how to act. It wasn't like that in Asia; Everyone embraced their own culture."

Maya's sister, Priyanka, made the first move back to the United States for college when she chose Ohio Wesleyan University. Because she was already an American citizen, Priyanka found the move back logical, even though she soon found that she felt like a mismatched sock when people assumed she was an international

student.

"A lot of people thought I would suffer from reverse culture-shock, but that wasn't the case," Priyanka said. "But what was most interesting for me being in Ohio was that I was always considered international even though I was an American citizen."

Despite the struggles of acculturation, Maya notes that she continues to have a strong Asian influence on her life through practicing traditions and holidays celebrated through her Asian upbringing. She hopes to incorporate more of her culture with the American culture she experiences on a daily basis.

Instead of cheesy sausages and banana gummy candy, Maya now walks to the Otterbean to pick up a cookie and tea for her five-minute commute to Towers, thoughts of English lectures filling her head before her creative writing class. The slight breeze hitting her face as she walks out of the Otterbean briefly turns Westerville into Singapore, the scent of banana gummy candy and warm air drifting back to her memory like a song long forgotten, and for a moment, she does not feel a care in the world.



Maya (second on the left) and her family gather together

Love you lots, Tater Tots

Kaila Kullgren finds herself fighting Ewing sarcoma cancer for the second time.

By Abby Studebaker
Madi O'Neill





Kullgren receives treatment at her hometown hospital



Kullgren celebrates beating Ewing the first time before receiving the news of her second tumor



Kullgren suffers through the side effects of her cancer.

Kaila Kullgren lives by a theory: everything we do in life costs us a spoon. Taking a shower, hanging out with friends or even walking from the bedroom to the kitchen take energy. But Kaila must pick and choose how she spends her days. As a young 19-year-old woman battling cancer, she only has so many spoonfuls of energy to spare.

Kaila was a first-year equine science pre-veterinary major when she came to Otterbein in Fall 2016. Originally from Cincinnati, she fell in love with Otterbein and bonded with her roommate, Delaney Lyons, immediately. Lyons was one of the first people that Kaila opened up to about her fight with Ewing sarcoma, a rare bone cancer. Kaila has already beat cancer once before in high school, and Lyons has been by Kaila's side as she battles the same cancer for a second time after being diagnosed in 2017.

About 200 children and young adults are diagnosed with Ewing sarcoma each year, half of whom are between 10 and 20 years old according to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

The relapse forced Kaila to move back home to Cincinnati so that she could be closer to her hospital, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, and to her family's support. Though it has been difficult, she has always stayed optimistic about her condition and

the odds of beating it.

"If you go in with an attitude, like 'I'm going to survive, I'm going to make the most of this experience, I'm going to try to make every day worth living' and you're super optimistic, I personally feel like that optimism helps your body heal," Kaila said.

In April 2013, Kaila was diagnosed for the first time with localized Ewing sarcoma. Ewing sarcoma causes tumors to grow in bones or in the soft tissue surrounding bones, and localized means that the cancer can only be seen in one part of the body. The tumor was on her pelvis, and she underwent several rounds of chemotherapy and surgery to have the tumor, and much of her hip, removed. The cancer was officially declared in remission in February 2016. Kaila spent her first year at Otterbein on crutches as she recovered from her hip replacement. She dove into her major, which she said was intense but something she is passionate about, and made some close friends. She loved school so much that she didn't want to come home for breaks.

But in August 2017, just before she was about to return to Otterbein for her sophomore year, something popped up on one of Kaila's scans that concerned her doctor.

"I was going every three months to get scans

done because if there was going to be a relapse, they would want to catch it without doing too much harm to my body," Kaila said. "I got scans right before I was supposed to move back up to Columbus, and my oncologist called me and he was like 'Hey, I'm going to need you to go get an MRI, we saw something on the PET scan, and we're not sure what it is.'"

That "something" turned out to be another tumor, this time on the L1 vertebrae of Kaila's spine, located about midway down her back. The tumor is two to three centimeters in diameter, or slightly wider than a penny. The discovery of another tumor means that Kaila must put school on hold and stay home in Cincinnati. Surgery isn't an option because of the location of her tumor, and this time around she will be undergoing a combination of outpatient chemo and radiation therapy to target the tumor.

The chemo takes it out of her, sapping her energy and causing side effects like nausea and headaches.

"Think about how you feel when you have a stomach bug or the 24-hour flu, and you're puking and you're vomiting and you don't feel good," Kaila said. "Multiply that feeling of 'you're going to puke' by like 25. And you feel that way constantly."

The pain in her spine and the side effects of the chemo mean that Kaila has to pick and choose what she wants to make of her days. Sometimes using the energy to eat a meal means skipping hanging out with family or doing laundry. But the love and support of her friends back at Otterbein has helped her.

