

PUBLISHED BY OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY SINCE 1926

# Otterbein Towers

WINTER 2018

## THE POINT IS MADE

*Otterbein's Model  
of 21st Century  
Education*

**SPECIAL  
STAND  
CAMPAIGN  
IMPACT REPORT  
INSIDE**

A CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT JOHN COMERFORD | CAMPUS CENTER PLANS



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Happy Holidays!

I write this letter trusting that you are enjoying the holiday season and all that it brings with it — family, friends and a sense of gratitude.

In this issue of *Towers*, we are featuring three main stories, including an interview with the oldest member of the freshman class (that's me). Since I am only just beginning to get to know the Otterbein community, I want to take every possible opportunity to introduce myself. Hopefully you will learn a bit about my family and my aspirations for Otterbein through this interview (pg. 10).

My wife, Rachel, and I met when we both were residence hall directors, so I often tell a joke that Rachel and I run our household like a residence hall. She is the hall director and I handle grounds and maintenance, although we are flexible with these roles. When someone has a problem with their roommate, they have to talk to the hall director, when someone wants a meal, they have to swipe their card. But in all seriousness, usually, our conversations take place in our living room or kitchen, which is at the heart of our home.

Likewise, at Otterbein we are in need of a new heart for our home — a living room, if you will. That's why we are launching a campaign for a re-imagined Campus Center (pg.18), a place that will become the center of our campus community — a Campus Center for the 21st century where we can grow, build and belong together as a college family.

In this season of giving thanks, we are also celebrating the completion of The Point, a place that has become a fundamental component of Otterbein's 21st century liberal arts education (pg. 14). We are fortunate to have a space where companies, community, faculty and students converge to model the education that is shaping the workforce of the future.

Additionally, in this issue you will find a special STAND Campaign Report. I encourage you to read it and join us in our celebration as we exceeded our goal of \$50 million a year ahead of schedule.

As my first semester at Otterbein draws to a close, I am honored for the opportunity to help lead this fine institution and work alongside such a generous, kind, and engaged community. I hope you will grab a hot cocoa or eggnog, relax by the fire, and read more about the great things happening at your Otterbein home and with your Otterbein family.

Sincerely,



President John Comerford

From the  
Comerfords



## Mission Statement

Otterbein University 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.

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# Otterbein Towers

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## Features

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Husband, father and 21st president of Otterbein opens up about family and the future of Otterbein.

### 14 The Point is Made

The final phase of construction is complete, and The Point at Otterbein University is now home to 60,000 square feet of innovative ideas, partnerships, and collaborations.

### 19 Breathing New Life into the Campus Center

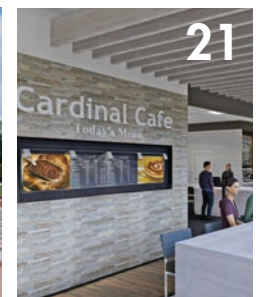
More than just a facelift, the renovation of the Campus Center, built in 1964, has been a part of the last two strategic plans for the University and is ready to make its way into the spotlight.

### 25 The STAND Campaign Impact Report

This 16-page special section presents numbers, a donor honor roll, and some of the wonderful opportunities made possible by the historical campaign.

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New giving societies have been created to honor all those who help shape Otterbein through their generous giving.



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### About the Cover

With the completion of construction, The Point is the new jewel at Otterbein, offering students everything they need to learn, tinker, experiment, build, test, and compete in tomorrow's economy. Learn about this unparalleled academic environment starting on page 14. Cover photo by AJ Brown Imaging.



# Seventy Five Issues...and a Sad Farewell

For the last 24 years, I've been privileged to play a part in producing *Towers* magazine for all of you. It started with the Spring 1995 issue, and sadly, it ends with this one, my 75<sup>th</sup> issue. At the end of January, I will travel to a faraway and unknown land called retirement.

Seventy five issues. Each one seemed to require at least some mixture of blood, sweat and tears. I have never minded giving them for it truly has been a labor of love. I feel honored to have had a wonderful view of the progression of Otterbein for these many years, watching how the institution has changed and grown, yet seeing the kernel, the soul of the place — the love — unchanged, strong and thriving.

In the early years I did much more writing, and I miss that. But not to worry, I plan on doing a lot of writing in retirement, and if I do happen to write the great American novel, maybe I can even get a blurb in the Book Corner in Classnotes. Hmmm, I just had a thought that if I set a novel in a quiet, peaceful village, would I have to pay royalties to Otterbein and the City of Westerville?

For most of my time here, I served as both the editor and graphic designer for *Towers*. In the '90s that was not unusual for a small college magazine, but is mostly unheard of now. I gave up being editor a few years back so I would have more time to focus on design.

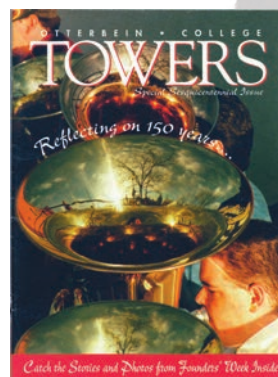
Some issues stick out to me for various reasons. The Spring-Summer 1997 issue, which featured coverage of Otterbein's Sesquicentennial (150 years), was probably the biggest ever at that point, with 56 pages full of photos of Otterbein celebrating a milestone. Incidentally, this issue may be the biggest ever at 68 total pages. So much has been happening that we've got a lot to share with you!

The Spring 2000 issue was exceptionally challenging, as we explored diversity on campus and listened to the voices of our students and faculty of color talking about some of the issues they were facing in a predominantly white campus setting. I learned so much and was truly enriched and transformed in doing that issue. I hope others were, as well, in reading it.

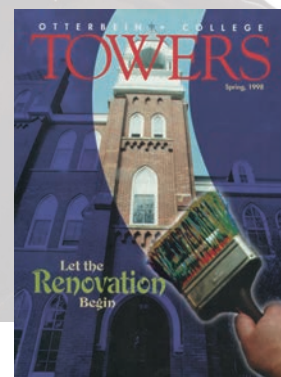
The Fall 2010 issue was exciting for me because we did a complete redesign of *Towers*. In the near future I'm sure my successor will once again recast this publication that's over 90 years old, and that it will be more beautiful than ever.

I have my favorite covers as well. My hand holding a paint brush makes an appearance on the cover of the Spring 1998 issue, which announced the renovation of Towers Hall. The raw emotion of winning a national championship in basketball (Spring 2002) was a moment beautifully captured in time. The haunting beauty of the Fall 2006 cover, which featured a photo from *Ground Zero* by Joel Meyerowitz, is beyond words. And in contrast, there is the unmitigated fun of the cover of Fall 2011, which re-created a Norman Rockwell painting of Thanksgiving with President Krendl and other Otterbein folks.

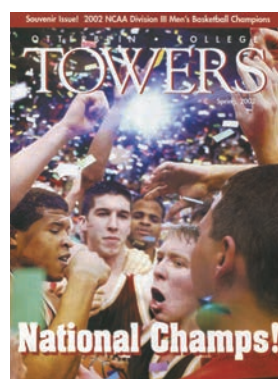
Goodbyes are always hard for me, so let us not linger on that. I will simply say a heartfelt thanks to Otterbein, for taking me in so many years ago, for abiding my creative quirks and oddities throughout, and for accepting me and standing with me and nourishing my mind, my heart and my soul. Otterbein, may you ever stand serene 'mid tree tops green. I will miss you dearly. ~ Roger Routson



Spring-Summer 1997



Spring 1998



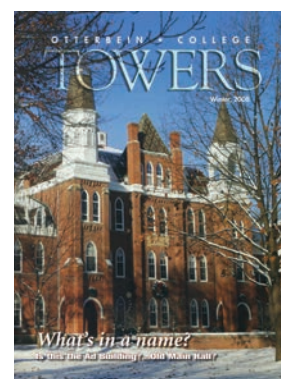
Spring 2002



Summer 2005



Fall 2006



Winter 2008



Spring 2011



Fall 2011





# WE ARE committed to opportunity.

You know Otterbein. We have always worked to make sure every student who wants a college education has the opportunity to earn that dream. We created partnerships that offer true access to more students. We provide one of the most affordable programs in the state to a four-year degree. And now, we're broadening our commitment — to guarantee more opportunity through scholarships and to be completely transparent in the cost of tuition. We believe a college education is every student's right. **This is the Otterbein commitment.**

# Only Otterbein.



OTTERBEIN  
UNIVERSITY

Learn more:  
[Otterbein.edu/affordability](https://Otterbein.edu/affordability)



compiled by Jenny Hill '05



# Welcome, Otterbein Class of 2022

This fall, members of the class of 2022 traveled to Westerville from 25 states and 61 Ohio counties to settle into their new home at Otterbein. This class sets a new record for most diverse Otterbein class, for the fifth year in a row, thanks to intentional efforts by the Division of Enrollment Management. The class of approximately 576 students exceeds 23

percent students of color. Overall diversity at Otterbein is 20 percent across all classes.

