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### University Update - November 11, 2013

Kathy Krendl  
*Otterbein University*

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**Otterbein University**  
**University Update**  
**President Kathy A. Krendl**  
**November 11, 2013**

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Today we honor our veterans and thank them for their service. We also recognize that as we near the final weeks of autumn semester, our calendars are filling up quickly with plans to celebrate Thanksgiving and seasonal events. Although the end of the semester coupled with holiday gatherings can be intense, I hope that you get a chance to take a breath, relax, and enjoy the company of friends, colleagues, and family.

You may have received a special invitation for faculty and staff last week from our chaplain Rev. Dr. Judy Guion-Utsler to attend a service of quiet reflection as we enter into the holiday season. The Holden Evening Prayer is scheduled for Thursday, November 21, at 5:00 pm in the Chapel. It's an opportunity to come together as a community as we gear up for finals week and prepare for the holiday season. We hope you will join us.

**Lucy Cryan Named 2013 Vaughn Dann Fellow**

Congratulations to **Lucy Cryan** for being named the 2013 Vaughn Dann Fellow by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District V Conference Committee. The Vaughn Dann Fellowship is awarded to only one development professional, who has less than two years of experience in the field of Institutional Advancement, and shows specific promise toward contributing to the recipient's home institution and the district at large. Cryan will be recognized at the CASE District V (Great Lakes) Conference held in Chicago this December which hosts more than 1,400 advancement professionals from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. She also will receive a stipend to cover her tuition for the conference.

**Kara Anderson** is the only other person recognized as Otterbein staff to have ever received a fellowship from CASE District V. **Anderson** was named the 2010 Ray Willemain Fellow in Alumni Relations. CASE is one of the world's largest nonprofit educational associations and includes more than 3,600 colleges and universities, primary and secondary independent and international schools, and nonprofit organizations in 76 countries, and serves nearly 70,000 advancement professionals.

**The Big Give**

A **BIG** Thank You! to the 42 faculty and staff who participated in the Columbus Foundation's BIG Give and designated **\$12,938.85** to Otterbein University. Although this fundraising effort occurred in September, the detailed results and funds were released last week, which show that Otterbein received 167 donations totaling \$75,336.86 through foundation grants and credit card gifts. Because The Columbus Foundation paid the credit card fees and added money to every gift from a bonus pool, contributions to Otterbein total **\$86,195.32**. This is \$28,000 more than Otterbein received during the last BIG Give held in 2011.

This fund-raising effort was one of the major factors in the Otterbein University Annual Fund reporting **\$185,203** in contributions during the month of October. This is the second largest cash month for the Annual Fund, bested only by the \$197,221 recorded in December 2012. In total, 95 faculty and staff contributed \$16,408 to the \$357,425 in cash collected in the month of October designated for any program. **So far this year, 107 faculty and staff have contributed a total of \$27,845 to Otterbein University.**

### **Opportunity to Get Involved with the University Campaign**

At the University Summit, plans for the upcoming comprehensive campaign were outlined. However, there is still much to do to organize and prepare for the public launch of a long-term, sustained effort. To that end, members are being recruited to serve on a Faculty/Staff Advisory Committee. This ad-hoc committee will be a part of the overall University Campaign Committee and require five sub-committees that will discuss and plan how faculty and staff efforts will be focused during the campaign. The sub-committees will follow the five cycles of constituent engagement used by the Division of Institutional Advancement. For more information and to review the committee job description, [click here](#). Those interested in volunteering may contact Lucy Cryan, Campaign Logistic Coordinator, at [lcryan@otterbein.edu](mailto:lcryan@otterbein.edu).

### **Status of Immersive Term and Otterbein Calendar**

Although approved by the Curriculum Committee, Graduate Committee, and Administrative Council – committees comprised of elected faculty, staff, administrative, and student representatives – when brought before the full Senate, Bill 13/14-5 Proposal Related to Immersive Term Discussion and Approval was defeated by a vote of 78 against and 54 for the proposal. This outcome requires some careful consideration and consultation. You can expect a much more thorough and detailed update from me shortly. Thanks for your patience as I (we) work through this complicated issue.

### **Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Search Committee Update**

The search committee has been meeting at least two times per week to review the credentials of the 57 applicants. We are now in the process of identifying approximately 8 – 10 candidates to invite to interview via Skype in order to identify the 3 – 5 candidates that we will recommend to President Krendl for on-campus interviews. We hope to complete Skype interviews by the week of November 18. The committee has demonstrated a strong sense of alignment on the qualities and qualifications required for Otterbein's next Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, making the work a positive experience as we discuss the candidates. The willingness to listen to each other's points of view and work through each set of credentials to a common understanding of how the candidate might (or might not) benefit Otterbein has been a great example of belonging to a model community. The posting will remain open on our website until we have completed the search process to allow us the best possible pool of candidates.

### **Director of Human Resources Search Committee Named**

Bob Gatti, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students, and Kristi Robbins, Chief of Staff in the President's Office, have been named co-chairs of the search committee for the Director of Human Resources position which was posted on Monday, November 4, 2013. Search Committee members include Professor Don Eskew, Chair of Business, Accounting, and Economics Department, Elizabeth Zeitz, Collection Development and Acquisitions Coordinator (Library), Katherine Reichley, Assistant to the AVPAA for Accreditation and Assessment (Academic Affairs), and Gretchen Sasfy, Special Projects Assistant (Academic Affairs). The committee's charge is to review resumes, schedule candidate interviews, and create a list of finalists for President Krendl and Vice President of Business Affairs Rebecca Vazquez-Skillings to consider for the position. The goal is to have the search completed and position filled by the end of January 2014.

### **New Hires and Transitions**

Please join me in welcoming the following new employees to Otterbein:

- Doreen Bailey, Admission Counselor, Adult and Transfer Office
- Pamela Downing, Director of Advancement Technology, Institutional Advancement
- Andrea Horner, Stable Assistant, Equine Facility
- Charles O'Neil, Museum/Gallery Assistant, Art Department

As part of the ITS organizing for success plan, please join me in welcoming Tom Wilcox to the ITS team. Tom will be using his years of experience along with his knowledge of Blackboard products to improve student success at Otterbein. His technical skills will enhance our vendor relationship, increase system capabilities and establish institutional metrics for our learning management system. Tom will continue to assist faculty members with technical Blackboard issues while staff at the Center for Teaching and Learning remains available to help faculty explore ways they can enrich their courses with Blackboard and other technologies. Tom will also be leading the project to bring Blackboard in-house at Otterbein. This move will save the institution over \$25,000 per year, improve system performance and allow larger course content sizes. Tom's office is located in the lower level of Roush Hall room 015B adjacent to the ITS training room.

### **Join the Conversation**

The next *Join the Conversation* lunch is scheduled for Friday, November 15, 2013, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the 1847 Room with Vice President for Enrollment Management Jefferson Blackburn-Smith, who will be sharing information about the Strategic Enrollment Plan. Please mark your calendar and plan to join the conversation!

As always, if you have questions or need additional information about this University Update or any other topic, feel free to contact me or a member of Cabinet.