Lyons, her first-year roommate, Gwen Broderick and Emma Kimberly are Kaila's best friends, and are a big part of what keeps her optimistic.

"They were like the first people to know when I relapsed," Kaila said. "They were like 'You did it once, you can do it again, we're going to be with you the whole way through'."

It's rare that a day goes by without a call, Facetime, text or Snapchat from one of her friends. From goofy videos to simply checking in on how she's doing, talking with the girls is a high point in Kaila's day.

"It almost made it 10 times harder because she came up opening weekend, and it literally seemed like everything was back to normal," Kimberly said. "Even though we went through that week without her, when she was there it felt like she'd been there the whole time."

That weekend was filled with fun, from spontaneously dying Kaila's hair bright pink to painting canvases that now hang in the girls' dorm, 25 West Home Street. Before relapsing, Kaila had planned to live right across the hall. For now, daily calls and texts must suffice.

"Her optimism is just unbelievable," Lyons said. "Even if she's having the worst day ever she can always bring me up... She can bring anyone up, no matter what."

Though she misses Otterbein, living at home during her treatment has meant spending more time with her family, whose support has helped carry her through. Her mom, Jamie, is a 911 operator for the city of Cincinnati, and her dad, Jim, works at a pain clinic. She also has two younger siblings, Emma, 15, and Gavin, 11. Having such a great

support system is one of the biggest reasons she's optimistic.

"We were always family-oriented, even before my diagnosis," Kaila said. "Finding out about a diagnosis and realizing the potential consequences really makes you value family time... Obviously I didn't have a choice, but if I did I feel like I would be much more miserable being up in Columbus and getting treatments than if I were here."

Having Kaila home has been nice for her parents, though they wish it were under different circumstances. Her dad studied radiation therapy in college, and when he and the rest of her family found out that Kaila had cancer, he said they lost it.

"I've had grandparents with cancer and stuff like that, but it's not the same," Jim Kullgren said. "[There's] a lot of fear, a lot of worry, a lot of 'what if' and trying to suppress some of that to be strong for her."

“
People are drawn to her, and there's nothing
but happiness surrounding her.
—Jim Kullgrin
”

As of right now, it's too early for doctors to form a prognosis. The chemo is working, which is good news, but there is still a long road ahead. Kaila said that her oncologist is hoping to start proton therapy soon, which will be followed by at least six weeks in the hospital for high-dose chemo.

"In the oncology world, anything can change at any minute," Kaila said. "Currently, my prognosis is looking to be optimistic, but the high-dose chemo has some very high-risk, rare side effects that could turn things around really quickly."

Though it's difficult to see anything positive about cancer, Kaila's dad said that one thing he appreciates is how much closer they have grown. They talk about everything, even the tough idea that death is always a possibility.

"I feel that I'm the one person in the world she can sit with and talk to and be real, and she doesn't have to sugarcoat anything," Jim Kullgren said. "But having to talk to your child about the possibility of them dying and what they want and what they don't want, it's hard on the parent... I don't like talking about it, but I will because I know she doesn't have very many people she can talk about that kind of stuff to."

Aside from the support of her family, there has also been an outpouring of support for Kaila from the Cincinnati community, especially from her mom's coworkers. They started a Facebook page encouraging people to join the "Knockout Team" helping Kaila fight cancer, as well as the hashtag #fight4kaila. They've also designed t-shirts and held bake sales to raise money for the family's medical expenses.

If all goes well and the treatments work, Kaila wants to return to Otterbein to continue her studies, picking up where she left off as a sophomore. Her dream is to become a veterinarian.

"My entire life I've always wanted to be a veterinarian; it's always been my number one dream, my number one goal," Kaila said. "By beating cancer and going to live my dream, I feel like that is just truly incredible."





Kaila's most important advice for people battling cancer or other illnesses is to keep a positive attitude, even when it's hard. Her optimism is one of the things that her parents and friends say they admire most about her.

"She's a 'light at the end of the tunnel' kind of person," Jim Kullgren said. "People are drawn to her, and there's nothing but happiness surrounding her... I have other people telling me that she's one in a million, and I already know that, but it's nice to hear it from other people."

Currently, Kaila's days are filled with making sure her blood counts are stable and taking a regimen of anti-nausea and other medications. She may always limp from having a hip replacement before the age of 20, but she is grateful that she can walk. She may not always have the energy to get out of bed, but when she does she does things that make her happy, like getting her nails done and playing with her five dogs. She may be

two hours away from Otterbein, but her friends make sure she knows that she's never far from their minds.

After Kaila came up to spend opening weekend with them, Kimberly started thinking about how they could communicate their support for her through

“*Even if she's having the worst day ever she can always bring me up... She can bring anyone up, no matter what.*”
— Delaney Lyons

more than just phone calls.