True to Otterbein's commitment to access and affordability, 34 percent of the entering class is eligible for the federal Pell grant.

The class not only represents a broad range of backgrounds, it's also a high

achieving class academically. The average GPA of the class is 3.63.

Otterbein also has 16 new international students this fall and two international scholars, representing six countries. The students come from Australia, China, Germany, Japan, Netherlands and Taiwan.





# JPMorgan Chase Partners with The Point

Otterbein University is leading an effort in the heart of Westerville to unite innovative research and development with a liberal arts approach to problem solving and education. An unprecedented partnership between Otterbein, JPMorgan Chase, the City of Westerville and JobsOhio will establish a financial technology (fintech) research and development arm of JPMorgan Chase at The Point at Otterbein. The partnership

was announced at a joint press conference on Sept. 21.

The partnership will create a unique, forward-thinking educational opportunity for students, as well as 75-100 full-time jobs. Twenty percent of each project team working at The Point will be made up of Otterbein students from all disciplines. Projects will cover fintech research and development topics, including robotics through Otterbein's automation lab in systems engineering,

software development, testing and support, design, user interface and more.

The partnership also includes the City of Westerville, which has worked with The Point on strategic initiatives for economic development. JPMorgan Chase is the largest employer in the City of Westerville.

Read more about The Point at Otterbein and the JPMorgan Chase partnership on page 14.



Valentina Isakina, managing director for financial services, JobsOhio; John Comerford, president, Otterbein University; **Kathy Krendl H'18**, president emerita, Otterbein University; Corrine Burger, Columbus location leader and chief control

officer for JPMorgan Chase's Consumer and Community Bank; David Collinsworth, city manager, City of Westerville; Erin Bender, executive director, The Point at Otterbein; Jason Bechtold, economic development director, City of Westerville.

## Comings and Goings on the Board of Trustees

In October, the Otterbein Board of Trustees welcomed five new trustees: **Kaitlyn Brooks '20**, student trustee; **Jim Francis '71**, president, J&L Fran Enterprises, LLC; **Dan Gifford '88 P'21**, CFO, DASCO; **Theresa Harris**, president and CEO, TMH Solutions, LLC; **Meredith**

**Marshall '21**, student trustee (effective Jan. 1, 2019); and **Dr. Mindy Phinney '85**, physician, NE Ohio Nephrology Associates.

The board also said thank you and farewell to three trustees. **Jim Rutherford P'99** served on the Board

since 2012, **Melissa Dawn Simkins '99** served since 2014, and student trustee **Rebekah Perry '18** was appointed to the board during her first year (2015-16) at Otterbein. The terms of Rutherford, Simkins and Perry end on Dec. 31, 2018.





President John Comerford presents the Model Community Family Award to Belinda Kay Paul. Her son, **Jeremy Paul '20**, nominated her.



**Alec Arnett '22** nominated his father, **Andrew Todd Arnett**, for the Model Community Family Award, and is joined by President Comerford.

## Model Family Community Members Honored

The Model Community Family Award, presented by Otterbein University, provides students with an opportunity to recognize parents, step-parents or guardians whose presence, endeavors, dedication and care have contributed to their personal development and academic success. The 2018 recipients are Belinda Kay Paul and Andrew Todd Arnett.

Belinda Kay Paul was nominated by her son and Otterbein senior, Jeremy Paul, for her unwavering support of her family. Belinda made the decision to take care of her ailing father even though it meant being separated from her husband and

children another state away. Then, taking that experience, she went back to school to become a State Tested Nurse Assistant.

In his nomination, Jeremy wrote: "My mother gave two years of her life, two years of her marriage, to my family in the time that they needed it most. I'm not sure how my family could have done it without her. Through my weakest, most vulnerable points, my mom has been my rock. She encouraged me to take on tasks that I never thought possible. She has taught me that you are never too old to make a difference and that, while it may be difficult, working to positively impact the life of others, no

matter the variables in the world around us, is the best way to honor those that we love and support."

First-year Otterbein student Alec Arnett nominated his father Andrew Todd Arnett for the tireless efforts he puts forth in running a softball tournament that funds a scholarship program in Portsmouth West High School. The tournament was started in the memory of Alec's mother and Andrew's wife, who passed away in 2014.

In his nomination, Alec wrote: "As of 2018, my father has awarded 12 scholarships, amounting to \$12,000 collectively. My dad lost the love of his life, the mother of his children, and our family dynamic changed dramatically, but he picked himself back up and made a positive out of the situation. He took over the helm of the softball tournament and used it not only to allow hundreds of teenage girls to grow and excel in their sport and to make heartfelt memories, but he used the profits to fund the scholarship. This is what I have learned from my father: when life knocks you down, pick yourself back up and find a way to prosper and help another person."

Congratulations to the 2018 Otterbein Model Community Family Award recipients Belinda Kay Paul and Andrew Todd Arnett.



## Happy Anniversary!

Otterbein is proud to wish a happy anniversary to these outstanding programs!

**THE OTTERBEIN FUND**  
EVERY GIFT MATTERS.  
EVERY YEAR MATTERS.

**Otterbein FUND**  
**70 Years**



**WOBN**  
**70 Years**



**ROTC**  
**65 Years**



Colson Whitehead's Pulitzer Prize-Winning Common Book 2018

# *The Underground Railroad*

By Aselya Sposato '21

Otterbein University's Common Book program welcomed Pulitzer Prize-winning author Colson Whitehead to campus on Oct. 23. Nearly all seats in Fritsche Theatre at Cowan Hall were filled with students who eagerly awaited the annual Common Book Convocation, where Whitehead spoke about his career as a writer and his latest novel and 2018 Common Book, *The Underground Railroad*.

In *The Underground Railroad*, Whitehead tells the story of a young female protagonist combating slavery in a fictional America. He examines the concept of female enslavement and the unique challenges women are faced with in his modern re-telling of American history.

"As a kid, I always thought the Underground Railroad was a subterranean system," said Whitehead. "These words are so evocative that I wanted to explore that and make it live that way on page. If I told a straightforward story, I couldn't have re-cast history and made a different conversation by moving things around."

*The Underground Railroad* went on to become a *New York Times* bestseller, a National Book Award winner, and a Pulitzer Prize winner. His other works have appeared in publications like *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *New York Magazine* and *Harper's*.

Whitehead's lecture also recounted his personal struggles and his journey to pursue a career as a novelist. Despite facing pressure to seek a traditional career path, he began writing in high

school and found a job in news writing after graduating from college. In the last 20 years, Whitehead has published eight books and taught at multiple universities across the country, including Columbia University and Princeton University.

"No matter what you do, someone else smarter than you has already done it," said Whitehead. "But that doesn't matter. You just have to trust in your own narrative and point of view to invigorate your process and spark your successes."

The convocation sparked questions from students about today's social climate, including questions regarding racism and diversity. Both topics are affiliated with Otterbein's commitment to equity and inclusion. Through campus resources like the African American Student Union and Office of Social Justice and Activism, the university is dedicated to being available to students to talk about these issues.

