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Spring 2020

T&C

Tan & Cardinal Magazine



**Cards with cool
internships**

**Stereotypes,
shattered**

Debate debrief

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Photo by Lauren Kess

Letter From the Editor

I was 12 years old the first time someone made me feel like I didn't belong because of the way I looked. It was the summer before seventh grade on the crowded bus ride home from school when I heard it from a few seats back:

"Why aren't you inviting Aselya to the party?" whispered one girl.

"Um, it's pretty obvious," another girl scoffed. "She doesn't look like us. Why would I want that there?"

From that moment forward, I've always tried to be more aware of others who find themselves in similar situations, but the truth is, judgment can be hard to detect, especially if you're not the one being targeted. So how do we move forward?

Throughout my time at Otterbein, I've learned that there's value in letting people tell their stories. It's easy to give someone a once-over, slap some sort of label on them and move on with our day, but in any given situation, there's almost always more to the picture. We just don't always take the opportunity to see it.

The same principle applies to places and things. Sure the Democratic Debate was a big hit on campus last fall, but it was the army of people leading the efforts behind the scenes that made this three-hour spectacle happen, and we think you should know about it. Read more on page 22.

As you're probably starting to guess, this issue was created to give people a voice to share these different experiences. From the powerful feature on deconstructing gender roles starting on page 16, a deeper dive into autism awareness on page 26 and a profile on one of the most misunderstood students on this campus on page 28, these pages illustrate a variety of diverse perspectives that provoke you to look beyond, listen and empathize.

One of my favorite takeaways from writing these stories was getting the chance to speak with so many of you, and I want to thank you, as well as the magazine staff and writers, for taking a chance, being vulnerable and bringing light to so many important issues. I never realized just how many strong, resilient individuals make up this community, but trust me when I say my eyes have been opened.

No matter what page you end up flipping to first, I hope this issue challenges you to slow down, be curious and act with compassion. ■

Aselya Sposato
Editor-in-Chief



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Sincerely, the seniors

Otterbein seniors share their last-minute advice on conquering your college experience.

Alex McComb, '20

What's one piece of advice you would give to an underclassman or freshman?

Keep an open mind; college is where you find yourself and develop your own ideas.

It's okay to take time for yourself.

Always leave your door open: it's a great way to meet new people. They may turn out to be your best friends.

Go to class, no matter how much you don't want to. You'll learn something, and future you will be happy you went.

College isn't as bad as people make it sound. If you learn to balance your time, you'll be just fine.

Get up early. Yes, morning classes suck, but the earlier you get up, the earlier you can go back to bed.

Get to know as many people as possible, and make as many connections as possible.

If you could do it all over again, what would you do differently?

I'd work harder in everything, from sports, school, etc.

I'd build more relationships with upperclassmen. They have the best insight on classes to take, professors to avoid and can become good connections in the future.

I'd get out of my comfort zone, and try new things.

I'd be less afraid to take some time out of my day to focus on myself and my own needs.

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Student sound: music to our ears

Shining the spotlight on student musicians

A director's dream

Eddie Anders '21

Spencer Stern is a senior music theory and composition major at Otterbein. Like many musicians, Stern has had an interest in music since a young age. Growing up a member of his church, Stern has always been surrounded by music, which eventually led to a specific passion for musical theater.

"I just have a fascination for telling stories with my music, which is crucial in musical theater," says Stern.

Over the past few years, he's been the musical director for numerous shows and theaters around Columbus, like the Short North Stage, a theater

company dedicated to bringing first-class live performances to the Short North. Performances range from Broadway classics to progressive single-act plays.

Stern's talents were also showcased at a small theater called Imagine Productions of Columbus, where he was on the musical side of performances like "Grease" and "How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." His latest project included an advanced directing performance as lead music director for "Fun Home," a classroom workshop production performed at Otterbein. ■



Photo by Megan Miller



Turning dreams into a reality

Aselya Sposato '21

The first time Madison Hookfin picked up a violin, she felt an immediate connection to the instrument, almost like the missing piece to a puzzle was finally fitting into place. That was 11 years ago.

Now a senior violin performance major at Otterbein, Hookfin has spent the better part of the last decade mastering her performance skills through her involvement both on campus and in the community.

Her commitments as concert master and wedding coordinator of Otterbein's orchestra, performing with the Westerville Symphony and other community roles, keep her schedule pretty

packed. But it's her internship with the Columbus Symphony that's putting Hookfin on the fast-track to fulfilling her dream of performing with them someday.

"I've been going to see the Columbus Symphony since I was a freshman, and every time I go, I rarely see anyone that looks like me," says Hookfin. "I'd love to bring more diversity to the stage."

In the meantime, Hookfin is working toward an arts administration minor and dabbling in the management side of the performing arts industry, giving herself "an extra edge" for when she graduates this spring. ■



Photo by Megan Miller

All that jazz

Katie Frame '22

You may know them as the group of students jamming out in front of the Campus Center every week, but to the broader community, they're known as the Blue Jays.

This jazz music group began when band member Alex Toth, a sophomore music education major, was just a junior in high school. Although it started out as a fun thing between Toth and his high school friends, the group quickly began to book gigs around their hometown of Worthington at places like nursing homes and talent shows. The Blue Jays hit the jackpot when they booked a recording studio gig at Groove U, a two-year music career program in Dublin, Ohio. From there, the group took off, playing at local restaurants and events like the Columbus Arts Festival.

On campus, you can catch the Blue Jays performing in front of the Campus



Photo by Julia Grimm

Center at their biweekly gig "7:33 at the CC." The band plays both originals and covers, but Toth is looking for ways to branch out, saying "We're working on more music people will know."

In the future, the jazz musicians are looking forward to new gigs with the Columbus Jazz Orchestra. While he would love for the Blue Jays to become

a household name, Toth mentioned that he doesn't want the band to become his entire career. "I want it to be something that we aren't going to forget about," says Toth.

In the meantime, the Blue Jays will continue rocking out on campus and are excited to begin discussions about recording their first album. ■

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Photo by Andrew Ryback Photography

Not all athletes are human

Meet the equine athletes of Otterbein

Jordyn Mary '22

Otterbein University is home to some top-level equine athletes, and we're not just talking about the riders. The university houses over 30 horses in the Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science, Otterbein's multi-million dollar equestrian center.

Each horse in the program is either donated or brought by current equine students. Coming from a variety of different backgrounds means that every horse brings its own personality and story to tell. Riders often learn different skills depending on which horses they spend the most time with.

Most are trained in different disciplines, the most common being the English discipline. The university's award-winning riding program offers three of the English disciplines: dressage, show jumping and three-day eventing. Each discipline challenges horse-and-

rider pairs in different ways, giving students the opportunity to learn a lot from these talented animals. Get up close and personal with some of Otterbein's most well-loved horses.

Big Leo

Big Leo is an 18.1 hand (hand is a unit of measure equal to approximately four inches) black Oldenburg gelding. He was donated to the school in 2017 and had quite the career before coming to Otterbein. Big Leo was ridden by a professional at the upper levels of eventing and was a hopeful mount for the 2020 Olympic games in Tokyo. Unfortunately, he was diagnosed with a neurologic condition called Equine Protozoal Myeloencephalitis (EPM) that keeps him from competing at high levels. He was donated to Otterbein soon after. Since he's been at Otterbein, Big Leo is used for all team disciplines. He's currently being leased by an eventer and is competing at the novice level. His experience at the upper level

means he can teach riders skills many other horses can't.

Jerry

Jerry is a chestnut gelding who has a bit of history with Otterbein. Before joining the university's equestrian program, he was imported by an Otterbein alumna and competed at the upper levels with her. Jerry also has experience with professional riders and competed at the Bromont CCI event in Quebec, Canada. He was later donated to the program in 2010 and was leased to an eventer. After suffering a few injuries to his meniscus, he's now been retired from jumping but is a star in the dressage ring. Jerry has lots of experience and is known as a "sweetheart" among equestrian students.

Wizz

Wizz is a 15-year-old Argentinian warmblood Bay gelding. Wizz loves to jump and competed in upper-

level jumper classes. He came to the university in 2016 and has continued to jump and show students the ropes at some upper-level competitions at the World Equestrian Center. He was also leased by an eventer and learned the basics of this discipline, although jumping is still his favorite. When he's not out riding, Wizz loves to cuddle and take walks out to the field with his best buddies, Big Leo and Flynn.

Pedro

Pedro is something of an old soul around the barn and has been a part of Otterbein's program for 10 years. He's a 22-year-old Dutch warmblood, but he certainly doesn't show his age. He loves to strut his stuff in

the dressage arena. Before coming to Otterbein, Pedro was imported from Amsterdam and competed in the upper levels of dressage. After traveling to Ohio, he continued to compete in the dressage discipline before being donated. He's a favorite on Otterbein's Intercollegiate Dressage team and is always ready for showtime.

Ace

Ace is a black Hanoverian that ended up at Otterbein because of an old pelvic injury. Ace has competed with Otterbein's dressage coach, Jennifer Roth, and won many shows with her at the First Level, including becoming the First Level Freestyle Champion

in 2015. During his time at Otterbein, he has also been full-leased by a student and had top placing with her as well. Ace is now the star of First Level at IDA shows and loves to challenge riders with his competitive personality.