"I asked Kaila 'What phrase or what words will help you through rough days?'" Kimberly said. "Because I feel like the classic 'stay strong' gets old." Kaila told her: "Oh my gosh yes, it gets so old... 'I love you lots, tater tots.'"

"So, the saying is more than just friends

saying, 'I love you,'" Kimberly said. "For us, it's deeper than that, because it's also us saying 'I am with you.'"

When Broderick, Kimberly and Lyons went down to visit Kaila in Cincinnati, they brought a basket of gifts for her relating to memories and things she loves. Inside an envelope was a bracelet with the phrase "Love you lots tater tots" inscribed on it. All four girls have one, a constant reminder that even when they're apart and struggling, they're not alone.

For students struggling with illness or other circumstances that may require them to take time off from school, general information about officially withdrawing from Otterbein can be found on the registrar's webpage under the "Withdrawal Procedure" tab. Associate Dean of Students Julie Saker said that in the case of a medical emergency requiring immediate withdrawal, the Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs may be able to grant a withdrawal. If a student is withdrawn for less than two semesters, they can return and register for classes without reapplying to the university.

Join the Knock out Team

#fight4kaila

Support Kaila but purchasing a #fightforkaila shirt where all proceeds will go towards helping Kaila beat cancer a second time



<https://www.bonfire.com/fight4kaila/>

The Other Ca

By Lance Kriesh and Madi O'Neill



The Archives

Located in the basement of the Courtright Memorial Library, the archives hold the records of Otterbein University's history, everything from Greek life to all other campus organizations. Anybody is welcome to visit the archives by contacting the archivist, Steven Grinch, and setting up an appointment.

The Dark Room

Located in the art and communication building, the dark room is primarily used by the beginning photography course taught by professor Jonathan Johnson. Although, students in Johnson's advanced photography course also have the choice to use it. It is where students do everything from develop negatives to print and develop positives from those negatives.



mpus Tour

Photos Madi O'Neill

Philomathean Room

Located on the third floor of Towers Hall, the Philomathean room is what remains of the literary societies that were once at Otterbein. It was a meeting location for the original group, the Otterbein Lyceum, which was founded in 1851. They organized debates and formed libraries among other things. The last of them ended up disbanding by 1930s. The room was restored in 1982 to honor all of the societies and their contributions. The inscription above the president's chair states that "To question (inquire) is our job."



Underground Tunnels

There are many tunnels underneath Otterbein and Westerville. Most have either caved in or been cemented off by the university or the city. These tunnels are thought to have been created and used during the prohibition in order to smuggle alcohol.



Facts are taken from the Otterbein University website.

Bike and Build

The Ride of a Life Time



With pain shooting through her hands, sweat dripping and muscles cramping, she powered through her last mile of the journey that changed her life. Through the grueling, hilly terrain, her heart was pumping with adrenaline knowing she was going to see her family after the nearly three-month trip across the country. After biking 3,875 miles, Otterbein senior Ashley Parker rode up to Cannon Beach, Oregon, overwhelmed with emotion.

It all started when Parker, a marketing major, saw an article in the Columbus Dispatch about a nonprofit organization called Bike & Build. Bike & Build's mission is to "benefit affordable housing and empower young adults for a lifetime of service and civic engagement through service-oriented cycling trips." The organization was founded in 2002 and offers a once-in-a-lifetime experience for people, like Parker, looking for an adventure. However, it requires serious commitment.

Parker did not know anyone who had taken on this challenge before, other than the Ohio State University student she read about in the newspaper during her sophomore year. She planned on spending that summer biking across the country, but she didn't believe she

could do it.

"I chickened out," Parker said. "I was not a biker. I didn't even have a bike. I remember riding a bike when I was like twelve. That's the last time I rode a bike before this."

But she couldn't stop thinking about it and finally decided, "I'm just going to do this."

After going through the application process and writing multiple essays, Parker was accepted in December 2016. After the holidays were over, she began preparing for the exciting excursion. The bikers pledge to raise a minimum of \$4,800. If the money is not raised by the day of orientation, the rider can't participate. Once \$1,000 is raised, the riders receive a brand-new, free bike.

Parker raised her funds by writing personal letters to family and friends asking for donations, setting up fitness classes and using social media. It took her three months to hit the \$4,800 goal.

"Once I hit that mark I was ecstatic because it made the whole experience real," Parker said.

Before a trip, all cross-country Bike & Build participants are also obligated to ride at least 500 miles outdoors, including one ride over 65 miles. Stationary bikes and spin classes don't count. The miles are tracked using Strava, a running and cycling tracking app. Parker did most of her training on her own because none of her family members or friends are bike riders. She rode on local trails and back roads because most of the riding during the trip was on the road.