For more information about Colson Whitehead, visit [colsonwhitehead.com](http://colsonwhitehead.com). For more information about the Common Book program, visit [otterbein.libguides.com/CommonBookOU](http://otterbein.libguides.com/CommonBookOU).



Colson Whitehead signs the framed copy of his book and his photo to join the other 23 Common Books on the walls of the Courtright Memorial Library.

"YOU JUST HAVE TO TRUST IN YOUR OWN NARRATIVE AND POINT OF VIEW TO INVIGORATE YOUR PROCESS AND SPARK YOUR SUCCESSES."



# CHAMPIONS LIVE HERE



This fall, Otterbein fielded **four OAC champions: men's and women's cross country, women's soccer, and volleyball.** The women's cross country team won the championship for the fourth year in a row, while the men's cross country team brought home the championship for the first time since 2004. Women's soccer sported a stellar 14-2-1 record overall while going 8-0-1 in the OAC. Volleyball went 20-7 overall and 8-1 in the OAC. Congratulations to the champs!

Some highlights of note in Athletics include:

- Otterbein has had 80 OAC Team Championships and 44 NCAA appearances since 2000; and 28 OAC Coaches of the Year and 31 Athletic All-Americans since 2010.
- 356 student-athletes held a GPA of 3.0 or better in 2017-18 and

Otterbein has had 31 Academic All-Americans since 2010. Meanwhile our student-athletes gave back 2,177 community service hours with their teams last year.

- 31 percent of the most recent incoming first-year class are student-athletes.

Otterbein University inducted its 11th class into the Athletics Hall of Fame on Oct. 13. Honorees in that most recent class include:

- **Harold Anderson '1924** - multiple sports.
- **Catherine Brunoehler Van Der Weide '11** - women's golf.
- **Wayne Cummerlander '80** - football.
- **C. Brent DeVore H'86** - leadership.
- **Kirk McDonald '85** - baseball.



Members of the Otterbein Women's Soccer team exult after scoring a goal.

## Canadian Broadcasting on Campus



Residents of the 12th Congressional District discuss American politics for a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation program, which was recorded at The Point.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), the national public broadcaster for Canada, came to Otterbein University's campus Oct. 22 and 23 to film a panel interview about the midterm elections with voters from Ohio's 12th Congressional District.

The CBC crew set up their studio at The Point at Otterbein, where six voters representing different political affiliations sat down with Rosemary Barton of *The National*, the network's flagship show. The show is Canada's most respected news and documentary program, due in considerable part to its emphasis on international coverage.

CBC chose Westerville because of the close results of the special election to fill a vacant seat in the 12th Congressional District on Aug. 7, which suggest that there is a fairly even blend of political affiliations in the district.

Watch Otterbein's social media channels for the announcement when the show is posted. The program will be available to view online at [www.cbc.ca/news/thenational](http://www.cbc.ca/news/thenational).



# Otterbein Named College of Distinction

Otterbein University has been recognized for its committed implementation of high-impact educational practices, earning its title as one of the nation's Colleges of Distinction. Additionally, Otterbein has received program-specific recognition in Business, Education, Nursing and Engineering.

"Our students and alumni already know what a remarkable education and community Otterbein provides. Now, with the recognition as a College of Distinction, we hope that word about our model program continues to spread," said Otterbein President John Comerford.

In the *U.S. News & World Report* 2019 edition of "America's Best Colleges," Otterbein is ranked in the top 10 percent among 171 peers in the Regional Universities—Midwest category and once again named a "Best Value School" and an "A+ Schools for B Students."

Otterbein ranked 17th overall; 11th in its category on the "Best Colleges for Veterans" list; and premiered at 9th in its category for "A Strong Commitment to Undergraduate Teaching."

"We strive to create opportunities for students from all backgrounds, so we are honored to not only rank in the top 10, but also to be named a Best Value School and A+ School for B Students," said Comerford. "This reaffirms our values as we continue working in the right direction towards opportunity, diversity, inclusion and academic excellence."

Otterbein came in third in the nation and first in the medium-sized school category in the *Forbes* #MyTopCollege competition. For eight weeks, starting June 18, *Forbes* asked students, alumni, faculty and parents to share why their school is #MyTopCollege, using visuals and words on social media. Otterbein pulled in more than 250 posts.



Finally, Otterbein was awarded a silver seal from the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge for having a student voting rate between 60-69 percent. This is an outstanding achievement thanks to the efforts of the university's Center for Community Engagement.

## Nursing Graduates are Ready for Careers

The Department of Nursing has had a lot to celebrate in its 40 years of excellence, including licensure and certification pass rates well above the national average. In fact, the spring 2018 nursing graduates achieved 100 percent pass rates for initial RN license, Family Nurse Practitioner national certification, and Nurse Anesthesia national certification.

Otterbein's perfect pass rate is impressive considering the national pass rate for RN licensure (NCLEX) is 89.42 percent, Family Nurse Practitioner national certification is 82.9 percent, and Nurse Anesthesia certification is 82.6 percent.



This trend is expected to continue for additional students with the addition of the new Psychiatric and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program. This new program will expand Otterbein's reach into the healthcare arena by preparing new providers in behavioral health. See the Graduate Nursing Education page of the Otterbein website for more information.

Currently, there are 209 students enrolled in Otterbein's Graduate Nursing programs (MSN and DNP); 202 students enrolled in the undergraduate nursing major (BSN); and 85 freshman pre-nursing majors.







# John L. Comerford

**HUSBAND, FATHER AND 21<sup>ST</sup> PRESIDENT  
OF OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY**

*John Comerford, president of Otterbein University, talked to Roberto Ponce, executive director of Marketing and Communications, about his personal and professional life. He shared his hopes and aspirations for Otterbein. From meeting his wife and raising his children to discussing privilege and higher education trends, Comerford opened a window into his world.*

## **John Comerford, the Husband**

**RP:** John, your Twitter byline reads husband, father and 21st president of Otterbein University, so I wanted to frame our conversation in that order. Tell me about your wife, Rachel. How did the two of you meet?

**JC:** We met at Ball State University where we both worked as hall directors. Ball State is a great place for an early student affairs professional; there were 36 new hall directors and a friend suggested that I introduce myself to Rachel.

**RP:** Do you remember your first date? Did you ask Rachel out?

**JC:** I do. We went to Symphony on the Prairie in Indianapolis, which is just an hour south of Muncie, Indiana. We brought a picnic blanket, ate fried chicken and watched the symphony. Yes, I asked her out, but she had the idea about where to go. We met in 1998 and got married in 2003. I was 26 when I got married. Something curious that I'd like to share, both my father and my grandfather also married at 26, and we all had our first kid at 29. It wasn't planned. I never knew that until my father pointed it out later.

## **John Comerford, the Father**

**RP:** Tell us a little more about your family.

**JC:** Rachel and I have three kids. Our oldest, Garrett, is 12 and in sixth grade. He loves his school and is very much into math and science, but he enjoys soccer and many other activities. He inherited his mom's perfectionism. He is only happy with A's and he is doing very well in school.

Reagan is 9 and in fourth grade and she is a social butterfly.

She is everyone's best friend; she comes home with stories about two of her friends not getting along in school and tells us how she is the peacemaker. She also enjoys school but she is very socially able.

Grant is our first-grader. He is 7 and very into his Legos. We limit TV time, but he loves YouTube. Since he was little, he would get into our iPads and watch toy reviews. He is literally like a grown-up who says, "This is the new Tonka firetruck and this is what's good and what's bad about it." I don't know if that means he is going to be an engineer or a marketer!

Rachel understands higher education very well. She was the director of housing at a university but decided to stay home after Garrett was born. Rachel knows her way around a university, she knows how it works and she is very good for me in that regard.

**RP:** What brings you the most joy about being a father?

**JC:** I like it when I see my kids having the impulse to do the right thing to help people. We just had parent-teacher conferences and we heard a story about Garrett, who is on crutches right now as a result of a broken leg. He is new to the school, but the teacher talked about how he moves around the room helping other kids with their work. When they are good people, I'm alright. My hope is that they are happy and healthy and they treat people decently, that's all you really want for your kids.