All the horses at Otterbein have impacted the students who interact with them in different ways, enabling them to grow as riders and teaching them unique lessons. Otterbein has received numerous awards for the top-quality horses in the equestrian program, but perhaps what's even more lasting is the legacy and the memories each horse leaves behind. ■



Pedro



Ace



Jerry



Wizz



Big Leo

Photos by Mackenzie Morrison



Photo by Sidney Sims

Ending the stigma

Find out how Otterbein is working to improve mental-health efforts on campus

Brynna Guthrie '21

Have you or anyone you know ever struggled with a mental health issue? The answer is probably yes. It's become common these days for people to experience some sort of mental health struggle throughout their lifetime, especially during the college years. College students tend to have an immense amount of pressure on them, whether it be from the financial stress of paying college tuition, the weight of trying to maintain a certain grade point average or anything in between.

Dr. Kathy Ryan, a licensed psychologist at Otterbein's Counseling Center, has worked closely with students who have dealt with mental health issues ever since the program started in 2015.

“If you push your body too long and hard, you are vulnerable to mental health issues; we can all be vulnerable if we don't take care of ourselves.”

“Last year, we saw 13% of the undergraduate population for mental health-related issues,” says Ryan. “Since we've opened on campus, we've seen close to a 40% increase in the number of students using the Counseling Center.”

This steady increase is indicative of struggles students are bringing with them before they even step foot on campus. According to Ryan, about 25% of entering freshman students have already met with a counselor before enrolling.

Despite these numbers, there are still many students who won't seek help for issues like depression and anxiety. In the past, those struggling with untreated mental illnesses often were labeled

as “crazy” or even “dim-witted.” This stigmatization has been around for centuries and still permeates our society today.

One of Otterbein’s responses to these varying mental-health obstacles has been through an on-campus chapter of Active Minds, a national organization dedicated to promoting mental health awareness. The organization was born out of student advocacy for change, and in 2015, the university officially adopted it as a student organization.

Active Minds does anything from holding events on campus to promote awareness of mental-health issues to hosting programs that target hot topics like stress relief, de-stigmatization and how to manage depression and suicidal thoughts or tendencies.

“Mental health awareness is important to me because it is an aspect of everyone’s life of which they should be aware. Active Minds strives to start and carry

out conversations on mental health from which everyone will benefit, and having such an organization on Otterbein’s campus is, and will continue to be, a vital part of student life,” says Allura Stevens, president of Active Minds.

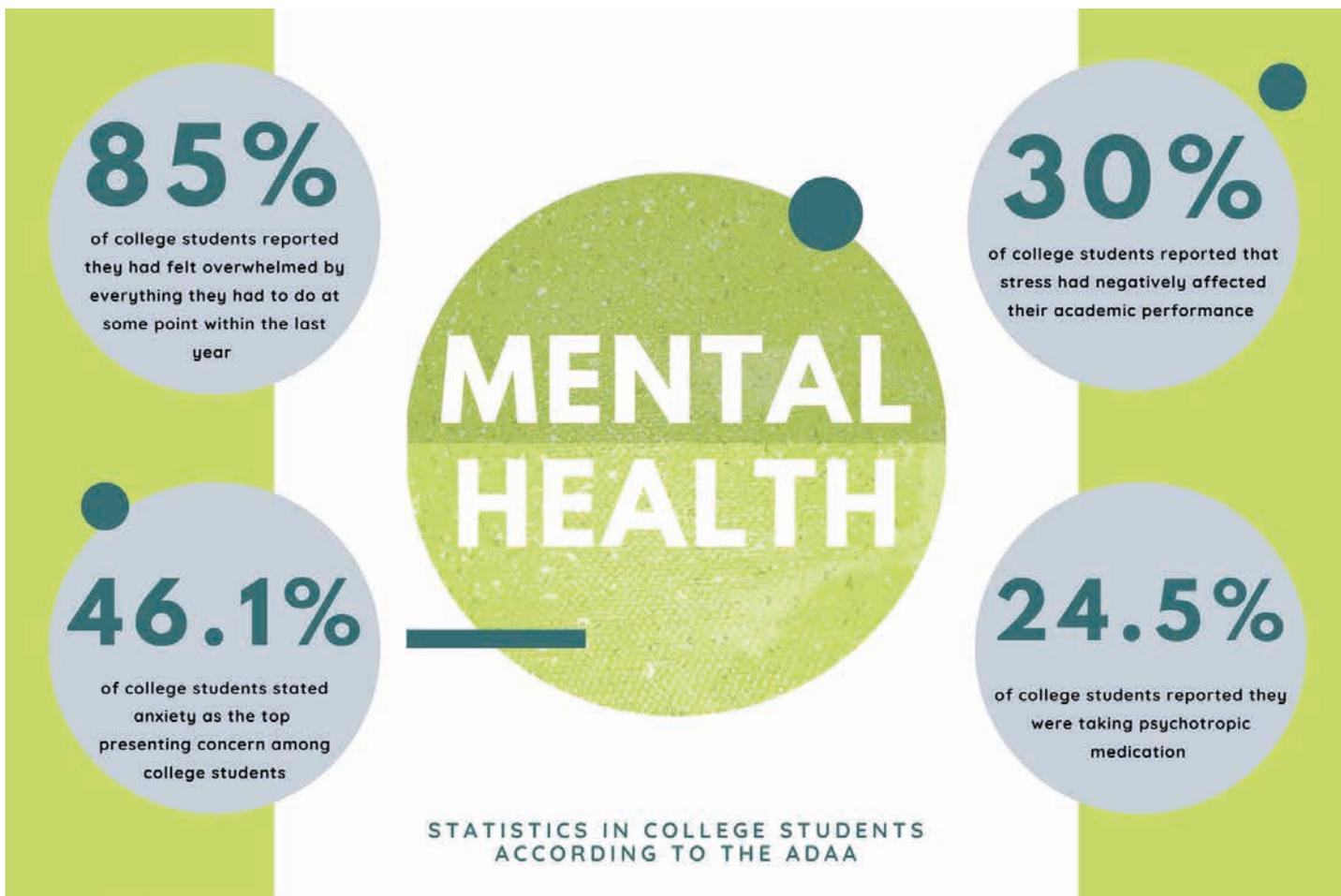
Other on campus initiatives include the Counseling Center’s partnership with the Wellness Department in Student Affairs for annual events like the Out of Darkness walk each spring, various biannual health fairs and programming on drug and alcohol use with residence assistants and residence hall staff.

If you’re struggling with a mental health issue, know there are resources available to help. The Counseling Center has urgent, walk-in appointments daily from 1 to 1:30 p.m. for anyone needing immediate assistance.

“If you push your body too long and hard, you are vulnerable to mental health issues; we can all be vulnerable if we don’t take care of ourselves,” says Ryan. ■

According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA), some symptoms of a major depressive episode may include:

- Persistent sad mood, most of the day or nearly every day
- Loss of interest in hobbies and activities
- Feelings of guilt, worthlessness, helplessness
- Decreased energy, fatigue, feeling “slowed down”
- Difficulty concentrating, remembering, making decisions
- Insomnia, early-morning awakening, excessive sleeping
- Low appetite and weight loss or overeating and weight gain
- Thoughts of death or suicide, suicide attempts, restlessness or irritability



Infographic by Danielle DiMarzo

Cards with cool internships

Otterbein students took advantage of many different internship opportunities last summer, even traveling across the globe to do it. Read on to learn more about their experiences.

Williams goes to Washington

Michaela Spangler '21

Photos provided by Morgan Williams

Morgan Williams stood with one hand raised to her brow, squinting as she watched a squadron of jets zoom over the Lincoln Memorial.

It was July 4, 2019, and Williams, a senior business management and journalism double major, was just one of the many in attendance for the Independence Day celebration in Washington D.C. However, Williams wasn't just there for the festivities. She was there as a member of the White House Internship Program (WHIP), an opportunity she'd been dreaming of ever since she was 12 years old.

She arrived in the country's capital in May and had two days to acclimate to the new city before starting her internship. She spent the time scoping out the subway system and adjusting to life on her own, never once feeling nervous.

It wasn't long before she found herself in front of the Eisenhower Executive Building and touring through the White House's East and West Wings with her fellow interns, standing where former presidents and first ladies had stood before her. She was almost immediately assigned to work in the Office of Presidential Correspondence, a position she grew to enjoy more throughout her months in the program. Williams's division was tasked with handling specific mail for the office.

"I'm so glad I got placed there because the people I worked with were phenomenal," says Williams. "I've learned so much, and I wouldn't have picked a different office now that I've been there."