In addition to training on the bike, Parker visited different bike shops

around Columbus to learn basic bike knowledge such as how to change a tire. She bought all her biking gear and essentials, including a hydration pack, gloves and cycling shorts and shoes to go along with her Bike & Build jersey.

Following all of her preparation and anticipation, Parker traveled to Yorktown, Virginia for orientation and to begin the journey. She felt nervous because she thought everyone else would be a bike expert, but the 36 other riders that soon became lifelong friends were in the same situation she was in: diving into the unexpected.

Some riders were Parker's age and still in school, others were older with full-time careers that they decided to quit to experience this ride. The large group left Yorktown on May 25, 2017. What was to come was the most difficult part of the trip for Parker.

On day four, Parker was tested with climbing a mountain range on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Only 11, not including Parker, out of the 36 bikers finished. Parker described the 6,000-foot climb as brutal.

"I don't think anything could have prepared me truly and trained me for what we did that day," Parker said. "You have to be in the mindset that you can do it."

The bikers started out by riding in groups of two to five, but ultimately could ride alone after a while. Parker rode with the friends she grew close to, and they averaged about 75 to 80 miles each day, with the longest day equaling 110 miles.

The Central United States route offered various terrains, but part of the reason



Parker chose this route of the five offered was to see the mountains. Along the nearly 4,000 mile route, the Bike & Builders stopped in a new city every day. In 13 of those cities, the team helped build houses and worked with organizations, such as Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Together, to raise awareness for affordable housing. Parker and her peers worked on siding, drywall, painting, roofing, landscaping or any other project that would help the families.

Since high school, Parker has been involved with affordable housing service projects with her church. This work has made her very grateful for what she has and has sparked her love for giving back.

take showers, but sometimes, Parker would have to shower with a hose outside. They did laundry every three days, stopping at laundromats throughout the route because the bikers were only allowed to bring a couple outfits apart from their riding gear. Most of the dinners that the churches and community centers served consisted of carb-loaded meals to replenish their energy. They slept with Therm-a-Rests (small blow up mattresses), sleeping bags or on the floor every night. Even though the bikers were exhausted, Parker and others would stay up past midnight because of the adrenaline rush. Then, they would wake up at the crack of dawn the next morning to do it all again.

the physical, it was the mental challenges. Having a bad mentality would ruin her day. Parker had to believe in herself. She says the support from her new friends helped her get through, too. But the one thing Parker missed the most, other than family, was her emotional support dog. This was the longest period of time she had been away from her life at home.

So Aug. 5, 2017, the day she rode up to Cannon Beach, was the most memorable and emotional piece of her journey. All of the bikers' families and friends were on the beach waiting to reunite with the riders. Although her parents couldn't make it, her brothers drove all the way from Seattle and Iowa to celebrate with Parker at the final



“Not many people can say they biked across the country,” Parker said. “Obviously that’s so cool to say, but a nice part of it was that you’re also doing something for the community.”

Parker’s life for these two and a half months was eye-opening, and most would say the Bike & Build day-to-day life is not easy. Every morning, the bikers wake up around 4:30 to 5 a.m. to start their day. The group had breakfast, packed their bags and attended a daily route meeting to find out what their day looked like and talk about any pressing issues. Once the sun rose, they were on the go, riding to the next stopping point.

They rode for hours, stopping when needed, until they eventually got to the church or community center where they would sleep. Sometimes the team even camped. The Bike & Build organization relies heavily on these locations. The big group would go to the local YMCA or even the pastor’s house to

Despite the fact that each bike has elite lights, called Bontragers, the riders were not allowed to ride in the dark for safety reasons. The team took many safety precautions throughout the whole ride. They had two safety vans, MIPS-certified helmets, mirrors on both the helmets and the handle bars and much more. These precautions are important because over the past 15 years four Bike & Builders have died on the trip. One of them died in 2016 on the same route that Parker was on.

Thankfully, there were limited injuries on Parker’s quest. One rider had a blood clot and was hospitalized for three days. Parker’s carpal tunnel syndrome developed into a major, painful problem that impacted her riding. Some days she wasn’t even able to ride because of the pain, and her hands would go completely numb. She now has to have surgery to repair the damage done to her hands on this trip.

But the toughest part for Parker wasn’t

destination. It was a breathtaking moment that she will never forget.

In the end, the connections she made with 36 new friends created a hard goodbye. Their last day together was bittersweet. The team all held hands, ran into the ocean, hugged and chanted. They did it. They rode close to 4,000 miles across the country.

“I was so happy just that 36 of us could do something so big, but so small at the same time,” Parker said. “You experience the world in a different way that I don’t think I’ll ever be able to experience again.”