**RP:** What keeps you up at night?

**JC:** Our kids are blessed kids. They have two college educated parents with graduate degrees, and they have the benefit of growing up in college towns, surrounded by education. I want





President Comerford with wife, Rachel; Garrett, 12; Reagan, 9; Grant, 7; and Cardy at an Otterbein gathering at the Columbus Zoo in October.

"THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT OTTERBEIN IS ITS AUTHENTIC CULTURE. PEOPLE ARE ACCEPTED FOR WHO THEY ARE, WE CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER AND NEW IDEAS ARE WELCOMED TO FLOURISH HERE."

my kids to understand that not everyone is born with privilege and that others need to get a chance as well. I worry that if one is born with some advantages in life, one may not understand how other people struggle or have other opportunities. I hope we open our kids' eyes to the world.

### **John Comerford, the President**

**RP:** Tell me about how education can be a positive force for equity.

**JC:** America is the land of opportunity and that has been one of the great benefits about this country... that everyone has had a chance at seizing opportunities. Yet, we have different starting points in this process.

I believe that if there is an equalizer in America, it is education. If you can get someone to the point of obtaining a college degree, then most of those disparities, from earlier in life, begin to fade away in time. Otterbein is a place for those who didn't have all the advantages earlier in life but want to have a chance at improving their futures.

**RP:** You have mentioned before that as a university, we should see ourselves as a charity. Can you explain?

**JC:** We have to understand that what we are doing is not just the teaching that goes on in the classroom, or the activities on the athletic field. Our real product is our graduates.

The reason we are a charity is because there is an assumption that we are doing something good for the country, for





the community and for the world. Otherwise, why would we be entitled to any tax payer support in the form of tax exemptions? If we are to justify that, the graduates that we produce have to be roundly educated in the liberal arts so they can be service-minded and be prepared for leadership roles, not just in their careers, but also in their communities.

We have to imbue character traits, not just factual information. And that is one of our advantages as a religiously affiliated independent institution. At a state college, I think they are a little afraid to talk about those things. They can't touch spirituality and character traits in such a direct way, whereas we can very clearly say, "we are about something bigger for the benefit of the public good."

**RP: Can Otterbein shape the whole person and help students leave this place better than they found it?**

**JC:** Oh yes. There are those who think that a residential college experience will go away sometime in the next decades, when the online educational experience takes over. I flatly disagree. What we do, in a setting like the Otterbein campus, is meaningfully different and better.

I think your traditional 18- to 22-year-old is looking for that formative experience. You discover your purpose in these formative years. This personal formation is more likely to happen in small classes where faculty know your name, in a campus where you have friends, and where you are connected and involved. I believe that traditional students and their families are still going to want this formational and transformational experience 100 years from now, and this is our specialty.

**RP: Do you see other ways that we are different?**

**JC:** I think that we are different in our attitude about access and affordability. Initiatives like the Otterbein Commitment and Tuition Transparency, the Opportunity Scholarship, the Urban Initiative, prove it.

We are well positioned for the future, given our history. There is something in our DNA that embodies these values of diversity and inclusion. We are racially and economically diverse and we bring everyone together in this microcosm that we call Otterbein, and I think that is distinct.

The Point brings a model for education in the 21st century that is also distinct, connecting our liberal arts with companies to benefit our students.

At Otterbein we have a connection to the wider community that is unique. Our location, our partnership with the City of Westerville as well as being near Columbus and all of central Ohio, is a great benefit to our students. We are not the ivory tower on the top of the hill, but we are rather deeply connected to our community.

**RP: There is a question about the value of specialized training versus liberal arts. What are your thoughts?**

**JC:** The technology that is in my coat pocket right now would have needed a computer the size of this room in the past. Frankly, we don't know the types of jobs that will emerge in the future. We have to be careful that what we are doing is not so narrow, tailored or specialized that we are only preparing students for certain types of jobs that may change or disappear. Our lives aren't straight lines. I didn't expect to be a university president when I was young, yet here I am and it is going great. We have to give our students a toolbox, so no matter where they find themselves, they can be successful.

Liberal arts colleges have been doing this for their entire history. This is what we do best, but increasingly students and their families think they need something else. We need to do a better job of articulating why liberal arts are more relevant now than ever.

**RP: What have you learned about Otterbein after your first 100 days as president and how do you plan to build on the legacy that you inherited?**

**JC:** The most important thing about Otterbein is its authentic culture. People are accepted for who they are, we care for one another and new ideas are welcomed to flourish here. We have the flexibility and relative financial strength that allows us to be positive as well as to foster a spirit of innovation on campus.

Our positive culture has taken decades to form. This is the result of dedicated leadership, not just by the president, but faculty, staff and student leaders that have built this culture over time. So, to me, I am building on the legacy of all those people who came before me and who have made this place so special.





**RP:** *The face of America is changing, so let's talk about the role of diversity and multiculturalism in education.*

**JC:** We are very proud to have the most diverse first-year class in Otterbein history. We also have the largest diverse student population for five years in a row. I think about this from two angles: from a student education experience and from a demographic reality perspective.

First, we are preparing our students to compete globally. No one is going to go work in a homogenous place. I can't name any field,

**JC:** I would hope that Otterbein is culturally the same as we are today; safe, warm, open and a welcoming community. I'd love to find a faculty and staff that know our students by name and that the University still has the heart of a liberal arts college. I would like to walk in a relatively small campus with the intimate atmosphere that we enjoy today.

I would also like to see Otterbein as a leader in education, with a reach beyond Westerville and with an expanded role as a leader and innovative university maintaining its core values and yet adapting to its surrounding world.

**"WE ARE WELL POSITIONED FOR THE FUTURE, GIVEN OUR HISTORY. THERE IS SOMETHING IN OUR DNA THAT EMBODIES THESE VALUES OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION."**

whether it is agriculture, banking, or in any industry, that isn't going to be influenced by the global marketplace. Our students cannot be successful if they haven't been exposed to that kind of environment. It is important that we model diversity in our classrooms, with our faculty and staff. It is key that we provide our students with cross-cultural experiences like study abroad, service learning and the Five Cards.

Secondly, we live in a demographically shrinking state and our entire Midwest region is also experiencing a population decrease. All the demographic indicators are moving in the wrong direction. The South and the Southwest are growing and the Northeast and the Midwest are decreasing. In Ohio, we will have an 11 percent reduction of high school graduates in the next decade, so we have to think more creatively to find our students in the future. We need to expand the number of people that have a chance to attend college, particularly a private university like Otterbein. Thus, we need to reach out to underserved communities as it is part of our mission to serve these populations.

**RP:** *Imagine that we get into a time machine, push a button and come out in the year 2030. How would you like to find Otterbein?*

**RP:** *Otterbein recently announced its new Tuition Transparency Model. Please talk a little about the importance of this new approach to pricing.*

**JC:** The way that colleges price their education hasn't been the most predictable for families. Otterbein has a great record of not having increased its tuition for the past five years. However, students and families have wondered how long this tuition freeze will last. Our new Tuition Transparency Model will help families plan without having to be surprised by unexpected tuition increases. We will only increase tuition by \$600 dollars per year for the next four years. Again, our goal is for families and their children to be able to plan ahead and know exactly what to expect so they can prepare accordingly.

**RP:** *To conclude, if you only had 30 seconds, what would you want people to know about Otterbein?*

**JC:** Otterbein has been doing great things as a liberal arts college for the past 170 years. Now, Otterbein is innovating for the future by connecting with corporate employers, by integrating our curriculum and by increasing our access through affordability to a diverse student population. We have created a unique environment in higher education that is worth exploring. •



# THE POINT

by Jenny Hill '05 with Lauren Heberling '19

The final phase of construction is complete, and The Point at Otterbein University is now home to 60,000 square feet of innovative ideas, partnerships, and collaborations. Already, it has hosted U.S. senators, CEOs and representatives of Fortune 500 companies, and even the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

The Point offers students everything they need to learn, tinker, experiment, build, test, and compete in tomorrow's economy. In fact, approximately 1,300 students pass through the building each day.