On top of managing her day-to-day assignments, Williams also had the oppor-

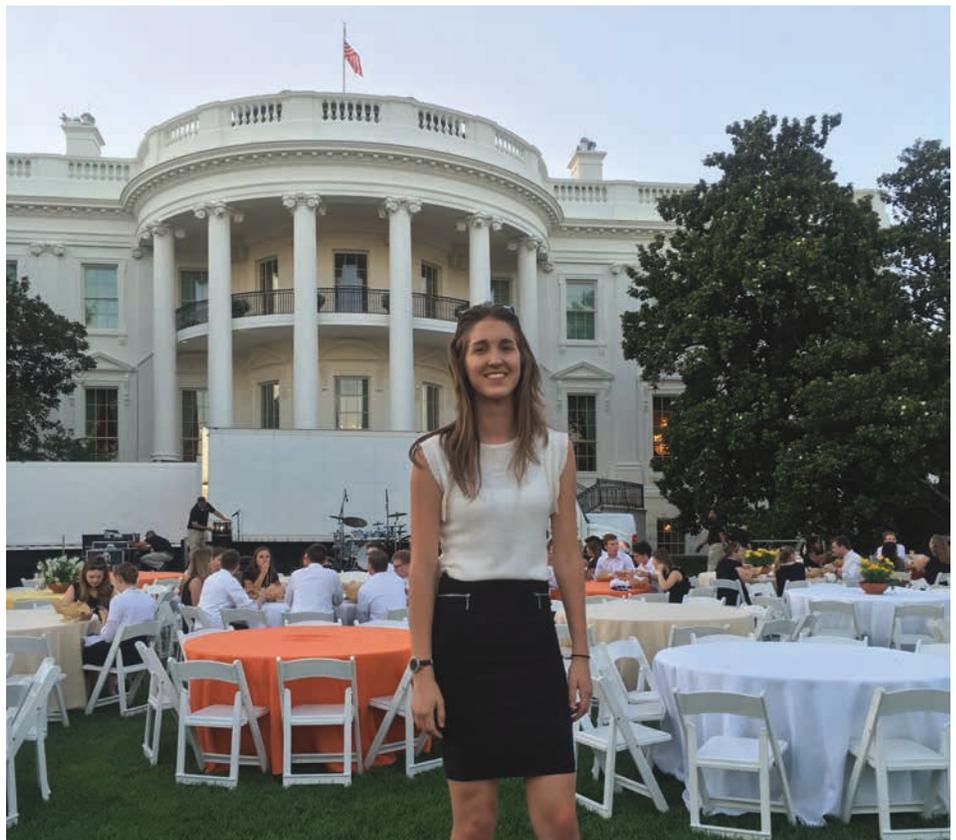
tunity to volunteer and attend different events held at the White House, including a meet-and-greet with U.S. President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence, volunteering at the Congressional Picnic and getting to tour the White House Press Room.

While these experiences were among the most memorable, Williams also points out that it was the people who really impacted her throughout her time with WHIP.

"I think one of the biggest takeaways from the internship is that it's just important to go talk to people," says

Williams. "You can learn something from everyone, and you should take advantage of that when you can because you never know when you're going to meet that person that's going to be so helpful to your career."

Before she knew it, Williams was heading back home to Ohio to prepare for fall semester classes again. She's now back at the Ohio Statehouse, working to make a difference on a local level. However, no matter which direction she goes, you can bet she's going to keep her memories from this summer with her, fueling her passion along the way. ■





Going batty for a summer internship

Katie Frame '22

Photos provided by Aiden Tansey

The sky above sophomore zoo and conservation science major Aiden Tansey was dark, but not just from the absence of the sun. Above him swirled the wings of 20 million Mexican free-tailed bats, gracefully flying upwards and out of Bracken Cave to hunt for their next meal.

Tansey never would have gotten to witness this neat phenomenon if it wasn't for his internship with the Collegiate Conservation Program through the Houston Zoo.

Bracken Cave, a large nursing den that houses anywhere from 20-40 million Mexican free-tailed bats in San Antonio, Texas, was just one of the neat experiences Tansey got through his internship. He says sitting in the cave, mesmerized as he watched millions of bats vortexing to go feed for the night was "a really cool moment to connect with nature," and may have just been his favorite moment from last summer.

A close second was getting the opportunity to speak with two conservation-

ists that visited from Madagascar and Brazil, an eye-opening experience that allowed Tansey to make international connections.

The Houston Zoo reserves a spot in its program every year just for an Otterbein student. Tansey considers himself lucky to have secured the spot last summer, but he worried about how he would pay for it. After doing some research, he discovered that the internship is sponsored by ExxonMobil, who donates a \$1,500 stipend to each intern. While the money is put toward funding the different activities the interns participate in, Tansey says that "the sponsorship definitely made the internship more affordable, even though the internship itself was unpaid."

Tansey has been volunteering in the Congo region of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium since he was 14. For him, it's always been about networking and meeting people, but he's often felt like his connections brought him right back home. After interning in Houston, he now has relationships with people from

across the country and the world.

Perhaps the most valuable finding he took away from the experience was simply learning more about himself and what he enjoys doing.

"It made me realize that while I love animal care, I also like to talk to the guests at the zoo, which was a lot of what I did through this internship," he explains.

At the Columbus Zoo, he spends a lot of time in the aviary, interacting with kids and talking to them about the different types of birds.

"[Kids] are like 'Oh, did you know you have a lorikeet on you?' And I'm like 'I did! It's undoing my shirt!'" Tansey laughs.

Despite wanting to be a paleontologist when he was young, he now has his eye on an upper-level management position at the zoo in the future. ■

Trading in the field for the rink

Katie Frame '22

Photos provided by Regan Wilson

After a knee injury ended her plan to play soccer in college, senior sports management major Regan Wilson never imagined she'd wind up interning with a National Hockey League team instead of tearing it up on the soccer field.

Wilson got on the Blue Jackets' radar her freshman year during a visit with Otterbein's sports management club, where she chatted up Ben Harrison, who works in the team's marketing department. From there, she used her networking skills and kept in contact with Harrison, who helped her make more contacts within the team's staff.

She applied for an internship with the Blue Jackets for two years, interviewing both times but never getting the position. Finally, her third time applying, she was told the position was hers if she wanted it.

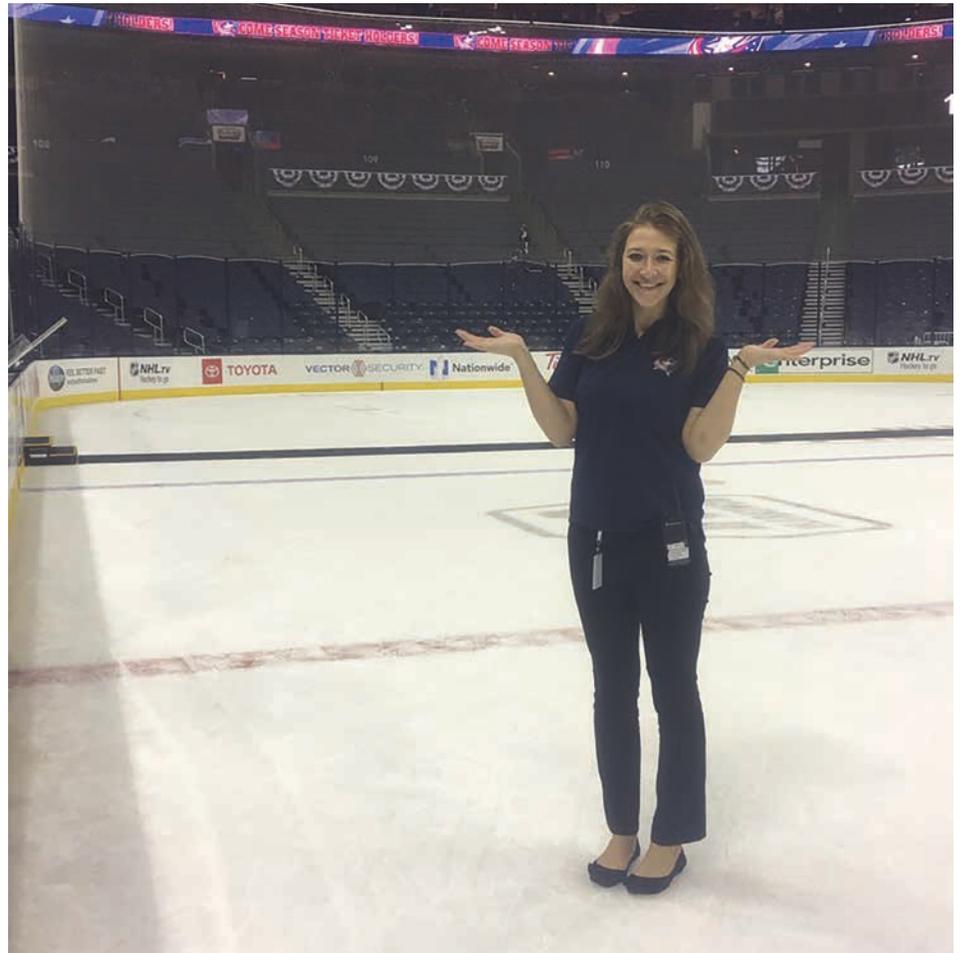
As the season and summer ticket sales intern, Wilson was the go-to person for anything having to do with season ticket holders.

After a brief stint there, she moved to working on the promotions team, where she represents the Blue Jackets at events in the community, even getting to work with the fans on occasion. Her job is to get the crowd excited, throw out T-shirts and cheer on the team.

"Basically, I'm a glorified cheerleader," she jokes. "I love it."

Last year was the first year that the Blue Jackets went on to the second round of the playoffs. Coincidentally, it was also during Wilson's internship, making the moment one of her favorite memories with the team.