If she could, Parker would hit the road for the lengthy voyage countless more times. She calls it the best experience of her life. The memories of floating down a river in a tube, shopping, hiking, watching fireworks from the top of a mountain across the entire state of Colorado on July 4th, going to the bar and just spending time with people she never would have met if it weren’t for Bike & Build, will last with her forever.



Three Teams, One Family

By Kaytlyn Rowen

Photo by Lance Kriesch and Kaytlyn Rowen

Known for their riding pants and boots, Otterbein's equestrian team is recognized as a club sport. The program has met a lot of marketing goals by offering a riding scholarship, hosting high school riding shows and advertising Otterbein on saddle pads and equipment when traveling to shows. These tactics have helped increase awareness and allowed Otterbein to be considered as one of the premier equestrian schools across the nation. However, there is still a considerable amount of confusion and lack of knowledge about the equestrian team throughout Otterbein's campus.

History

The equestrian program at Otterbein began in the mid 1970s in the way most athletic programs begin—because of a specialized interest in an activity by faculty and students. Even though there was no official Otterbein facility or management for equestrian activities at this time, Dr. Maria Calderone, a now-retired Otterbein faculty member, did not let this stop the passion she and students had for equine. Throughout the beginning years of the program, Calderone and members of the faculty and student body began training at a local barn, leasing horses and periodically travelling to local shows.

Calderone pushed for equine science studies and taught a few of the classes based on her expertise. In the late 1990s, veterinary-technician studies was added on as an academic program to the existing pre-veterinary and equine business management tracks.

The Austen E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science is located off North Spring Road in Westerville and open to all students. Otterbein began construction of the building in 2008 in a six-year effort to develop the equestrian program and academics into a signature feature for the school. The barn's 52 stalls filled almost

immediately. The equestrian team and academics have become stronger and stronger, drawing in more students each year.

Team

The equestrian team is full of athletes that train throughout the year in order to show against competitive schools such as Miami University, Ohio State University and the University of Kentucky. Students in the riding program are required to take two lessons per week. They are assigned a different horse to ride every lesson, unless they are leasing a horse or request a horse to ride. This allows the students to gain different skills and practice on different types of horses. The equestrian team is considered an extracurricular activity that pairs with the equine academics, but they are not jointly related.

"We are a very inclusive program in that we don't have a formal tryout like many other equestrian teams," Kari Briggs, Otterbein equestrian business manager, said.

One of the team's main goals is to allow anyone who wants to ride to be able to do so. The Equine Center also offers lessons for people who are not on the team, but interested in riding a few times a year. Haleigh DePalma, a junior marketing major and the Hunt Seat president, believes Otterbein is different from other schools in terms of their riding program.

"They want everyone to be included and want everyone to have an opportunity to ride," DePalma said.

Otterbein's equine program has the unique opportunity to house three different teams, Hunt Seat, Dressage and Eventing. Dressage works to develop flexibility, obedience and balance within the horse while Hunt Seat evaluates the horse's movement and form. Eventing is a three-part sport involving stadium jumping, Dressage and

cross-country jumping. Because of this crossover of discipline within the riding community, the teams have come up with the slogan: Three Teams, One Family.

"The best experience I have had so far is just hanging out with the team at horse shows," Jeff Liptrap, a senior education major and the Hunt Seat vice president, said. "Everyone is there supporting one another and we are all able to put all of our skills together and show what we can do."

The bond between not only the three teams, but also the horses and riders, can be seen throughout the equine department. Before each lesson, the horses are groomed and looked over by the students in order to make sure that they stay in good health and are cared for in the best possible way. Together, the riders all have one goal: to become the best rider they can and to do the best they can in the show ring.

"We are all friends and those friendships aren't separated by which team or teams we are on," Rachel Cellini, a senior equine business major and the Dressage team president, said. "Our ponies are our family too, and it is all of our responsibilities to care for them like they deserve."

Together the teams work to fundraise for the upcoming show season in order to pay for transportation to the shows. Membership, hotel and show fees are all up to the individual rider. The individual strengths of these riders are paired with the team spirit and passion they have together.

Horses

The backbone of the equestrian team is the horses. The program has 35 horses donated by owners all over the country. Because of their strong reputation, Otterbein receives countless calls from donors each month, and many are put on a waiting list because of the limited barn space. Many of the horses have a competitive background, allowing



Otterbein students to access this talent and develop their skills.

Once a horse, however, is accepted, they arrive at Otterbein for a two-week to one-month trial period. This allows students to try them in different lessons, test their abilities and give lab students the opportunity to work with them and see how they fit into the program. If accepted, the horses are used for the amount of time that best fits them. The goal is to use the horses for three years, but depending on the horse's happiness, ability and retirement home availability, they may leave the program earlier or years later than the goal time.

Stereotypes

Equestrian has always been a sport with a trail of stereotypes.