Those students learn in an unparalleled academic environment, with access to multiple instructional spaces outfitted with today's latest technology, including virtual reality equipment, collaborative workstations and 3-D printers.

And with additional space for tenants, there are more opportunities than ever to work with professionals working in everything from the Internet of Things to financial technology.

Learn more at [otterbeinpoint.com](http://otterbeinpoint.com).

## Unprecedented Experiential Learning

Systems engineering major **Reagan Nemec '19** knows the value of partnerships at The Point. Her first internship was at Honda of America Manufacturing the summer after her freshman year. In summer 2017, she landed an internship with Nestlé, the largest food company in the world. Nestlé, which has a proprietary lab at The Point, has even offered her a job after graduation.

Nemec is working with research and development at Nestlé to help create new products by supporting the systems and machines in the facility. She has also been given the task of improving the cost optimization of the air conditioning unit,

which will save energy and make Nestlé more eco-friendly.

She said her professors and courses were key to her success. "I feel really confident. Otterbein has prepared me with a foundation that I can grow upon after graduation this year," she said.

## New Resident Companies, New Opportunities

JPMorgan Chase and The Grote Company will soon join a prestigious group of resident companies housed at The Point, which currently includes Nikola Labs, PolymerOhio, EdgeThingz, Soil1, NeuroRescue and Nestlé.

JPMorgan Chase will deploy three on-site innovation spaces at The Point at

"I CHOSE THE POINT BECAUSE IT'S PERSONAL.  
I COULD HAVE PROTOTYPES MADE ANYWHERE, BUT  
I LOVE BEING HERE ENGAGING THE STUDENTS."

~ GARY HOYLE, STABLZ

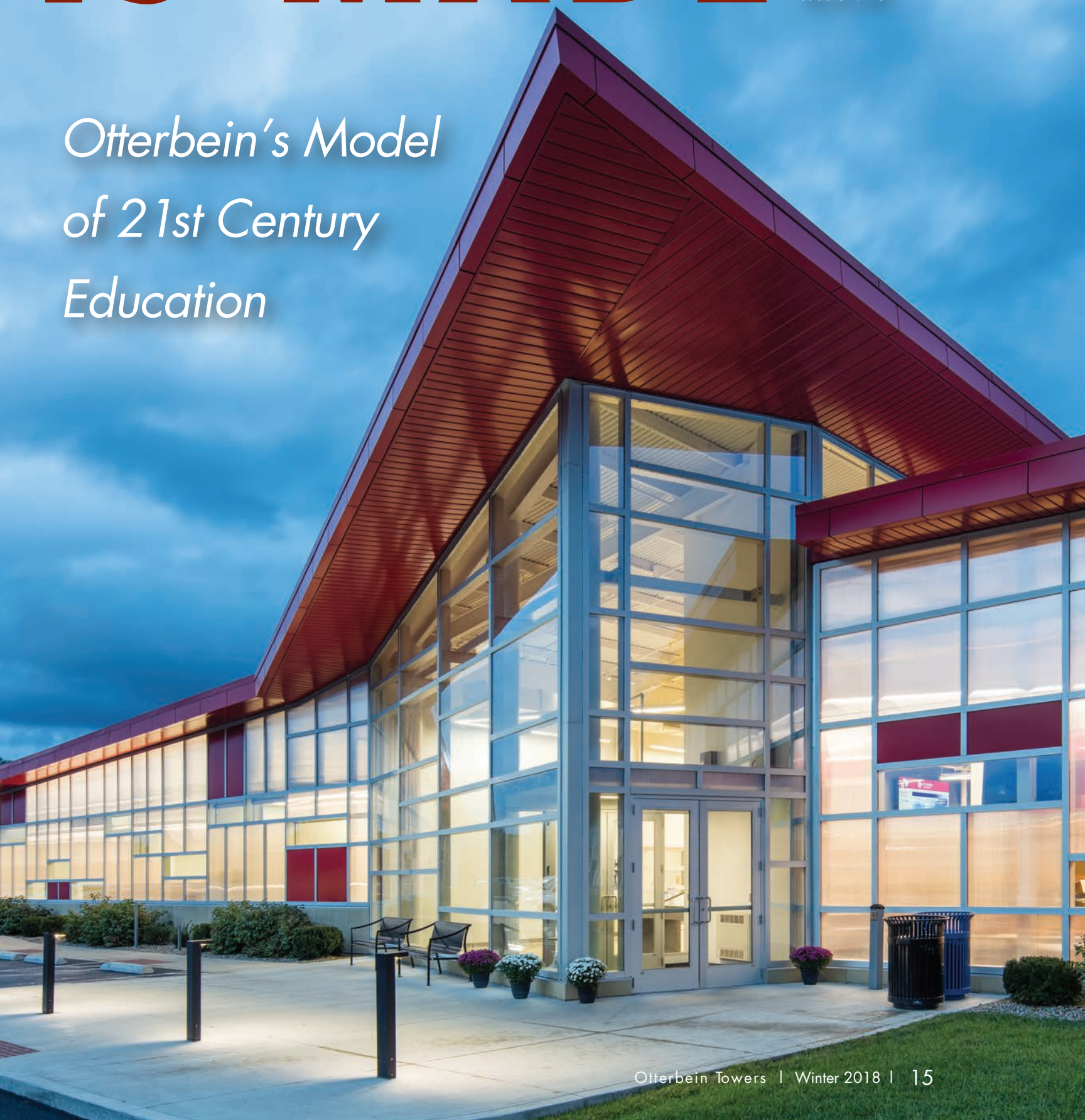




# IS MADE

The Point  
60 Collegeview Road/  
Kathy Krendl Way  
Westerville

*Otterbein's Model  
of 21st Century  
Education*







Otterbein for project teams comprised of JPMorgan Chase experts and Otterbein students from a variety of disciplines to collaborate on fintech research and development. These innovation spaces will create an environment for diverse student experiences and innovative, out-of-the-box thinking.

“Our partnership with JPMorgan Chase is an example of the Otterbein model for a 21st century liberal arts education,” said Otterbein President John Comerford. “This partnership will allow our students to have R&D experience and increase their critical thinking to new heights.”

For its part, JPMorgan Chase will tap into the future workforce.

“(This partnership) is a unique opportunity to think differently and work with the next generation of innovators to solve real-world challenges within our community and beyond,” said Corrine Burger, Columbus location leader and chief control officer for JPMorgan Chase’s Consumer and Community Bank.

As part of the collaboration, JPMorgan Chase has committed to providing educational opportunities both in the classroom and in their labs. Currently, in the first semester under this partnership,

three JPMorgan Chase employees are teaching in four Otterbein courses this fall. Otterbein will also benefit from JPMorgan Chase representatives serving on the university’s computer science advisory board.

Otterbein has been a key source of talent for JPMorgan Chase with more than 250 alumni currently working with the company in the Columbus Region.

Read more about the JPMorgan Chase partnership on page 5.

### From Ideation to Product Development

When **Gary Hoyle '79** first heard about The Point at Otterbein, he immediately wanted to know more. As a proud alumnus and avid entrepreneur, Hoyle started thinking about how he could engage with Otterbein in new ways.

Hoyle has facilitated over a dozen business startups and several product rollouts in a variety of industries, including restaurants, manufacturing, green vehicles, sports, entertainment, home services, and consumer products.

When he was introduced to The Point, he envisioned a new way to engage with his alma mater and current students.

He began to work extensively with The Point staff and students to develop his latest business, STABLZ All Terrain Full Contact Products, a multi-industry vertical support that adapts to any terrain with a simple tap of the foot.