During the playoffs, employees are typically granted access to the top level of the arena, called Scott's Turf Terrace. Last year, Wilson and her fellow interns



were given access to the terrace, as well as tickets to each of the playoff games. When the Blue Jackets won their first round of the playoffs, Wilson was there to experience the moment firsthand.

"People were laughing and crying, and just like seeing all of that ... it was kind of cool to see," Wilson says, fondly remembering the hugs and high-fives she got from all the employees.

Though her time as an intern with the Blue Jackets is coming to an end, Wilson now has her sights set on landing a full-time job with the team. She hopes her love for the organization and the countless meaningful connections she's made throughout her internship are what it takes to set her on the right path to accomplishing her dream. ■





Going to Gamboa

Brynna Guthrie '21

Photos provided by Gwen Broderick

Gwen Broderick, a junior biology and zoo and conservation science major, stepped out of her comfort zone and spent six weeks in Gamboa, Panama, this summer, conducting research on red-eyed tree frogs with Emma Kimberly, a fellow zoo and conservation science student, through the Otterbein University biology department.

The goal of their research was to try and better understand what will happen to the frog populations as pollution increases.

Broderick's day would typically start early every morning, waking up to eat breakfast and immediately heading to the schoolhouse to meet Sarah Bouchard, a faculty member in Otterbein's biology and earth science department, who led the research trip.

For the next few hours, Broderick was primarily responsible for setting up experimental tanks with the appropriate number of tadpoles and predators. Day after day, she'd examine the effects of predation and pollution on the different categories of tadpoles.

"As the ponds decrease and pollution and deforestation increase, the frogs are limited where they can lay their eggs. So once all the eggs hatch, the number of tadpoles has increased greatly, while the resources have not," says Broderick.

Her day usually ended around 2 p.m., when she would head back to the schoolhouse to drop off her work boots, grab a bite to eat and shower. During her free time, she passed the hours going to local sporting events, walking along the water and joining in on "frog talks," where Broderick and other research students practiced presenting their work on various species of frogs. She also spent a lot of time sitting outside and watching wildlife.

"There was so much amazing wildlife literally a foot away," says Broderick. "We caught so many different lizards and frogs, saw so many cool looking bugs and heard so many parrots."

Broderick notes that spending so much time on the opposite side of the hemisphere did have its challenges, especially being so far away from loved ones.



"My favorite memory is when Emma's parents came to visit," says Broderick. "They took us to the City of Knowledge, which is this super cute shopping area about 40 minutes away from Gamboa. It really helped me get through the whole two months without my family."

By the time her six weeks was up, she'd dissected over 50 tadpoles and released the rest, spending a large chunk of her time analyzing and compiling the results. She also walked away with over 200 mosquito bites on her legs and a newfound distaste for the chronic heat and humidity in Panama.

Overall, Broderick says she loved her experience in Panama. Who knows where she'll be jetting off to next? ■

Stereotypes, shattered



How the Otterbein community is working to end gender expectations in the workplace

Illustration by Megan Miller

“Wait, what makes you qualified to teach us?”

“A lot of women try to go into computer science, and some are actually good.”

“Why do you want to be a nurse? That’s a woman’s job.”

Aselya Sposato '21

These are just some of the comments that students, faculty and staff across Otterbein have heard at some point on their journey to landing a job. Judgements like these, a demonstration of gender bias, are just one of the many ways gender discrimination manifests.

Gender discrimination has been an ongoing issue since the 1920s but has recently become the center of media attention with the rise of the #MeToo movement and national coverage of gender-related lawsuits against companies like Microsoft and Wal-Mart.

Why does it seem like all of this is circulating right now? Because instances of gender discrimination are much more common than we thought, and people are increasingly empowered to speak up about it.

Though it can seem temporary, even the simplest forms of gender discrimination can have real, life-altering consequences on the people they’re directed toward, including polarized wages, missed job promotions, social judgment and mental health struggles.

Much of the issue can be attributed to gender stereotyping, a type of discrimination where people have a preconceived notion of how men and women should look, act and behave. Gender stereotypes heavily influence stereotyped job classifications, where men have historically dominated in trade jobs, STEM and executive positions, and women populated vocational jobs. These gender roles still cast a shadow on career searches for men and women today.



Photo by Andriyko Podilny

According to the Institute for Women’s Policy Research, women make up over half of middle-skills jobs. Yet when choosing between a higher-paying, male-dominated job, like welding and automotive repair, women still choose to pursue jobs in areas that pay less than \$30,000 a year, like cosmetology, nursing and education.

Breaking out of this mold is something both men and women have steadily been making progress toward, with

women gradually increasing in STEM careers throughout the 1980s and men shifting from manufacturing jobs to jobs in healthcare. Still, gender diversity remains low across a variety of fields.

Read on to find firsthand accounts from Otterbein community members who have confronted discrimination head-on and rewritten the gender roles. ■

First female engineering instructor inspires a generation of hope

Aselya Sposato '21

It wasn't until Elena Caruthers, assistant professor of engineering, was pursuing her doctorate degree in mechanical engineering at Ohio State University when she was confronted by one of her first run-ins with gender discrimination.

It was the first day of class and Caruthers was instructing a course for undergraduate students in engineering. As the over 100 students began to take their seats and Caruthers began her lecture, she was momentarily interrupted.

"What makes you qualified to teach us?" asked one of the students, a male.

Caruthers was speechless. This wasn't her first time teaching the course, yet it was the first time a student had asked her something like this, let alone in front of the entire class.

The shock quickly turned to anger as she carefully explained to the young man her previous teaching experience, high student evaluation performances and other credentials.

"It was one of the first times I ever felt so alert and aware that me being a young woman could rub people the wrong way," she recalls.

For many other women in the STEM industry, instances like these happen much sooner and more often in their academic and professional careers.

Growing up a math and science whiz, Caruthers says she was fortunate enough to grow up with parents and teachers who were always supportive of her intention to pursue a career in STEM. After making it through undergrad at Hope College in Holland, Michigan, she began working on her graduate and doctorate degrees at Ohio State, where she found a strong

community of women in her classes and labs to surround herself with.

Once she graduated, Caruthers immediately applied for an open teaching position in Otterbein's nearly brand-new engineering department, joining as the department's first female faculty member. Out of the now eight faculty members in the department, she's remained the only female instructor for the past three years.

"I do feel like I have to prove myself to show I'm capable. That's partially because of my competitive mentality, but there's also a barrier between how men and women understand things," explains Caruthers. "But I also feel supported in this department. My co-workers support me and are really good about including me on things, sometimes even coming to me first."

Last spring, the engineering department's first graduating class exceed-

ed the national graduation rates for women in engineering. Among the 21 students in the class, 29% were female, compared to a national average of 19.9% for females earning bachelor's degrees in engineering. The department also boasts a strong Society of Women Engineers chapter, which includes widespread support from both male and female students.

As for Caruthers, she spends her time between classes helping female students prepare to combat instances like hers, especially women who don't find themselves with the luxury of a strong support system.

"If I had listened to that student, I probably would have changed careers," says Caruthers. "Don't let the power of one person's words influence the rest of your life. Nobody knows you or your capability. You get to choose who you want to be." ■

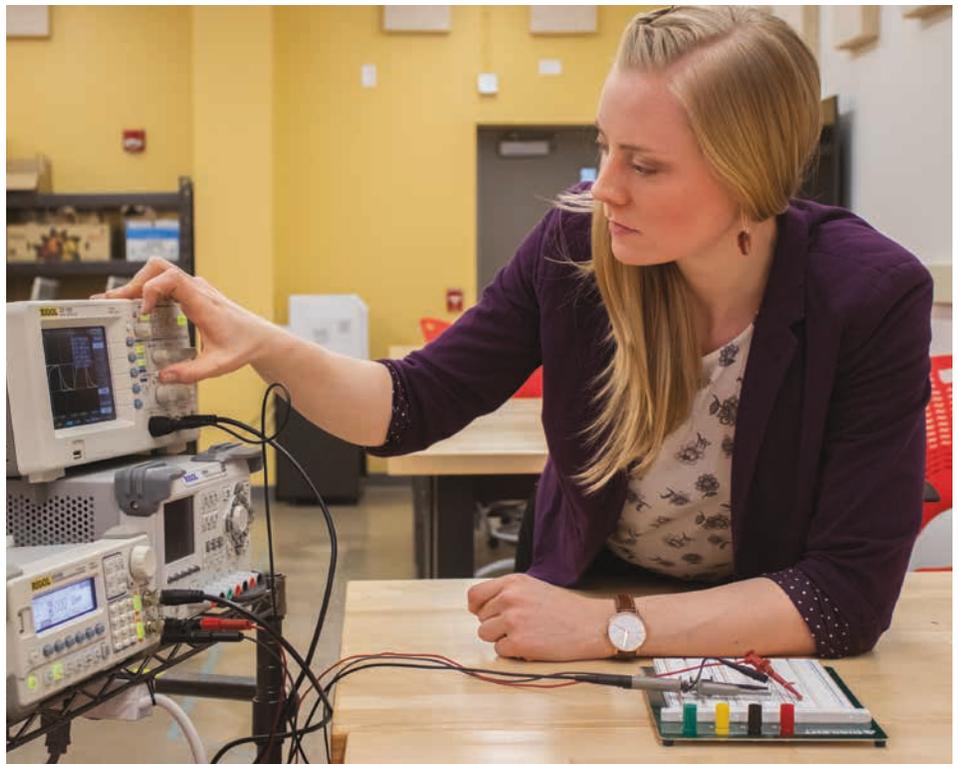


Photo by Megan Miller



Photo by Danielle DiMarzo

Succeeding in male-dominated sports administration

Jordyn Mary '22

Dawn Stewart, who's been the athletic director at Otterbein for the past eight years, has been around sports her entire life, from being a student-athlete herself to taking on more administrative roles in the latter part of her career.