Equestrian sports are only for women.

Riders' individual skills come from their passion, their willingness to learn and to fail and their ability to connect with the horses. In response to the female-prevalence in equestrian sports, Liptrap, one of the male riders on the team, said, "If it's what you like to do, then do it."

Contrary to popular belief, many of the upper-level competitors and Olympic gold medalists are male riders. Otterbein's equestrian team encourages riders of all

genders to participate in the sport.

Horseback riding should not be considered a sport.

Equestrian sports have an image of not being high-intensity, often with the statement that "the horse does all the work." However, equestrian sports as a whole require the skill to communicate and work with a 1,500-pound animal with the smallest amount of movement or change in muscle activation.

Equestrian sport debuted in the summer Olympics in Paris, France in 1900, proving its validity as a sport of expertise, skill and dedication. Similarly, cross-country, jump or eventing riders require a thrill-seeking and daring personality. Riding takes courage and skill to work with the horse to accomplish the goal of the event.

You have to be rich and skinny to ride.

Owning a horse is expensive. Showing horses is expensive. But, not everyone on the team has a horse, shows are not every weekend and the Otterbein team makes riding affordable for students through scholarships and alternative training options. Equestrian sports are known to be expensive, but there are ways for students to ride without breaking the bank or working a strict schedule.

A person's weight or body build does not determine their ability to become a skillful and successful rider. While riding is a vigorous sport requiring strong fitness levels, this does not mean that every rider needs to be thin. In fact, it is almost more constructive for riders to have a structured build to be able to have the muscle to work with 1,500-pound animals.

Academics

The Otterbein equine science program is known to be hands-on, providing students with personal experience and knowledge for their passion in the veterinary or business world. From 7 a.m. barn management labs in the dead of winter to dissecting ponies to learn about animal systems, these students experience many facets of their studies. The equine studies program offers three different majors: pre-veterinary, veterinary-technician and equine business management.

The classes taken allow students to work towards any goal they have in mind, whether that is managing a barn, working for an equine magazine or performing large or small animal veterinary services.

By providing students with the skills and resources to explore many different options in the major they have chosen, Otterbein allows students to find their place in the equine world.



Clara Berglund untacked Pedro, an Otterbein owned horse, after the Dressage home show at Otterbein. Photo by Kaytlyn Rowen



Camille Stewart rode Kermit in her Dressage test for the Otterbein home show. Photo by Kaytlyn Rowen



Daisy Farish rode Donner in a Hunt Seat lesson. Photo by Lance Kriesch

Outlook vs Google

Battle of the inboxes

Search Email

Folders

Inbox 6

Junk 2

Drafts 1

Sent

Deleted

Chats

Quick Views

Flagged

Photos

Office Documents

Deleted

On May 5, 2017, Otterbein transitioned from the use of Google applications to Microsoft's Office 365. For students, faculty and staff, this meant that everyone's email accounts, calendars and contacts migrated over to the new email service called Outlook. This isn't Otterbein's first encounter with Outlook; in March 2012, Otterbein made the initial switch from Outlook to Google. Now that the university is going back to Outlook, there are many questions being raised, one being why they decided to switch back. According to Tahsha Harmon, director of technical support and training, the decision to switch back to Outlook was for the students' benefit.

Otterbein made the switch for three main reasons.

- To prepare students for the business world
- To utilize the collaboration tools with full versions of Microsoft Office products
- To use a better security tool to protect private information

Otterbein used to host its own email server. Keeping up with spam issues and corrupted accounts was a daunting and time-consuming task. The system even became blacklisted from sending any emails when a big spam attack hit the campus. To eliminate these issues, Otterbein decided to switch to a hosted model. This would provide stability for the university and allow students to use apps and collaboration tools online. Outlook is also widely used by businesses and professionals.

"We are graduating students with experience in using the very same platform that is the most widely used in businesses today," Harmon said.

The move to go back to Outlook was not a popular one for many on campus. Here's how students and faculty feel about the switch and their thoughts on the issue.



Question & Answer

How did you find out about the switch?

A: I was in Italy when the switch actually happened. I had no idea. My professor sent us our train ticket through our email, but I didn't have the Outlook app, so I didn't have the ticket. I wasn't even sure what I was supposed to be downloading, and I was on a time crunch because I needed the ticket to get on the train... It was a very stressful time.

—Cassidy Whetro, sophomore, communication major

What were your first thoughts about the switch?

A: I was pretty upset. I didn't want to have to switch my files over, nor did I want to have to switch my photos over. It was super frustrating, too, that they told us with such little notice.

—Autumn McCandlish, junior, photography and public relations major

A: I was not happy about the switch. I have used Gmail for a long time, and I know how to use it well. Outlook was foreign to me.

