

2014

University Update - July 2, 2014

Kathy Krendl
Otterbein University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/university_updates



Part of the [Educational Leadership Commons](#), and the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Krendl, Kathy, "University Update - July 2, 2014" (2014). *University Updates & Communications from the University President*. 23.
http://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/university_updates/23

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Documents & Records at Digital Commons @ Otterbein. It has been accepted for inclusion in University Updates & Communications from the University President by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Otterbein. For more information, please contact shickey@otterbein.edu.

Otterbein University Update
President Kathy A. Krendl
July 2, 2014

On July 2, 1776, the Second Continental Congress voted for the legal separation of the 13 Colonies from Great Britain by approving a resolution proposed by Richard Henry Lee, a delegate from Virginia. Mr. John Adams, the future second president of the United States, wrote the following to his wife Abigail on July 3rd:

The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more.

Although the Declaration of Independence was formally ratified on the fourth, the words of John Adams hold true. Year after year, throughout the generations, Americans have faithfully marked the birth of our country with festivities, fireworks and family gatherings. We have much to celebrate as an Otterbein community as well. Whether you choose to spend Independence Day with friends and family or by just having quiet time alone, I wish you a wonderful 4th of July holiday!

Organizational Structure Changes Announced

At the May 17, 2014, meeting of the Otterbein Board of Trustees, the strategic plan for Otterbein University was finalized and approved. The strategic plan affirms the University's Strategic Priorities and Goals including:

- Enhance Student Success
- Strengthen Academic Excellence
- Build a Model Community
- Improve Financial Strength

In an effort to improve the alignment of the organizational structure with strategic priorities, I am pleased to announce the following organizational changes:

Effective July 1, 2014, the Student Accounts Office, currently a service area of the Division of Business Affairs, will report to the Division of Enrollment Management under the direction of Vice President for Enrollment Management Jefferson Blackburn-Smith. The Student Accounts Office is staffed by Judy Ralph, Vicky Degen and Kelly Dolin. Beyond a simple co-location of Student Accounts and Student Financial Aid in Barlow Hall, with this reorganization the University will establish an Office of Student Financial Services, giving students a single office to visit to manage their financial aid and account. Judy Ralph and Vicky Degen will move to this new office in Barlow Hall this summer. Kelly Dolin will continue to oversee the cashier function. Cashier and accounts receivable functions will remain with the Controller's office located at 25 W. Home Street. The goal of this re-alignment is to improve service to our students which ultimately **enhances student success**.

Also, effective July 1, 2014, the Office of Human Resources will report to the President's Office under the direction of Kristine Robbins, Chief of Staff. This change in reporting relationship will highlight the strategic priority of **building a model community** which includes investing in human resources. Ms. Robbins has more than 25 years of experience in the field of human resource management in both the

public and private sectors with the last 10 years focusing on leadership and professional development. The physical location of the Office of Human Resources will remain at 25 W. Home Street. The partnership between Business Affairs and Human Resources will continue to be essential in areas including compliance, total compensation, and risk management.

The Division of Business Affairs will continue to focus on the strategic priority of **improving financial strength** as we establish a sustainable model for Otterbein University, improve core business systems and processes, and manage and allocate resources in accordance with strategic priorities.

The Division of Business Affairs will consolidate the former Service Department , Mail and Printing Services, and the Bookstore to become the Office of Facilities Management and Planning under the leadership of a new Executive Director for Facilities, Planning and Management. This new position to be filled this summer is supported by the consolidation of vacant positions within the division. This new leadership position will focus on institutional planning and management to support those responsible for facilities and auxiliary operations. This position will refine the organizational structure to support effective stewardship of existing assets, progress toward identified master plan concepts and high quality service to academic and administrative offices. Additionally, this position will support the Vice President in various community engagement efforts. This change will strengthen efforts to **improve financial strength** and **build a model community**.

In an effort to better protect the financial, physical, human and environmental resources of Otterbein, the University will coordinate risk management efforts through the Division of Business Affairs under the leadership of Kalinda Watson, Director of Risk Management. The newly created Risk Management Office (RMO) will manage environmental health and safety, University contracts, and coordinate efforts to prevent, minimize and control the risk of damage and loss to the University's employees, students, physical and financial assets through the identification and analysis of risk and development and implementation of programs, policies and procedures. Ms. Watson and Tara Grove will staff the RMO. Ms. Grove formerly served as the University's Chemical Hygiene Officer. In supporting the risk management initiative, Tara will serve an expanded role as the Environmental Health and Safety Officer focusing on: environmental compliance, occupational health and safety, radiation safety, regulated waste management, industrial hygiene, life safety and emergency response.

Information Technology and Services (ITS) Update

We are pleased to inform you that the Information Technology and Services Department increased internet bandwidth by 50% so faculty, staff and students can now enjoy faster internet access and downloads. ITS also upgraded to the newest release of Blackboard Learn, so all the latest product enhancements and features are now available. In addition, ITS licensed the mobile app for iOS and Android smartphones and tablets. Faculty and students can now download the Blackboard Mobile Learn app for free on an unlimited number of devices.

Enrollment Update

Below is an update from the Division of Enrollment Management:

Summer registrations (749) are up slightly from last year, both in headcount and credit hours. The increase reflects 23 additional undergraduates which is an almost 8% increase.