Even though she's become pretty comfortable with her place in the industry, it's not easy to forget that she's one of 30% of women trying to make it in a male-dominated career in Division III schools, according to the Higher Education Directory.

"I very much was always self-aware of the fact that this is a male-dominated environment, and I just need to know that and to own my presence in this career track," says Stewart.

Stewart, who's an Otterbein alumna, spent her college years playing tennis for the Cardinals and working in a work-study job with the athletic department.

It wasn't long before she realized that supporting athletics was what she was meant to do, so she decided to pursue a career in athletic administration.

Over the years she's jumped around a few times before settling down at her alma mater. She started her career at Otterbein in an athletic-based job before working at Capital University for four years. She returned to Otterbein as the director of athletics and recently added the role of interim vice president for student affairs to her plate.

Stewart says she's always been supported when it came to pursuing her career, crediting her mentors and the community that supported her professional track. She also notes that being involved as an athlete during college helped her deal with negative moments in her life, and she continues to use those memories to motivate her to do what she loves today.

"Community is needed to succeed in an athletic field," she says. "I'm a

people-person by nature and just team-oriented. I enjoy collaboration, and I love being with my colleagues and students."

In her role at Otterbein, Stewart has oversight of almost everything to do with athletics, from facilities, staff, varsity programs, club programs and recreational sport programs. She tends to each of them as needed to help ensure they succeed.

"There is not one day that looks the same," Stewart says, laughing.

Thinking about the future, Stewart says she hopes to see more women in higher-up roles in the athletics field. After all, women in athletics is what led her to find her passion.

"There has been an increase of women in athletics over the years, but there is always room for improvement," says Stewart. "In athletics, there have been great strides made to make it safer and more inclusive." ■



Photo by Megan Miller

“Wait, you’re not the doctor?”

Jordyn Mary '22

Why do you want to be a nurse? That’s a woman’s job,” a family member recently told sophomore nursing major Tom Ohler.

According to the American Nursing Association, the nursing field in the U.S. has been run by females since 1860. As of 2016, only 9% of the over 3 million nurses who made up the industry were male.

Yet for Ohler, it’s never been about gender. His passion for learning new things and strong desire to help as many people as possible is what drew him to this profession.

“I hate to see people in pain, and I want to be able to help someone’s pain stop,” says Ohler, simply.

He enrolled in Otterbein’s nursing program because of its direct admission program and was encouraged to choose Otterbein because of the positive things he’d heard. So far, he says his experience has been a fairly diverse one, explaining that he’s never felt too out-of-place.

However, it’s the little things that sometimes make the biggest difference, like feeling the need to be more knowledgeable compared to his female classmates and being questioned more about his credibility when working with patients.

Even flipping through some of his textbooks and noticing that most of the course material is written about or only includes pictures of female nurses can be challenging.

Despite some of the everyday hardships, he doesn’t let the small things affect how he learns or his feelings toward his career choice. After supporting his grandfather while he was undergoing end-of-life care, an experience Ohler describes as “gut-wrenching,” becoming a nurse seemed even more fitting than ever before.

“Death is inevitable, and tragedy is going to strike. This just pushes me to want to help people more,” says Ohler.

Moving forward, Ohler says he’d love to see more males in the nursing field and have more people to relate to.

“Don’t let what people say or what you think of as stereotypes dissuade you from doing something that’s different,” he says. “If you have a passion, pursue it.” ■

Fighting the STEM gender gap, one club at a time

Aselya Sposato '21

Otterbein University senior Lexi McQueen has always had an interest in science, even as a little kid growing up in the suburbs of Cincinnati. Yet it wasn't until 2014 that McQueen, now a computer science major, had the opportunity to take her first computer science class. She was the only female enrolled.

"The teacher was a joke," she says, rolling her eyes. "That day he told us, 'A lot of women try to go into computer science, and some are actually good.' And that was when I knew. I ended up choosing to go into computer science purely out of spite."

In a town where the support system for women in computer science was close to none, McQueen almost chose a very different future for herself. It's one of the reasons she helped create and co-lead Otterbein's chapter of Girls Who Code, a national organization focused on developing computer coding skills in young girls. Otterbein's club, which hosts weekly meetings at the Point, invites girls of all ages to build their computer coding skills in a space that's receptive and engaging.

Movements like Girls Who Code could not sweep the nation quickly enough: the number of women earning bachelor's degrees in computer science, one of the fastest-growing job fields, has fallen to 17.5% from a peak in 1984 of 37%. Demand for computer science graduates is at an all-time high, yet many women and girls aren't interested.

Instances of gender discrimination, like McQueen's, are one of the primary reasons for the lack of women in STEM-related fields. According to a 2017 survey from the Pew Research Center, half of women in STEM jobs say they have experienced gender-based discrimination at work, compared to 41% of women in non-STEM jobs.



Photo by Danielle DiMarzo

"I remember one time when a male coworker came back from a project that involved working with a team of women," says Jamie Peso, a software engineer who also volunteers for Girls Who Code. "He said, 'Wow, women are actually smart,' and I was like, 'There it is.'"

After McQueen helped launch Otterbein's Girls Who Code club in 2017, she immediately started teaching girls within the community how to code. Computer browsers, web pages and social media apps like Instagram and Twitter use code to function. Different computer languages, like Python and Java, make the computer perform specific tasks.

At the time the club was created, a mass email was sent to female technology employees at Chase, including Peso, who quickly agreed to volunteer.

"I do it because we need more women," Peso says. "It's easy to feel ignored in this field. The more diversity we get, the more empathy people have for other people, no matter their race, religion or gender."

Girls Who Code recruits girls to study STEM subjects before they're statistically inclined to lose interest around the ages of 13 to 17, an issue researchers blame on schools for not doing enough to build confidence in young girls' technological skills.

For the 20-plus girls in Otterbein's club, a number that has more than doubled over the past two years, it's their first hands-on coding experience.

"We tell them to do it. Just go for it," says McQueen. "For every woman that doubts herself too much is another woman that's just not in the industry." ■

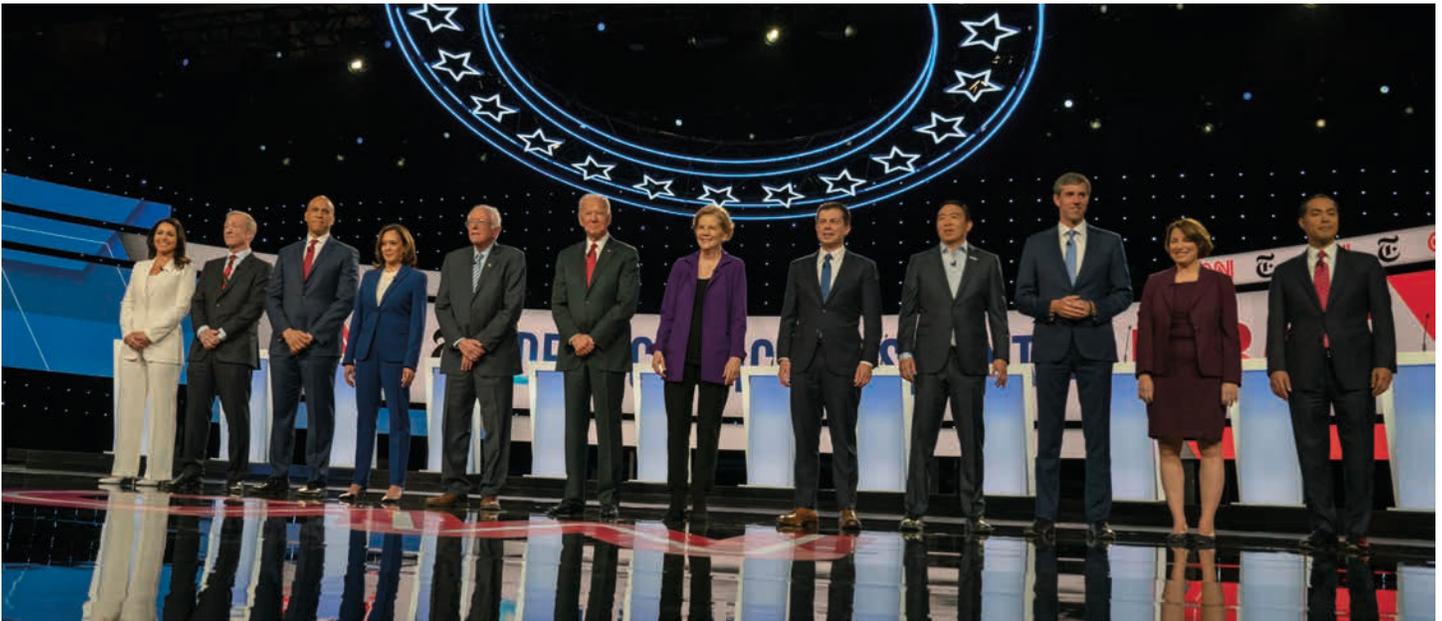


Photo provided by Otterbein University

Debate debrief

A cross-campus look at Otterbein's debate debut

As told to Gillian Janicki '20

What started out with discussions of a simple town hall with CNN, turned out to be one of the biggest, most publicized events brought to Otterbein University: the 2019 Democratic Presidential Debate in Westerville, Ohio.