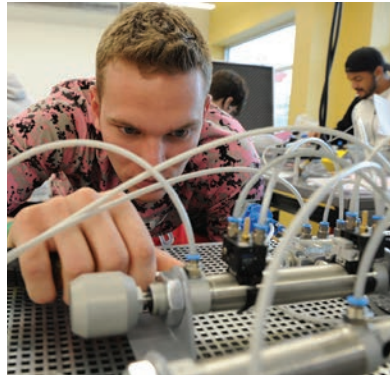
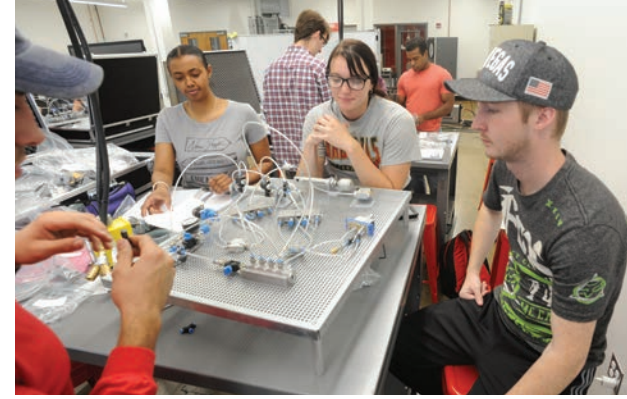
“Just do a search for wobbly tables in restaurant reviews online. It’s a problem, and STABLZ provides a solution,” Hoyle said.

STABLZ All Terrain Full Contact Products feature a patented pivoting triangular support that easily adapts to uneven surfaces to stabilize tables, sawhorses, and more. It’s applicable in restaurants, on construction sites, for tailgating and camping — pretty much any situation you can imagine.

“The engineering students at The Point helped with prototyping, testing, tweaking, and designing variations for different uses,” Hoyle said.

“I chose The Point because it’s personal. I could have prototypes made anywhere, but I love being here engaging the students,” Hoyle said. “It’s fun for me when the students think. They have to explore different ways of doing things and use creativity. They still learn, even if their idea doesn’t work.”





Hoyle has been working closely with senior systems engineering major **Miles Burnam '19**. "I want to teach students all aspects of the process and give them a taste of real world experiences," Hoyle said. "Miles has built designs from scratch, but he is also part of the presentations to prospective licensees and gets real feedback from professionals, licensers."

"At other schools, I would have to wait until sophomore year to start doing engineering. Here I started right away," Burnam said. "I've learned more from this project than just engineering. I've learned how to talk business and network."

Members of the MBA Capstone class were able to apply class lessons to Hoyle's business for their capstone project last summer.

A member of The Point Advisory Board, Hoyle said that he believes in The Point's mission to promote liberal arts applications to business and industry. "Each can benefit from the other."

### Open Access to Industrial Technologies

The Maker Space, within The Point, is not just for the Otterbein community and resident companies. Now open to

the public, it is comprised of five creative spaces, providing access to industrial technologies not commonly available to individuals.

The Maker Space has a design studio with latex printers and vinyl cutters, a rapid prototyping room with 3-D printers and laser engravers, woodshop, metal shop, computer workshop space and an advanced manufacturing lab with a plasma cutter. Each room has multiple machines and resources members can learn how to use in order to create personalized projects. From engraved cups, to 3-D plastic models, to wooden signs — the only limit to what you can create is your imagination.

Maker Space and Laboratory Operations Manager Curtis Smith oversees membership and, most importantly, training at the space. "We want to ensure the safety of those who are using our facilities," said Smith.

Members earn Ability Badges by completing free training sessions with Smith and his staff, which allow access to certain machines.

If you aren't able to join the Maker Space, but wish to have prototypes or projects completed, the Maker Space does accept projects on a contracted services basis. •



**Gary Hoyle '79 and Miles Burnam '19 work on a prototype for STABLZ All Terrain Full Contact Products, which is used to stabilize tables, sawhorses and other equipment.**



*Honoring the Past, Reimagining the Future*



# *Breathing New Life into Otterbein's* **CAMPUS CENTER**

*By Tuesday Beerman Trippier '89*

More than just a facelift, the renovation of the Campus Center, which was built in 1964, is ready to make its way into the spotlight. Fresh on the heels of the STAND Campaign's success, campus leaders are eager to breathe new life into the hub of campus.

"Elements of Campus Center renovations were always one of the STAND Campaign's priorities," explained Michael McGreevey, vice president for Institutional Advancement. McGreevey said that President Emerita Kathy Krendl's retirement coupled with reaching the campaign goal

one year ahead of schedule is making it possible for the development team to shift all of its energies into this critical project. "We know our entire extended Otterbein community is ready to see this kind of improvement. We also know that this project represents the kind of opportunity that will energize and engage donors, leaders and friends. We share connections to this space — the Campus Center truly is the heart of our community," McGreevey said.

Other leaders couldn't agree more. "It's been a long time coming," said **Colette Masterson '05**, director of the Campus

Center and Center for Student Involvement. "The basic building will be maintained, but the entire use of space on both the inside and the outside will change, bringing the Campus Center into the 21st century to meet current student and campus needs."

**Kate Altier Reagan '97**, assistant director of auxiliary maintenance, serves as project manager and heads up the Campus Center Executive Sponsor Group — the cross-departmental planning committee overseeing the project.

"From the very beginning of this project, our goal has been to honor what

*\* Architectural renderings are for illustration purposes and are subject to modification or change.*





makes Otterbein unique,” explains Reagan. The project, which is still in the design and development stage, is expected to cost about \$17.5 million. The final timeline for the project is still to be determined and will depend on a number of factors, but the planning team hopes to begin the renovation by 2020.

### A Student and Alumni Driven Process

Feedback from students and alumni has been key in envisioning the Campus Center renovations. The planning committee sought input from student leaders to listen to the students’ current needs.

“Students have been engaged in all conversations throughout this process,”

“THE COMMITMENT IS TO REVITALIZE THE CAMPUS CENTER, MAKING IT AN INVITING AND WELCOMING PLACE, WITH DYNAMIC AND INNOVATIVE SPACES TO ENGAGE STUDENTS, ALUMNI, FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS. THE CENTER WILL HONOR THE TRADITIONAL CHARACTER AND VALUES OF THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY AND SHARE THE OTTERBEIN STORY TO ALL THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE IT.”

### ~ THE VISION STATEMENT TO REVITALIZE THE CAMPUS CENTER

says Reagan. “We heard from them their desire for more natural lighting, a more comfortable and inviting environment, variations in seating options throughout the building, as well as dining options where food can be made fresh in front of you.”

Masterson agrees and says the renovation plans reflect many of these ideas.

“The student areas will be much more inviting and welcoming so that all students, whether commuter students, graduate students or residential students, will feel at home,” says Masterson, who has been energized by the project since taking her position in 2017. “We want to make it a destination on campus; a place that fosters community.”

**Jeremy Paul ‘19**, a political science and educational studies major, serves as a member of the Executive Sponsor Group and says he is honored to represent the student voice. As president of the student government, Paul says student input has been valued throughout the process.

“I think the Campus Center renovations will help change the culture of our community at Otterbein and allow the space to become a hub of socialization and a place for students, faculty and staff, alumni and friends alike,” he says. “The planning of each of the spaces in the renovated building has really been intentional.”

Student involvement in the planning and fundraising of the Campus Center renovation project will play a critical role.



Students helping to raise funds for new buildings is nothing new at Otterbein. Students took the lead in raising funds for the Association Building in 1892 and student veterans led the fundraising efforts and contributed towards the Memorial Stadium in 1948. As was the case for the Campus Center when it was built in the mid ’60s, the project will again receive significant funding from student support for the renovations as voted upon by Otterbein student government.





The Alumni Council and the six alumni members of the ESG have provided insight on how the center could evolve to better serve the campus, the greater Westerville community as well as recruitment efforts.

“A newly renovated Campus Center will enhance the student experience — providing a new atmosphere for the ways students learn and socialize in today’s world,” said **Karen Persson Whalen ’67**.