—Cassidy Whetro

A: I wasn't happy about it, and I'm still not happy about it. We do a lot of change at Otterbein and sometimes I think that different departments don't know that other departments are about to make changes and it can be disruptive when we are trying to do things. So it just seemed like one more change.

—Dan Steinberg, professor

A: I just didn't like that I had to switch everything from my old email on to this

one. It was very tedious and not everything switched over. I lost a good amount of my contacts.

—Isaiah McDaniel, junior, systems engineering major

A: I didn't mind it at first, but after I realized how different Outlook is from Gmail, and it kind of freaked me out. I had no idea what I was doing.

—Kira Watkins, sophomore, communication major

Have your thoughts changed at all?

A: I don't dislike Outlook as much as I did initially, but I still don't really like it. With Gmail, everything was all together. You had your drive, slides and email all in one.

—Cassidy Whetro

A: Now that I've had some time to learn how to navigate Outlook, it isn't as bad as I thought. It did take me longer to learn than Gmail did though.

—Kira Watkins

What are some things you like and dislike about Outlook?

A: I don't like that when I pull up Outlook on my computer, it only takes up half the screen. I have to completely click on emails to view them. There is no quick view. Also, some of my emails don't show up on my computer but they show up on my phone.

—Cassidy Whetro

A: The outlook app is semi-decent. It's helpful to manage my calendar, but I still like Google Calendar much more. The fact that all of my fellow students/professors emails are extremely easy to find is nice, but I feel like that would've been a feature accessible with Google.

—Autumn McCandlish

A: Well, I like that we have an email system. I can't say that there is anything in Outlook that I like better than Gmail. Outlook is not as user friendly. All of my old contacts weren't saved when we switched it over, so I have to look up more things than I used to.

—Dan Steinberg

A: I love Outlook! All of my apps are right there where I need them. I'm more of a fan of Google Drive than I am of OneDrive though. Google Drive is just easier to navigate.

—Aja Peltomaa, junior, early childhood education major

If given the opportunity, would you switch back to Google? Why or why not?

A: Yes, I would most definitely switch back to Gmail. I just don't really understand why we needed to make the switch. I also dislike that people still use Google Docs, Slides and things like that, yet we still have to grant access and/or use a Google email for them. It's just frustrating that we have to go back and forth.

—Autumn McCandlish

A: I would switch back to Gmail in a heartbeat. It is just nice having all my stuff together. Now I am going to have my freshman papers and assignments on a different email and the rest of my college papers on this email.

—Cassidy Whetro

A: I don't think that there are that many differences between them. I just don't like that we keep switching back and forth. So I think we should just stick with what we have now.



Flower by Amanda Kline



Mixing Bowl by Amanda Kline



Pie by Amanda Kline



Queen of the Creatures by Amanda Kline



The Shooter by Amanda Kline



Portrait of Xugha by Amanda Kline



Levitating by Amanda Kline

More than just Art

By Kaytlyn Rowen



Creative talent is something that cannot be eliminated with the limits of a work schedule. It is a testing balance between who you are and where you came from. It is individual drive and potential to create something unique and great. Otterbein art professor Amanda Kline has shown this feat to be not only manageable, but something to excel at. Her creative talent is shown through her staged photographs and performative videos.

She has examined and researched human evolution and anthropology, subjects that have always been an interest to her. Kline has also examined exhibits in natural history museums as inspiration for a lot of her work in these avenues.

"The taxidermy deer, bear, fish and fowl that hang on the walls of my families' homes were like the animals in displays in the museums," Kline said. "I thought a lot about the way that nature is presented in museums and homes and how that is illustrative of our larger relationship with nature, and of my own personal place within that relationship."

Kline's staged photographs consider the peculiar relationships humans acquire with nature by constructing scenes and spaces that highlight artificial objects and how objects exist in nature. Some of these objects include items such as faux plants or wood grain laminate, as well as those she finds on her walks through the woods.

"Nature is both sublime and terrifying," Kline said. "There seems to be this primal urge to be at one with nature, and it's a beautiful, spiritual place for many people. Yet, food and technology are separating

humans from it more and more."

Kline wants to share her vision of how nature and humans coincide with each other through solo shows and galleries regionally, nationally and hopefully someday internationally.

The reactions from viewers so far have been positive. Kline has seen the audience receive the humor she has aimed to show through her pieces. Much of her work depicts humorous events that challenge social constructs as well as the coordination between organic and developed objects.

Art is not only an extracurricular for Kline, but it influences her teaching style and how she works with students. Her passion for feminist theory and identity politics comes to play when working with students on these issues. However, she also exposes students to a variety of theories, histories and techniques in order to help them find their own passions.

When advising aspiring artists and students about their work Kline says, "Keep making art and don't get discouraged if something doesn't turn out how you want it to right away."