Though it was a pleasant surprise for Director of Events and Conferences Matthew D'Oyly, he recalls the amount of planning that took place behind-the-scenes to pull off this 50-minute spectacular.

"I remember when we found out that it was the debate that we'd be hosting. There was a small group of us on a conference call with one of CNN's senior vice presidents. They started by saying, 'Everything we're about to tell you is something you cannot share with everyone.' Then we started signing the nondisclosure agreements. It was really exciting to have that opportunity and to know that eventually, everyone would find out Otterbein would be the location of the debate.

When it came to preparing for the event, the biggest thing was making sure we had all the right players at the table. Originally, CNN took a few site visits in early August with about 30 people from different areas of the company, like the lighting team, the building team, logistics and producers. We also wanted to make sure that all the right players were representing Otterbein and Westerville.

The next big thing was overcommunicating and doing whatever we could to make sure everyone knew what the plan was and how we were going to execute it. We really wanted the messaging to different audiences to be clear and concise. Although CNN had to approve our original press release, we were able to craft our later messages together as a team to make sure we were hitting all the different points in a timely way.

During the debate itself, the first hour was a little interesting. We hit a fire code and were at maximum capacity for people in the Rike Center. I was in

charge of getting CNN talent into the building by switching other people out. The Rike Center can normally hold more people, but because of the platforms and other additions, the occupancy level was decreased.

At the same time, there were a lot of other logistics happening, like popping in some extra chairs at different places throughout the building. No one in the audience was allowed out of their seats during the event because of the distraction it could pose to the candidates, so we had to go through back rooms to get from one spot to another without ever being seen on television.

Now that the debate is over, I still do a lot of logistics for Otterbein, but I have less pressure and more time to plan. Honestly, it's a little hard to go from a constant pace where you're working 20 hours a day to having plenty of time to respond to an email, but I really did enjoy my job." ■

Theatre major gets a shot at journalism

As told to Katie Frame '22

Photos provided by Julia Kelley

The oddest part about the debate for sophomore design tech theatre major Julia Kelley was the fact that she got to go.

Kelley, a photographer for T&C Media, spent the day running around campus and Uptown, taking photos of anything and everything she could before heading into the media room in the Clements Recreation Center for the event, where she was lucky enough to score press credentials.

“The day of the debate started out as a blur. I headed toward Uptown and used my media access to its fullest extent, trying not to be afraid to get good shots of protestors, security and other people milling around. At one point, I thought I’d photographed Tom Steyer, only to find out later that it was definitely not Tom Steyer.

While in Java Central, my fellow T&C Media reporters and I ran into a reporter from the Washington Post. She was super nice and asked us all about student media at Otterbein. She even gave us all her card and her personal phone number in case



we needed anything throughout the night. Having the card of a professional journalist was mind-blowing for me.

Once we got settled in the Rike Center, I got to work on editing photos for the pre-debate stories the reporters had been working on. When I had a spare moment, I jogged over to Cowan Hall, where the university was hosting a forum with journalists from the New York Times’ political desk and a debate watch-party. After passing through a crazy amount of metal detectors, I spent some time interviewing attendees about how they were enjoying the debate so far.

It was odd to me how people stiffened up when I told them I was a reporter, but once I explained more about the perspective I was looking for, I ended

up having some great conversations. Once the debate was over, I made my way into the spin room in the Clements Recreation Center, where candidates answered questions from press. I’ve been to New York City and have been stuck in some pretty rowdy crowds, but the spin room was unlike anything I’ve ever seen before. I was absolutely stunned by the atmosphere of the room. I was standing right beside people who were live on FOX News, yet everyone was so unexpectedly casual. As he was walking past, Cory Booker fist bumped me, which was something I’ll never forget.

The whole day, I was just basking in this amazing experience that I got to be a part of. Even all these months later, that night still doesn’t quite seem real.” ■

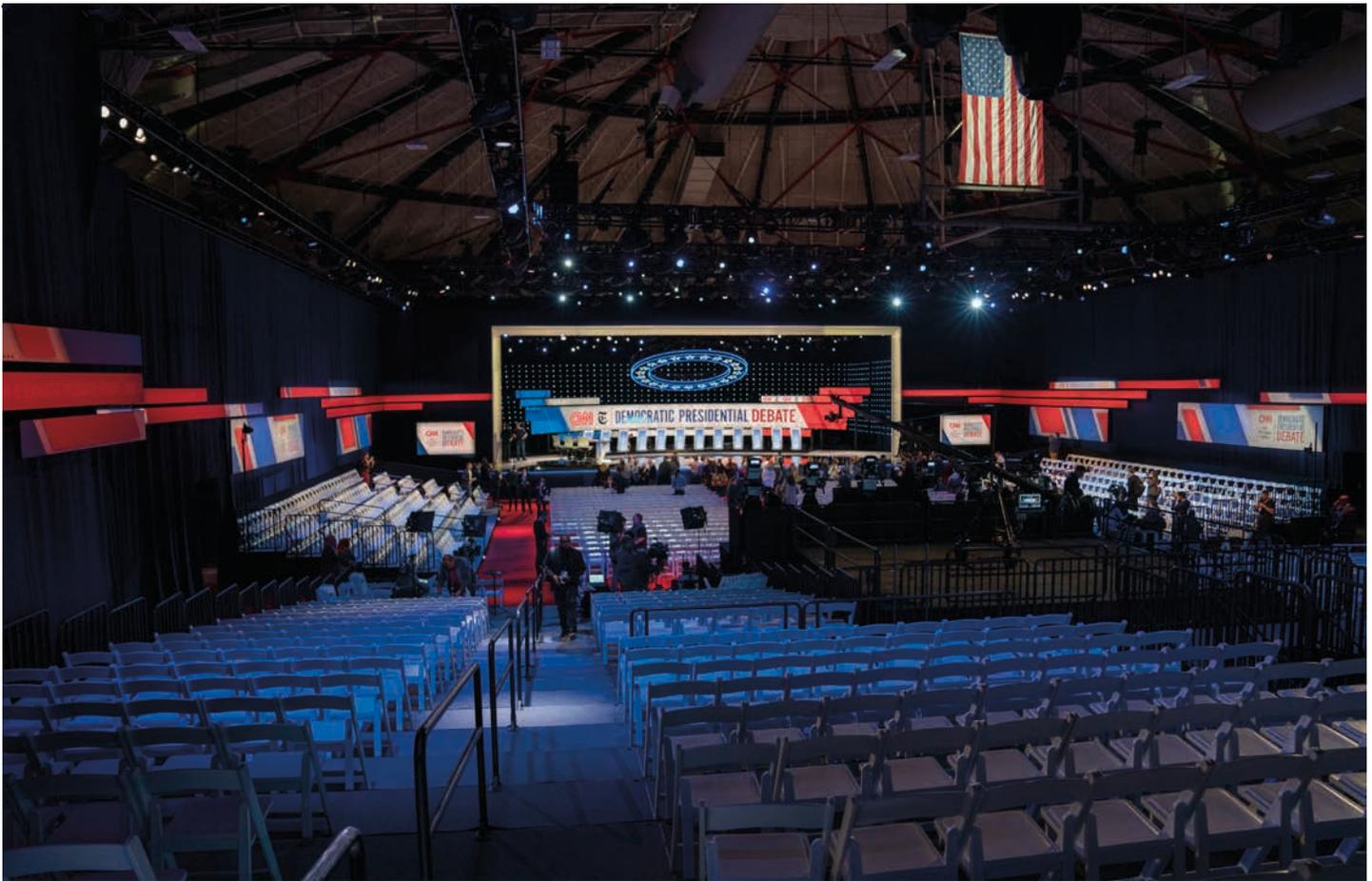


Photo provided by Otterbein University

Taking part in history

As told to Michaela Spangler '21

Kain Anderson, a junior music education major, got to dip his toes in a variety of different roles during the debate, from acting as a sound and lighting stand-in for Beto O'Rourke, to working as an usher for the VIP section during the event.

Read more about Anderson's once-in-a-lifetime opportunity volunteering with CNN.

"There were 13 other students who were also working as stand-ins on Saturday in the Rike Center, one person for each candidate and two people for moderators Erin Burnett and Anderson Cooper.

I was assigned to roleplay as Beto O'Rourke and was immediately instructed to interrupt the other students as much as possible because that's how he responds during debates.

Everyone else had different instructions based on the personalities they were filling in for.

The CNN crew put microphones on us, adjusted the lighting and camera angles, and from that point forward, we were standing at our podiums for the next four hours. They asked us things like, "What's your favorite spot on campus?" or "What are your plans for Halloween?" If someone said their favorite spot was the library, I'd immediately interrupt as much as I could and start talking over them, which I do well naturally. The CNN crew checked sound and lighting the entire time, occasionally asking us to turn our heads to get as many angles as they could.