Total fall registrations for continuing students (1,685) are down 2.25% from last year in headcount and 3.29% in credit hours.

New students for Fall 2014: Graduate admits are up. Freshman confirmations are down. The freshman class will include more students of color, male students, and students from Columbus City Schools. Transfer confirmations are up slightly and adult registrations are down slightly. International confirmations which include both freshman and transfer students are up. Additional details will be forthcoming in August as we continue to work aggressively to recruit the class.

Comings and Goings

Otterbein University welcomed our new **Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Miguel Martinez-Saenz** on June 1, 2014. Dr. Martinez-Saenz's office is located in Roush Hall on the third floor. He and his family are getting settled into their new home in Westerville. I know you will do your best to make them feel welcomed in their new community.

The Division of Academic Affairs said farewell to **Griffin Pierce** (G.A. - Library), **erica Whitaker** (Visiting Assistant Professor – Mathematical Sciences), **Mary Gahbauer** (FT Faculty – Biology), **Gina Osterloh** (FT Faculty – Art), **Alice Wiemers** (Instructor – History/Political Science), **Steven Walker** (Collection Registrar - Art), **Dana White** (Technical Director – Theatre), **Amy Grooms** (Registration Services Specialist – Registrar), **Ann Teske** (Associate Professor – Nursing) and **Barb Cornett** (Professor – Nursing).

The **Division of Institutional Advancement** has welcomed new staff in each of its departments. **Jennifer Nettles** has been hired to serve as the Director, Advancement Research. She will be assisting the development staff in identifying and profiling prospects in support of the campaign. Jen earned both her B.S. and M.B.A. from Franklin University.

Dana Madden Viglietta '96 will serve as the Assistant Director of Alumni Engagement. She previously worked at WOSU in major gifts and media relations.

Kara Anderson has been promoted to Director of Development for Constituent Engagement. Kara has been a member of the Alumni Relations staff since 2010.

Jeff Bell joins the Office of Marketing and Communications as a part-time Senior Writer. He recently retired from *Business First* where he served as a journalist for 13 years. He started his writing career with the *Newark Advocate* and then moved into higher education communications at Kenyon College. He served as the advisor to their student newspaper as well as Denison University's paper for eight years.

Daniel Eddy will serve as the Assistant Director of Constituent Communication. He is a recent graduate of The Ohio State University, was deployed in Baghdad, Iraq, and has worked with the Ohio National Guard Public Affairs Office, Ohio State College of Public Health and Fahlgren Mortine.

Doug Babcock '93 is returning to his alma mater to serve as the Director of Development for Corporate/Foundation/Community Partnerships. He will work to establish long-term partnerships, strengthen existing relationships and initiate new contacts within the private and public sectors, as well as other key constituencies that will result in funding for the immediate and long-term goals of the University. Doug received his M.A. from Ohio University and his J.D. from Ohio State. He has spent most of his career in Washington, D.C. and most recently served as the senior legislative assistant to Senator Sherrod Brown.

Bryn Allen '16 is serving as a development intern this summer. She is piloting the institution's Discovery Project, which involves interviewing alumni to learn more about their attitudes toward the University in order to widen the number of alumni engaged with Otterbein. Bryn is a finance major and serves on the Budget Committee.

Otterbein Police Department welcomes new police **Officer Kevin Rigano** to the ranks of OPD. Kevin started work on June 9th. He attended the University of Akron where he earned an Associate Degree for Applied Sciences in Criminal Justice. He received his police certification from the Delaware Area Career Center in August of 2013.

The Office of Human Resources recently welcomed **Diane Hanselman** to her position as Payroll Coordinator. Diane is a graduate of Westerville South High School and resides in Westerville. Her previous employers include Midwest and Fusionstorm.

Marilyn Williams, Administrative Assistant in the Center for Career and Professional Development, retired on June 30 after 28 years of providing exemplary service to Otterbein. Known for her warm smile and friendly disposition, Marilyn played an integral role in the Center's operations. She was committed to providing outstanding customer service and contributed in innumerable ways to the campus community. Always kind and willing to lend a hand, Marilyn is highly regarded by students, alumni, faculty and staff. She will be greatly missed. We wish her much luck in her retirement.

The Division of Enrollment Management wishes **Mary Kay Freshour** a fond farewell as she embarks on her retirement effective June 30, 2014. Mary Kay and her husband are both Otterbein graduates and have served the University for over two decades. Mary Kay served as Associate Director of Financial Aid. She was uplifting, dedicated, and was all about parents and students. She will be sadly missed by all who had the opportunity to interact with her.

Save the Date

Please mark your calendar to attend the **Welcome Back Celebration** on the morning of **Monday, August 18, 2014**, to launch the 2014-15 academic year. More information will be available this summer. As always, if you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me or a member of Cabinet.

Sincerely,
President Krendl

Otterbein University Vision

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

Otterbein University Mission

Otterbein is an inclusive community dedicated to educating the whole person in the context of humane values. Our mission is to prepare graduates to think deeply and broadly, to engage locally and globally, and to advance their professions and communities. An Otterbein education is distinguished by the intentional blending of the liberal arts and professional studies, combined with a unique approach to integrating direct experience into all learning.