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University Update - May 2018

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Recommended Citation

Krendl, Kathy, "University Update - May 2018" (2018). *University Updates & Communications from the University President*. 45.

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Otterbein University Update
President Kathy A. Krendl
May 24, 2018

An Act of Kindness and then some...

I recently received a letter from a parent about one of our students. Here's what he wrote (names are deleted):

"It is with great pleasure that I write this letter. I want to pass along a good story. People are quick to complain but slow to praise.

One of your fine students showed great character in his actions. My son is an Otterbein student and drives a late model car. He got a call from the Otterbein Police stating that his car was hit in the parking lot and that a student left his name and contact information. My son contacted the student, who suggested a plan to get the car fixed. Even though he has insurance, the student took it on himself to purchase and install a bumper and a rear light cluster. He had to paint the bumper to match the car prior to installation.

I was surprised that he left his name, and I was amazed that he did not get his insurance company involved and did the work himself. I met him and thanked him for his honest and hard work on the car. The repairs look good. He is a fine example of the quality of students who attend Otterbein University."

I love hearing stories about our students. Often they are demonstrations of the strength of their character, their commitment to helping others. With our emphasis on acts of kindness this year, many stories have focused on the ways in which Otterbein students are poised to make a positive difference in the world.

As the Class of 2018 departs campus, we should celebrate their potential for positive action. I am immensely grateful for having had the privilege of working with them and being a member of this community.

SUSTAINABILITY

Rebecca Morro and **Julia Tegge**, under the supervision of **Dr. Heidi Ballard**, shared the results of their research on Otterbein's current efforts to address sustainability, one of Otterbein's core values. They surveyed students, faculty, and staff about their understanding of Otterbein's efforts to address sustainability related to food and waste management and recycling as well as developing a mechanism to identify courses that deal with issues and topics related to sustainability.

The students met with Cabinet to discuss their recommendations to address each area. The suggestion was to make their results available to the entire campus for review and discussion. Their presentation is attached.

I want to thank **Rebecca** and **Julia** for their work to improve the institution's sustainability efforts across campus.

ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARD

Over the course of the last year I have announced the recipient of the *Above and Beyond Award* in the University Update. Each division has had at least one awardee, nominated by the division leader, to be celebrated as that month's *Above and Beyond* role model. I have been very honored to announce the recipients and join them for lunch to thank them for their good work. However, as president of Otterbein, I have not had the opportunity to nominate someone for the award, and so in what is likely my last University Update and my last *Above and Beyond Award*, I am pleased to honor the members of Otterbein's Cabinet with this recognition:

Dave Bender
Jefferson Blackburn-Smith
Bob Gatti

Mike McGreevey
Kristi Robbins
Wendy Sherman Heckler

Rebecca Vazquez-Skillings

I am extremely grateful to the members of Cabinet for their patience, their diligence and their advocacy for Otterbein. They have worked well as a team, and as a result, Otterbein has realized important successes. We could not have achieved all that we have accomplished without their tireless efforts on behalf of the institution. We have all been fortunate to have such a dedicated group of individuals leading the institution.

Please join me in congratulating the entire Cabinet as the final 2017-18 *Above and Beyond Awardees*.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

It's May -- travel course season! We are thinking of our colleagues who are undertaking exciting adventures across the globe. This year, due to a generous estate gift, we were able to award 26 Otterbein students \$40,850 in funding to participate in activities to earn a "global and intercultural engagement" Card -- and many of these funds were for participation in travel courses.

Another global endeavor of note is the joint program between **Otterbein and the Shanghai Publishing and Printing College (SPPC)** that just got underway this year. As part of the Otterbein University-Shanghai Publishing & Printing College (SPPC) Joint Program, four Otterbein university faculty members--**Amanda Kline (Art)**, **Chaz O'Neil (Art)**, **Gwen DeRosa (ESL)**, and **Liz McMurray (ESL)**--are currently in Shanghai teaching at SPPC.

The Program is one in which SPPC students take nine courses over two years from Otterbein faculty. Some of these courses are taught face-to-face on SPPC's campus in May and others are taught online. This is the first year of the program, and there are 38 SPPC students in the year 1 cohort. Courses being taught include Drawing, Foundations of Time-Based Media, and English-language acquisition courses. SPPC is a three-year college, and the Joint Program is part of a 3 + 2 pathway for students to become degree-seeking students in the Studio Arts at Otterbein.



As the academic year comes to a close, we acknowledge the ongoing **collaboration between Otterbein's Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) and the Columbus City Schools District**. This year, the CTL expanded the joint faculty Professional Learning Community program to include both a PLC on quantitative reasoning with Eastmoor Academy, and another on developing writers with Eastmoor Academy and South High School. Students from South High School visited our campus on April 12th,

where they met with Otterbein students and faculty and participated in a writing and peer review exercise. On May 9, the Quantitative Reasoning PLC members were at Eastmoor to meet with students and talk with them about the high school-college transition, especially as it related to math courses. The Quantitative Literacy PLC members also wrote a grant proposal to bring enhanced technology to the classrooms at Eastmoor, and recently learned it was funded. Stay tuned for next year's opportunities to partner with our high school teaching colleagues in support of student learning and faculty development.



ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Summer census numbers for May term and 1st Term are up for undergraduate and graduate students. Fall 2018 undergraduate registrations (1,771) are up 104 or 6%. Graduate registrations (165) are down 9 or -5%. New first-year confirmations (612) are down slightly (-14, -2%) from this date last year. We are currently projecting an entering class of 590 – 600. Transfer applications (124) are up 4 for Fall. **Thank you to everyone who helps by meeting with students and families. We wouldn't have a class without your assistance.**

INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Several **classrooms and laboratories** across campus will see new technology installed during the summer months. The Battelle music lab and 33 Collegeview art lab will have new Apple computers installed. The entire first floor of the library will receive new PCs, Apple computers, and printers. The computers in the physics lab will be upgraded. The Point will have a new laptop cart with 30 computers. Roush 429 will become an Active Learning Lab for the education department with iPads, laptops, and interactive whiteboards. Twenty classrooms will be outfitted with new laser projectors. These projectors have rapid startup times (under 8 secs) and are sustainable with mercury-free LED bulbs that last 10 years. The sound, projection and control systems in Riley auditorium will be upgraded with new equipment.

My Ozone is the institutional intranet site (Ozone.Otterbein.edu). This site was migrated to a new platform in February. The new platform is mobile friendly with a modern look and feel. A year-long effort to convert the existing Sitefinity intranet pages is underway with over 60% of the department pages converted to date.

The newest version of Banner called **Banner 9 Administration** will be replacing Banner 8 INB with improved navigation and a modern user interface. This version will be available this month. Banner's document management (BDM) system will also be upgraded to support the new administrative release.

During the spring semester, a group of faculty piloted **Blackboard Learn Ultra**, the newest release of Blackboard. The group provided valuable feedback on the product. An expanded pilot will occur during the fall semester along with training sessions available to all faculty. The next two milestones are turning on the Ultra navigation followed by converting course shells to the Ultra format. If all goes well in the fall, the Ultra navigation could be turned on in December. Converting the course shells to Ultra has not been scheduled but would likely start in the summer of 2019.

Over the coming months the remainder of the **residence halls** will be upgraded from swipe card access to proximity card access. These access readers are more reliable and don't create physical wear on the card. In the summer of 2019, the academic buildings will start receiving this technology.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Positive momentum continues and the **Institutional Advancement** team is working hard for a strong close to FY18. Donors continue to support the University at a solid level, and our Otterbein Fund has regained ground in terms of dollars raised. Faculty and Staff giving is poised to reach an impressive goal of 60% this year. There is still time to be included.

As we push toward reaching our \$50 million goal (\$48.7M to date!), we look forward to sharing an analysis of campaign giving in the fall. This spring and in the coming months, we are pleased to coordinate several events to honor President Krendl, introduce our 21st president, host the grand re-opening of The Point, and ultimately, celebrate the success of the Where We STAND Matters campaign. A snapshot of recent gifts and commitments to the Where We STAND Matters Campaign:

- Nationwide Foundation - \$200,000 (The Point/Columbus City Schools programming)
- Steve and Patti Steinour 'P15 - \$125,000 (Scholarship)
- Reinberger Foundation - \$35,000 (Scholarship)
- The Joshua R. Worthington Scholarship Foundation - \$26,000 (Scholarship)
- Pi Beta Sigma \$77,000 (Scholarship)
- Numerous gifts and sponsorships from corporations and businesses in the Columbus area

Alumni Relations hosted the Grand Soiree, a celebration of Otterbein excellence and alumni achievement attended by over 400 guests. Highlights included special performances by our students, faculty and staff as well as celebrated alumni hosts Dee Hoty '74 and Craig Bennett Icsman '84. The Mary B. Thomas Commitment to Otterbein Award was presented to former Board Chair, Thomas C. '63 and Sarah K. Morrison. Many other alumni and friends were honored during the spectacular evening. For more information see: <http://www.otterbein.edu/public/Alumni/Awards.aspx>.

A **Donor Experience Survey** was sent to over 10,000 donors to better understand their personal experiences as Otterbein supporters. An in-depth analysis is underway, with the goal of delivering actionable strategies for the Institutional Advancement team.

Advancement Services and the annual giving team introduced several new engagement and giving approaches this spring. Among them, the addition of 'care calls' to our class of 2017 graduates, 'fulfillment calls' to those with open pledges, and a successful 'crowdfunding initiative' in partnership with Schneider's Donuts in late April .

The **Office of Development** recently received three bequest intentions totaling \$1.79 million. An informative planned giving newsletter, focusing on charitable giving after tax reform, was sent to 6,100 individuals. Since February, the development team has documented over \$2 million in anonymous gifts.