On the day of the debate, I was an usher for the VIP section, which was awesome. I was right down in front of the stage

where all the action was happening. I wasn't far from Joe Biden, Rosario Dawson [actress and girlfriend of Corey Booker], Chasten Buttigieg [Pete Buttigieg's husband] and [Otterbein] President [John] Comerford. I got to be near them all night while I was checking tickets. A lot of people came up for pictures, so I oversaw making sure they actually left the section once they had their picture taken.

After the debate was over, I got to meet Pete Buttigieg, Joe Biden, Elizabeth Warren and Kamala Harris. I'm so glad I got to be a part of it. I was actually supposed to go to New York that weekend. My friend and I bought plane tickets, but when they announced the debate was being held at Otterbein, I was like, 'I don't want to go anymore.' I wanted to be here to experience it because it was such a historical moment. I'll remember it all." ■



What it was really like: working backstage at the debate

As told to Mari Smith '20
Photos provided by Otterbein University

Sometimes, the quirkiest jobs end up being the most fun. Derek Parham, a senior journalism and media communication major, experienced this firsthand while volunteering as a runner for CNN both leading up to and during the debate.

Read more about some of his wacky experiences and the fun facts he learned about the candidates in his retelling of the debate experience.

“The day before the debate, CNN had me doing odd jobs, like moving around equipment that needed set up and driving out to hotels to drop off backstage passes to whomever was related to the candidates. That was cool, to go out into the city to do things like that for them.

Once the debate started, I was working with CNN’s public relations and photography team, running around backstage and delivering SD cards back and forth between the two teams. I was even included in a group chat with each of the team members.

There were a couple of times throughout the night where I almost walked out onto the stage while the candidates were answering questions, and I was like, ‘Oh no, I can’t do that. Bernie Sanders is right there.’

I was also in charge of a few other things, like getting water and snacks for the candidates’ trailers and acting as a seat filler for their family members. Whenever someone from their family would get up to leave, I would take their place so the candidate could look out into the crowd and know where their relatives were sitting. Basically, I got to sit in an auditorium chair and wave at Sanders so he would know where his wife was, which was cool.” ■

“I got a way closer look into a presidential debate than I ever would have expected”

DEREK'S

BACKSTAGE FACTS

about the 2020 Democratic Presidential Primary Candidates

BETO O' ROURKE

ate three packets of almond butter and Snickers bars between breaks



ELIZABETH WARREN

liked to dance and did so at every chance she got



ANDREW YANG

liked to lean back and stretch for strangely long periods of time



Infographic by Danielle DiMarzo



Beyond the diagnosis

Documenting the real story of autism

Julia Grimm '22

Illustrations by Cheyenne Shigley

This is a story, one of art and math, silence and speech, mild and severe. This is the story of autism, a varying developmental disorder that's often hard to understand. Autism ranges on a spectrum from a mild to severe diagnosis, meaning that those affected can display a range of symptoms.

"I get asked questions a lot about 'Oh, I saw this child who has a certain symptom. That sounds like autism. Does it mean they have autism?' and typically my response to that is 'If you've met one child with autism, you've met only one child with autism,'" says Dr. Ashley Showalter, a pediatric psychologist who oversees applied behavior analysis (ABA) treatment services at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

One of the many faces of autism is Otterbein art major, Cheyenne Shigley.

An autism awareness lanyard dangles around her neck, as she echoes Showalter's statement that her story is just one of many. Shigley's own brother, CJ, has severe autism, while Shigley is diagnosed with mild to moderate autism.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), autism is a disorder that affects 1 in 59 children, but Showalter says its cause is still indefinite.

"Unfortunately, we do not have a super clear picture as to what causes autism," says Showalter. "At this point in time, in general, we know that there is a genetic component, and there's some sort of environmental component."

For instance, Shigley was more likely to have autism due to a sibling already having it, but as Showalter explains,

"it's not a 100% guarantee," since environmental factors also play a role. According to the CDC, it's also important to know that research does not back the claim that vaccines cause autism in children, a hotly contested debate since the 1990s.

Because of the variety of autism symptoms, diagnosis is difficult. The two main criteria for diagnosis are deficits in social communication and the appearance of rigid, repetitive behaviors, but individuals can display a range of symptoms within each of those categories. This explains how Shigley and her brother have two different diagnoses of autism.

Ben Schinner, whose sister, Meg Schinner, is a history major at Otterbein, is also considered to have "high-functioning" autism, similar to Shigley. However, their stories are different.

Shigley struggles to understand sarcasm, irony and tone of voice in conversations. She often seeks clarification in conversations by asking “You’re joking right?” While these instances are also hard for Ben, he struggles with speech inflections, eye contact and social skills. Still, others with severe autism may live in silence, communicating only through technology systems instead.

Both Shigley and Ben do have one thing in common: autism is not the only thing that defines their lives. Shigley enjoys crocheting and participating in the video game club at Otterbein. As the club’s social chair, she’s created fliers for the club that get hung around campus. She dreams of a career in freelance design, advertising and, “the big dream,” working for a graphic design company.

“I also want to use my art as an outlet to advocate for autism,” says Shigley.

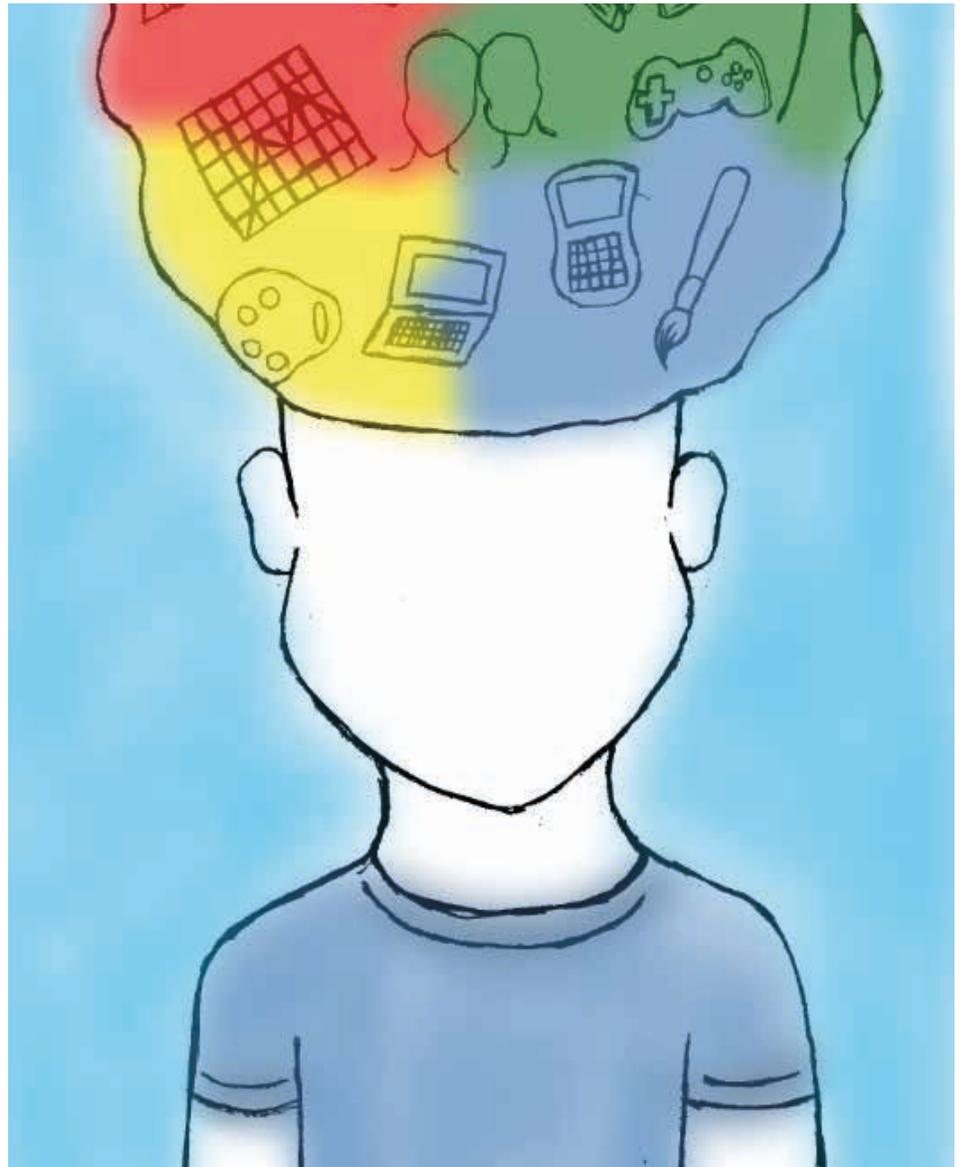
While Shigley is the artist, Ben is gifted in math and science. Those diagnosed with autism often have special interests that his sister explains as being “hyper-focused.” His special interests have included a strong focus on studying the periodic table, space, U.S. presidents and the color wheel. Unfortunately, he’s a terrible artist, Schinner explains with a laugh.