Whalen said she thinks renovations could be helpful for recruitment purposes, too, after recently hearing from the mother of a first-year student who said her son almost didn’t choose Otterbein because the building was so outdated. “A renovated Campus Center will even the playing field for Otterbein to attract new students, too,” Whalen added. Karen and husband, **Jack ’66**, had their first date in the Campus Center. They chose to celebrate their 50th anniversary with a \$50,000 gift to the Campus Center.

Stakeholders from the departments who utilize the Campus Center most have also been consulted to help create a roadmap for changes. The architects for the project, BHDP Architecture from Cincinnati, worked closely with the groups to create renderings of the proposed renovations.

### **Grow**

Growing the quality of the student experience is one of the main goals of the project and is evident with several major changes. A modernized dining facility will be relocated from the second floor to the first floor. Gone are cafeteria lines replaced by a variety of food stations where students can see their food being made on the spot. Otterbein’s dining service will be better able to respond to specific dietary needs with these stations, providing students the opportunity to have a say in what goes into their meal, especially important to those with dietary restrictions. A demonstration

kitchen has also been proposed which would facilitate cooking classes on campus.

Students also requested a mix of seating options including group options as well as private or individual dining that feels comfortable. This kind of varied seating will be featured throughout the building including a unique addition of the Fireside Lounge, complete with a fireplace and comfortable seating. The entrance to the lounge will feature the beautiful stained glass preserved from the Association Building, the “Sosh,” which was razed in 1975. Historical displays will also give a nod to Otterbein’s rich history.

A student café, featuring grab and go items, will be relocated to the second floor as well as a coffee shop. A few feet away, new balcony space will quickly make this a favorite spot for meeting up, hanging out or studying.

The student experience will be expanded with new space for student services on the lower level. In addition, a



new Multicultural Center, along with the Center for Student Involvement, will have innovative spaces for student activities and recreation, as well as quiet areas for focused study. The new Joanne Van Sant Office of Student Affairs will be located on the second level.

## Build

These renovations will not only modernize the facility in daily use, they include sorely needed updates for the building's mechanicals. New windows throughout the building and open areas will create a greater connection between interior and exterior spaces.

"Making these spaces more welcoming, inviting and useable is the goal," explains Bob Gatti, vice president and dean for student affairs and member of the project overview committee. "The front of the building will feature windows, which will replace the wooden planking. A major change for the second floor will be the addition of a terrace, or porch, with seating, which will overlook a future planned pedestrian mall and greenspace, which will be known as The Grove. The front plaza will also include updated landscaping and seating, which will be a great place for students to gather."

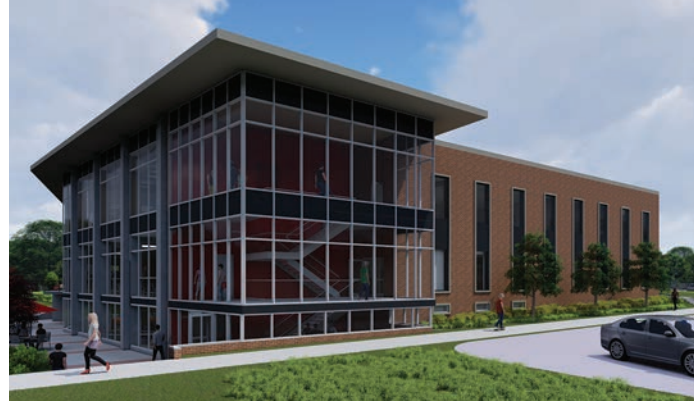
The north side of the building will

be completely revamped with the addition of an all-glass atrium and stairwell on the northwest corner of the building. New windows and lighting will give that space a beautiful effect at night, which Masterson describes as "glowing like a lantern."

"The atrium will feature seating making it feel more like a sun porch," adds Reagan. "The entire outdoor appeal will create areas that will be terrific for gathering year round. We are learning that many of our international students are used to utilizing every bit of their outdoor space. That is really the global ethos, so we have embraced that idea."

Reagan added that the north plaza will feature a large and welcoming patio with umbrella tables and chairs and a gas burning fire pit. Updated landscaping will add to the vibrancy of the back of the Campus Center.

Planners say that sustainability has been a major focus of the renovation. The project will follow the principals of a LEED Certified Building from the United States Green Building Council, including: a reflective roof membrane to reduce heat gain; Indoor Air Quality Standards through use of low VOC building materials; waste diversion with recycling; energy efficient insulated glazing with low-e coatings to reduce solar gain; more efficient heating,



ventilation, and air conditioning systems; low flow toilet fixtures to reduce water storage; energy-efficient LED lighting with occupancy sensors; water bottle refilling stations; bike racks and natural lighting.

Masterson is also striving to have the building be paper-free with the addition of monitors and other technology to display announcements, the calendar of events and other messages. She adds that the bookstore, which will now be more of a Campus Store, will change from the west side of the building to the east side near the front entrance and have a more prominent presence.

## Belong

Creating a place and space where people feel that they belong is key to the revitalized Campus Center. The multipurpose space will give the Otterbein campus and the extended Westerville community more options. It's also hoped that many Otterbein alumni will see this as their space to utilize for important occasions like wedding receptions, bridal and baby showers, anniversaries for Cardinal Couples along with other potential events and celebrations.









"I am really excited about the multipurpose space which will replace the cafeteria on the second level," says Gatti. "The University will be able to host on-campus and off-campus events in that space which should seat 350 people."

"This space alone will take the pressure off of academic areas that have to forfeit teaching space during huge campus events like prospective student Visit Days, alumni events and other community events," explains Reagan. "The idea that the space can also be rented and provide additional revenue for the University is also attractive."

"We wanted the building to be more user-friendly," says Masterson. "For instance, a new elevator will be in a more ideal location near the front entrance of the building and the entrance to the lower level from the back of the building includes an ADA-compliant ramp. We want everyone to feel like they belong here."

Well-thought-out features like a Hospitality Suite on the lower level, which caters to the needs of students who don't

live on campus, the new Multicultural Center, and even more accessibility to dining options all work together to create a sense of community and belonging. Making the building more accessible is a major plus of the renovation and illustrates how the project strives to create a welcoming space for all.

While work is underway on creating these exciting new spaces for dining and other student activities, University leaders are already exploring transition plans for current students' dining accommodations. Additional efforts, like a relocation of the Pit Theatre, will also be determined as the University weighs its options for a new future mid-size theatre.

### Impacting the Future

"I'm excited about what this revitalized space will mean for our University family," said President John Comerford. "We want to create the kind of space that will grow student leaders, a place that will build community, and certainly a place we can feel proud to welcome our

students and their families, our alumni, and our friends and neighbors home."

Comerford has likened the Campus Center to serving as the University's living room. "Everyone needs to feel welcome, comfortable and at home in this space — it's where conversations, ideas, engagement, connections and celebrations belong," he said. Comerford added that he's proud of the student leadership directing this project and that he's looking forward to connecting with alumni "who are passionate about the opportunities these renovations will create."

Inquiries for supporting the Campus Center renovation from alumni, parents, individuals and corporate/foundation/organizational groups can be directed to Michael McGreevey, vice president for Institutional Advancement at [mmcgreevey@otterbein.edu](mailto:mmcgreevey@otterbein.edu) or via phone at 614-823-1305. Leadership level naming opportunities are available for the entire faculty as well as throughout the renovated Campus Center to honor alumni, legacy families, reunion classes or decades, faculty/staff members, etc. •





Campus Center directors include Kate Lehman, 2004-2010; Jennifer Bechtold, 2010-2016; Colette Masterson '06, 2017-present; Becky Fickel Smith '81, 1990-2004; Bob Gatti, 1980-82.

## Past Campus Center Directors Weigh In

"I remember when I was director of the Campus Center, students utilized the building every day," recalls Dean of Students and Vice President of Student Affairs Bob Gatti, who was director from 1980-1982. "The lower level had a robust rental service going for students which included camping gear, shuffle board, tandem bikes, board games and more. The first floor had a stereo listening/study room and a TV room where students could hang out and watch TV."

Gatti also remembers the time he filled the entire upstairs room with sand for a big winter quarter Beach Bash student event.