The **Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs** has received grants totaling \$210,000 since February.

The **Office of Marketing and Communications** welcomed a new Executive Director of Marketing and Communications in April. Roberto Ponce comes from Ashland University, with extensive experience in marketing and communications. The team is on track with the web rebuild project and appreciates the collaboration across campus with this important project. Otterbein hit an all-time high with several local and national stories mentioning the University in February and March, garnering a large amount of ongoing press coverage. The total ad value of the coverage exceeded \$11 million. The Kindness Matters Initiative and supporting values-based Otterbein messages have earned attention in Westerville and Columbus, as well as nationally.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

The **Center for Community Engagement** would like to highlight the partnership this year with the Bon Appetit Management Company at Otterbein. They have worked together to alleviate food insecurity for students and increase sustainability efforts across the campus landscape. Bon Appetit regularly keeps the shelves stocked at the Promise House with members' favorite foods including frozen meals, mac and cheese, hummus cups, and cereal. Together, Bon Appetit and the CCE have co-coordinated the end of semester "swipes" program, where students with extra meal swipes have donated thousands of meals to Promise House members. To educate Otterbein community members about reducing their environmental footprint, Bon Appetit has worked closely with the CCE to provide vegan and vegetarian options at events like Cardy Goes Green, Veggie Night at the Promise House, and at Otterbein's spring Earth Festival, sponsored by the CCE, Plan-it Earth, and the Animal Conservation Club through a Student Life Fee Grant. In efforts to reduce food waste generated at The Cardinal's Nest, Bon Appetit is now composting with a local company, who in turn, is donating compost back to Otterbein to fertilize the produce at the CCE's Community Garden.

Kudos to the **Athletic Department** for a successful spring season. **Softball** won its third-straight OAC regular-season title, ultimately finishing at 32-10 overall and reaching as high as No. 21 in the national rankings. The team had eight All-OAC selections, three all-region selections, and four players on the current Academic All-American ballot.

Baseball captured its third OAC title in the past three years, winning the regular-season crown after hitting 30 wins for a third-straight year. The team made the NCAA Mideast Regional, had 10 All-OAC selections, two all-region picks, and currently has two guys on the Academic All-American ballot.

Men's Golf won its fourth-straight OAC Championship and 20th in the past 26 years. The team later finished 13th at the NCAA Championships in Greensboro, where senior Austin Wells tied for third individually. It was the second-best performance ever for a Cardinal player.

Track and Field will be sending three student-athletes (**Claire Lamb, Emily Finnegan** and **Ian Kellogg**) to the NCAA Outdoor Championships later this week in Wisconsin. The program just received 13 all-region selections, including an impressive 11 on the women's side.

Jaden Lunger (men's soccer) and **Rachael Owens** (softball) represented Otterbein at the recent OAC Awards Dinner as our 2018 Clyde Lamb honorees, which are presented to the top male and female senior student-athletes at each of the 10 league institutions. **Lunger** helped lead **men's soccer** to the NCAA Sweet 16 while **Owens' softball** teams posted a combined record of 110-45-2 since her arrival.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Please join me in welcoming the following new members of the Otterbein community who joined us during spring semester:

Hannah Schnuerer, Equine Science
Zoe Jakobsky, Equine Science
Stephen Saunier, Graduate Admissions
Terri Jones, Counseling Center
Wesley Snow, Campus Operations
Jennifer Long, Athletics
Zachary Dunlap, Athletics
Warren Perkins, Police
Emily Hardwich, Equine Science
Tori Braughton, Equine Science
Kelly Muresan, Nursing
Roberto Ponce, Marketing and Communications
Alan Derikito, Police
Michelle Dippold, Center for Student Success
Aaron Kinney, Center for Student Success

The following individuals left their positions with Otterbein during spring semester. We wish them much success in their future endeavors:

Amy Witt, Student Financial Services
Frances Seevers, Nursing
Charles Smith, Business/Accounting/Economics
Thomas Macchi, Facilities Services
Addalie Bolyard, Copy Center
Laurie Mayhew, Office of the Registrar
Amber Young, Athletics
Jennifer Bartkus, Nursing
Evan McCullen, Equine Science
Tamara Lowks, President's Office
Matthew Grover, Information and Technology Services
Regina Smith, Athletics
Jeremy Morgan, Athletics
Mark Pfeiffer, Communications
Gary Brehm, Plant Operations and Maintenance

Finally, I want to thank **Jamie Gleich** and **Key Shakoor** from the **Human Resources Office** for their work on making the Service Recognition Luncheon so successful. Below is a photo of 169 stars with words of kindness written by those in attendance to another colleague and distributed around campus last week. Well done!



Thank you, again, for another great year, your hard work in caring for our students and the education they receive, and forwarding our mission. As always, if you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me or a member of Cabinet. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kathy A. Krendl in cursive script.

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.