Ben also likes classic rock ‘n’ roll, has a great sense of humor and is studying at the University of Cleveland to be a voice actor, like the people who voice characters on cartoons and video games.

“We’re just like normal people,” says Shigley. “We have our own struggles, needs and desires. And honestly, we’re also social animals like any other human being. We just want support and caring.”

How can the world understand, advocate and be a friend to those who struggle with autism?

Showalter says the most important step in advocating for autism awareness is “being accepting and



open to what’s called neurodiversity, or the understanding that there are lots of different individuals who have different strengths and areas that are more difficult for them.”

It can be easy to think everyone is neurotypical, but in reality, there are more neurodiverse people than we think.

Neurodiversity can mean that someone with autism might struggle with “normal” social communication. Schinner notes that Ben can come across as harsh in his communication and may simply shut down when he doesn’t want to talk. Keeping in mind that someone may not be able to communicate a need for space or remembering to clarify when

something is a joke can be incredibly helpful for someone with autism.

“Treating them like people is always a huge thing that I think people struggle with because they know there’s a diagnosis there. But you treat your friend with a dyslexia diagnosis or an ADHD diagnosis the same way you treat all your other friends,” says Schinner.

This story is about people; people who have different gifts and interests, people who struggle and hurt, and people who just want a friend.

“Just be their friend. Just be there for them because we’re just like everyone else. We just want understanding and to be treated with respect and kindness,” concludes Shigley. ■



Behind closed doors

Overcoming a lifetime of hardship

Aselya Sposato '21
Photos by Aselya Sposato '21

Aaron Ackley lopes across the lawn of the small house on the corner of West Elm Street and South Water Street, slowly letting his eyes roam over the faded white siding and sky-blue shutters. He pauses briefly to take a drag off the hand-rolled cigarette balanced between his fingers, the smoke curling against the backdrop of the early winter sky.

At first glance, he appears thoughtful, nostalgic even. Yet a closer look reveals eyes that are empty, and lips fixed downward in a faint frown.



For Ackley, nicknamed “Doc” by a childhood friend, the house is just that: a house but not a home. Temporarily lent to him by his grandmother just over a year ago, Ackley had nearly been homeless, squatting in a bedroom with nothing but a sleeping bag on the bare floor, a backpack tossed in the corner and a rusty heater shoved against the wood paneling.

Ackley, now 38, is a transfer student at Otterbein and is often misclassified as a vagrant by his peers.

After enrolling as a computer science major halfway through the summer of 2018, he said goodbye to the house on the corner of West Elm and South Water, moved on-campus and took a giant leap of faith in furthering his academic career.

Ackley has had a thirst for knowledge ever since he was a kid, often conducting homemade science experiments and submitting patent applications for his make-shift inventions at the age of 12.

As a native of Washington Courthouse, a small farming community in Fayette County, Ohio, it didn’t take much for Ackley, his rampant imagination and lanky, six-foot frame to stand out. Growing up as the middle child in a household of two brothers and a father with alcohol and narcotics addictions, Ackley struggled with feelings of detachment and a sense of rebellion for much of his teen years, sometimes sneaking out of his house at night and getting into run-ins with the law.

“I kind of think of it as a small-town America mindset, where everybody knows everybody,” says Ackley. “Yet at the same time, if you’re not well-known, then it’s

hard to advance in that type of community.”

By the time he graduated from Washington Senior High School in 2000, Ackley had started work at a factory making pump dispensers, a job that nearly drove him insane but allowed him to save enough money to enroll at Ohio State University. However, he’d only spent a semester there before the 9/11 terrorist attacks rattled the nation’s economy, making it impossible for Ackley to continue paying tuition.

He spent much of the next five years doing some serious soul-searching, not interested in getting married or having kids, but working odd jobs at fast-food restaurants, journaling and crashing on friends’ couches each night instead.

“I couldn’t be satisfied with just getting into work,” says Ackley. “It was like a weird, barbed-wire cage feeling. I didn’t know what to do. I just wanted to use the time to feel good about the adult I was becoming.”

In 2007, Ackley joined the Army to continue his schooling. Four months of basic

training later, he was shipped off to Fort Bragg, South Carolina as a member of the 82nd Airborne Division, where he spent the next eight years as a mechanic and occasionally dabbling in media operations.

When a car accident left him with a broken ankle that ended his military career, Ackley picked up an associate's degree in science at Columbus State and eventually wound up back in Washington Courthouse, working at a McDonald's and struggling to provide for his newly pregnant girlfriend, who later suffered a miscarriage.

That's where the original push to take classes at Otterbein came in.

"I knew I couldn't just hang out and work at McDonald's and support a family," says Ackley. "An actual career path seemed the only way to do it."

After working with the Columbus Veteran Affairs office, Ackley gained approval to take classes through its vocational rehabilitation program and started as a computer science major in the summer of 2018. Unable to afford on-campus housing, he spent the first few weeks of the summer semester making the hour-long commute from Washington Courthouse each day and barely making ends meet.

At roughly 15 years older than the rest of the student body, it wasn't easy for Ackley

to find a social circle. His scraggly beard, pierced ears and habit of walking around late at night picking up litter only lent to the "weird, old guy" persona he'd been labeled with.

Robert Gatti, the former dean of students and vice president for student affairs, knew about Ackley long before the two formally met.

"I'd get suspicious-person reports filed against him all the time," says Gatti. "People would always call him in. Yet the moment I first met him, I didn't feel apprehensive whatsoever. He just needed help getting over a bump in his life."

Ackley responds to this with empathy. "I don't let it hurt my feelings," he says, shrugging. "I just want them to pursue a view of the world that makes them feel safer."

After working with Gatti on getting a grant to afford living on campus, Ackley's slowly been claiming his stake at Otterbein, joining Otterbein University Student Government (OUSG), winning last year's student senator of the year award and becoming a member of the Gamer's Guild. Rather than growing accustomed to the university, in many ways, the university has instead grown accustomed to him.

Kerry Strayer, Ackley's transfer year seminar professor and one of his closest confidants on-campus, can recall a slew of

memories of what she calls "classic Aaron" moments.

"At a campus Senate meeting, the chaplain wasn't there to do the opening prayer, so the provost asked if someone else would do it," recalls Strayer. "Aaron shot up his hand and announced he was a Pagan. He led us in this chant that was very 'ohm ohm-like.' People didn't quite know what to do with that," she says, chuckling at the memory.

Despite the sideways glances, police reports and past trauma, Ackley says he wouldn't change a thing about his life so far. When asked what feeling he gets looking back at everything he's been through, he smiles softly and simply responds with, "Joy."

With just three semesters left in his academic career, Ackley's next mission after graduation is to journey out to Washington, working in digital studio production on Seattle's hot-spot music scene.



Back in Washington Courthouse, Ackley has finished his cigarette, watching as the ashes fall gently onto the dying grass. Giving the house a final glance, he turns away and slowly makes his way across the lawn in the opposite direction, never once looking back. ■



Remembering 'Big Nige'

Otterbein's #97, Nigel Chatman

Julia Grimm '22

Photos provided by Adam Prescott

There is a small sticker on the office door of Tim Doup, Otterbein's head football coach and assistant athletic director. It's cut in the shape of a football player wearing sunglasses, flexing his arms and sporting a red jersey with the number 97 on it. At the bottom, it reads "Big Nige."

This is an everyday reminder of the fun-loving and competitive young man Doup once knew: Nigel Chatman.

Chatman, then a sophomore at Otterbein, died last fall in a car accident. He was a football player, member of the speech and debate team and was working toward his degree in communication studies.

Football, like many other things in his life, was something Chatman was determined to give his all toward. When he wasn't put in as a starter on game days, he was visibly upset, but that passion and drive only pushed him to work harder. He was known for dancing around the locker room in his cleats during a break. Coach Doup calls it his favorite memory of Chatman.

"He was the life of the party," says Doup. "He was our spiritual leader, our guy that was our motivator, a competitor and one of the funniest people I've ever been around. He could make a bad day into a good day."

Chatman brought this mentality to other activities he was involved in too.

Susan Millsap, professor of communication and advisor of the speech and debate team, recalls how Chatman would reach out to his fellow debaters, including one of his teammates who had a hard time sticking up for herself.

"He would turn to her and say, 'You need to speak up. Come on. You need to say something. Don't let them talk over you,'" says Millsap with a laugh.

In remembrance of their loud, happy and boisterous friend, members of the football team and other students keep special reminders of him around, including the idea that they "play big" for him.

"I don't feel sorry for us," says Doup. "I feel sorry for the people that never met him." ■



Photo by Katie Frame

Otterbein Student Media



WOBN is the student-run radio station of Otterbein University that broadcasts on 97.5 FM. WOBN broadcasts to the Otterbein and Westerville community and can be streamed live anywhere in the world from WOBN.net. Student showcases play a wide variety of music, from national stars to local artists, with general airplay focusing on modern alternative. WOBN is the exclusive radio home for Otterbein athletics, broadcasting all football games, and most men's and women's basketball and baseball games, as well as select lacrosse games.

T&C Media is a student-run news organization serving the Otterbein University community that seeks to provide accurate and reliable coverage of events and issues affecting the campus community.

T&C Media is not only an extra-curricular activity, but also a service to the college community in general and the student body in particular. All students are eligible to be involved in all aspects of production.