She believes roadblocks are an essential part of the art process and it is important to remember that those judging your work have their own opinions and that is OK. Kline also shared the importance of paying attention to the world and art around you and keeping an open mind.

"It's OK to not like everything, but ask 'what is the role and function of art in everyday life?'" Kline said.

More recently, Kline began working on pieces that feature old family photographs, self portraits, landscapes and materials from the trailer she grew up in. This autobiographical work examines the tension between her past and present.

"I come from a lowbrow type of culture, a working-class family of hunters, and was born and raised in a trailer set deep in the forest in Pennsylvania," Kline said. "Now I exist in a world that is totally different; art, academia, white-collar work, the city."

Kline's collages have created a space to mesh these two worlds and allow her to contemplate her identity and the confusing feelings she experiences in returning to Pennsylvania. The toughest and strongest part of these more recent pieces is how personal the work is. However, since they are so personal, Kline describes the challenges of making people care about the pieces.

"Something you need to do as an artist is make people care about it [the artwork]," Kline said.

This is a constant process for all artists, but it allows Kline to show her passion and vulnerability through her artwork. It is a process of deciding your future and examining your past.

Art is something that allows for experimentation, a realization of identity and provides an avenue for creativity. Every piece of artwork has a purpose, a meaning and a story behind why it was created. It is important to explore these avenues of artwork in order to better understand others as well as ourselves.

Side-By-Side

A mother-daughter duo tackle college together

Imagine being stressed about your next exam. You go to the library, and sit down in a booth with your study partner: your mom.

Anna Caroselli is a 39-year-old junior nursing major. She started at Otterbein in Fall 2016 after taking all of her prerequisites at Columbus State Community College. During her first year, she began to make a place for herself. The next year is when her experience at Otterbein changed. Anna's daughter, Gabriella Caroselli, also attends Otterbein. Gabby is a freshman zoo and conservation science major.

It's not unusual for siblings and even spouses to attend the same college at the same time, but a mother-daughter duo is almost unheard of. Most people go to college to get away from their parents, but for Gabby, seeing her mom on campus is the highlight of her day. It seems strange, but for Anna and Gabby, it was the best decision they could have made.



Anna and Gabby study in the Library. Photo by Lance Kriesh

Before Gabby enrolled, Anna's experience at Otterbein was similar to that of a typical commuter student.

"I met a really good group of girls," Anna said. "We studied together and hung out together and had a lot of fun. Because of them, I did really well last year."

Anna was able to make Otterbein her home-away-from-home and start her journey to her career. Her choice to come to Otterbein was simple. After having Gabby at a young age, Anna wasn't able to get the full college experience she wanted. Going to Columbus State before Otterbein wasn't exactly what she expected college to be. With everyone commuting to school, it felt more like high school than college.

"I didn't go back to school after having Gabby. I actually became a stay-at-home mom," Anna said.

When Gabby started at Otterbein, Anna's life at school began to change. She was able to experience dorm life without ever having to live in the dorms. Gabby and her mom even share a meal plan so that they can eat together whenever they are on campus at the same time.

"Those are little things that I would have never experienced if she wasn't here," Anna said. "Now I get to meet her friends and know more people here on campus. It's comforting when you're walking on campus and someone recognizes you."

Although going to college with your mother might sound unappealing, having her mother here was a big reason why Gabby chose Otterbein. Along with the normal struggles of being a freshman, Gabby also went through the process of sorority pledging. Having Anna available when she needed her helped Gabby get through these difficult times.

"I knew that I would have a support system



Anna and Gabby are a mother daughter pair who are both taking classes here at Otterbein University
Photo by Lance Kriesh

here," Gabby said. "If I'm having a bad day it feels good to be able to lean on her because she understands what I'm going through."

With her daughter being at the same school as she is, Anna can get caught up in Gabby's experience and sometimes lose track of why she is here.

"Sometimes I let myself get overwhelmed with her schedule and what is going on with her and her keeping her grades up," Anna said.

Despite these negatives, going to school together has brought Anna and Gabby closer. Attending the same college gives them a common experience that they can relate to on a deep level.

"I'm still her mom and I still need to be her parent, but sometimes I get to back off of that and just be her friend," Anna said

Watching her daughter grow and become an adult has been very rewarding for Anna.

Most of us could probably never imagine what it's like to attend school with a parent. But for Anna and Gabby, going to school together has given them a chance to understand each other better.



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TANDC MEDIA

By the Numbers

Bike & Build riders bike nearly 4,000 miles



Residents Assistants receive about \$55 a month



There are about 150 riders in the equine program



Anna Caroselli is a Junior while her daughter is in her Freshman year



200 children and young adults are diagnosed with Ewing sarcoma each year