"Boy, did that get me in trouble," he laughs. "That's when I learned it's actually better to ask permission before you have to ask for forgiveness."

**Becky Fickel Smith '81**, director from 1990 to 2004, recalls, "We made the space more for student engagement, adding community service, student activities space, and offering organizations space for meeting and providing supplies for their success. But we also started thinking more about partnering with the City of Westerville and began growing our town/gown relationship

with events like the First Friday Festival. What I most recall is that the Campus Center felt like a living room during that time — especially in times of emergency or crisis. For instance during situations like the space shuttle Challenger incident or the Gulf War, the Campus Center was a place of community and conversation where students could process and come together."

Smith is excited to see the center get new life. Smith, who recently retired as executive director of Alumni Relations with 37 years of service to her alma mater, will have a room named in her honor thanks to funds being raised by the alumni council and friends for that purpose.

"I loved the sense of community," says Assistant Dean for Student Success Kate Lehman, who served as director of the Campus Center from 2004-2010. "I always loved the table fairs and large events in the lounge that brought people from all over campus together." Lehman remembers converting the color palate of the building back to tan and cardinal during her time as director and incorporating more student life photos and décor as well as reorganizing into

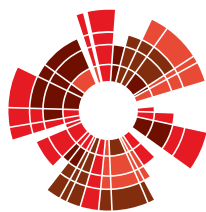
the Center for Student Involvement, which "brought a lot of teamwork and synergy among the staff working in the building."

She, like Gatti, is most excited about the large meeting space on the second floor dedicated to hosting events — and the excitement and energy the new renovation will bring for campus life.

"I think the space most came alive during big campus events like Homecoming, Family Weekend and, of course, Greek Week," remembers Assistant Dean for Student Success Jennifer Bechtold, who was campus center director from 2010-2016. "I also loved being a part of launching the Otter Den in 2010 — a process almost fully designed by students."

"Because this [renovation] has been a dream for so long, I can see the ideas of many focus groups and discussions reflected in the plans," says Bechtold. "That's particularly exciting because there are many years of hard work, and the vision of many alumni, that is coming to fruition. I just can't wait for students to have a space that is built to fit their needs — of today's student and the future." •





WHERE WE  
**STAND**  
MATTERS

## The Campaign for Otterbein's Future: Investing in Students First

# Campaign IMPACT REPORT

# IMPACT REPORT





# HISTORY MADE... THANK YOU DONORS!



It was truly incredible to celebrate the success of our Where We STAND Matters campaign in September at Homecoming & Family Weekend. When we publicly launched our campaign just four years ago, we never could have imagined all the ways in which the Otterbein community would rally to help us reach — and exceed — our \$50 million

goal. We experienced amazing support in the final months of the campaign, pushing us to a record \$52,775,000! Every person who supported Otterbein during this critical time in our history should feel proud that they have made a difference in the lives of our students, faculty and staff while bolstering the entire campus community.

As higher education continues to experience changes and challenges, it is now more important than ever to ensure that we stand strong for generations of students to have an opportunity to pursue an Otterbein education. The Where We STAND Matters campaign had a bold vision to invest in our students first to make Otterbein more accessible and affordable, to further our goals in building a model community and to provide spaces and programs that foster learning — in and out of the classroom. Our donors embraced this vision with their generous support.

As you read through this report, you will be reminded of the meaningful ways donors matched their passion and love for Otterbein to programs, initiatives and opportunities. Donations

came from alumni, parents, friends, faculty and staff as well as several corporations, foundations, organizations and civic partners like the City of Westerville. You'll also read how some of our incredible students have been impacted through the support of more than 10,000 donors.

Speaking of impact, it is evident in every facet of university life — from physical space transformations in Riley Auditorium, Memorial Stadium, and The Point — to non-visible gains like support for student scholarships and experiential learning. The generosity of our community is apparent in countless ways. One thing is certain: the historic Where We STAND Matters campaign will change student lives and make a profound impact for the entire campus community for years to come. In fact, this campaign will continue to make its mark on the future of Otterbein through a record number of planned gifts (\$19.2 million to be exact!) that were committed during the campaign but will be realized and allocated at a future date.

On behalf of our University community, thank you for standing with Otterbein. With your support, more students will benefit from affordable access to Otterbein with accomplished and caring faculty and staff, a model community and a vibrant, beautiful campus that enriches experiences for all. This campaign — its values and purpose — matter and because of you, Otterbein will continue to STAND as one of the great universities in our country! With Cardinal pride and gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael McGreevey". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael R. McGreevey  
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

“ On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to express my sincere thanks to every member of the Otterbein community, including the dedicated staff in our Institutional Advancement office, who contributed to the success of this historic campaign. Your support is a direct investment in the future of our University and will impact our students and faculty for years to come. Thank you for making a difference. ”

— Mark Thresher '78, Chair, Otterbein University Board of Trustees





Final Total  
**\$52,775,000**  
*exceeding goal of \$50 million*



**10,000+**  
total supporters  
*Alumni accounted for more than* **5,500**

**\$17.2 MILLION**  
from corporations, foundations  
and civic groups



**\$19.2 MILLION**  
committed through  
planned gifts

More than  
**\$500,000**  
in support for the Five Cardinal  
Experiences program

**4,686**  
new donors  
made their first  
gift ever

**70+ NEW**  
scholarship, award  
and student funds  
were established



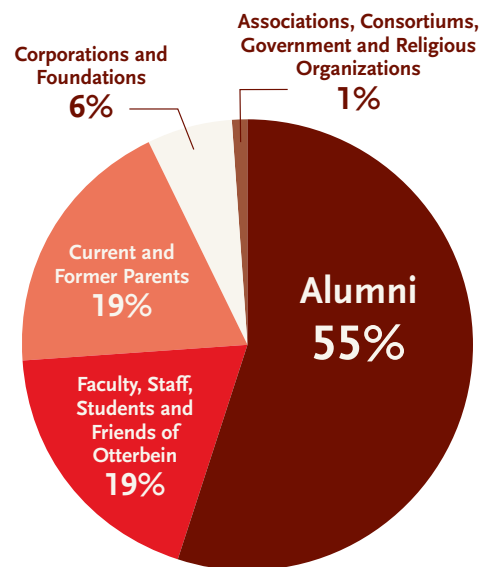
More than  
**\$32.7  
MILLION**  
to support building  
a model community  
of educators, leaders  
and learners

More than  
**\$10.7 MILLION**  
to support  
campus renewal  
  
More than  
**\$9.2 MILLION**  
to support access  
and affordability



Alumni accounted for more than  
**\$21 MILLION**  
in support

### Donor Type Breakdown



*Percentages rounded up to the nearest integer value*



Faculty and staff  
gave more than  
**\$3.6  
MILLION**  
in gifts and  
commitments to  
support Otterbein

Faculty and staff  
support participation  
exceeded  
**60%**  
in the final year of  
the campaign





# CAMPAIGN LEADERS CELEBRATE SUCCESS

We are grateful to our campaign leaders for their advocacy and support during the Where We STAND Matters campaign!

“Donors should feel proud about supporting the STAND campaign because together we have made history for Otterbein. The entire community has affirmed that they believe in and support the mission and vision of Otterbein and the continued success of its students.”

**Annette Boose '94**  
*Faculty and Staff Campaign Co-Chair*

“I am proud that Otterbein took a risk with the campaign, both in terms of size and purpose and reached out way beyond its normal donor base to challenge all of us to see what Otterbein stands for and how each of us can help in achieving those goals. In the end, the campaign put Otterbein on solid financial footing for years to come while allowing it to continue to offer outstanding education opportunities to all, regardless of ability to pay.”

**David Fisher '75 P'11**  
*Campaign Leader and Board of Trustees Member*

“This campaign succeeded because of all of us — each and every gift matters. Our success transcended mere numbers as we realized the solidarity of a truly model community where achievement resulted from our broad participation. Our faculty and staff set an example for all of us, particularly students, through record participation levels that dramatically sets Otterbein apart from peer institutions.”

**Kent Stuckey '79 P'22**  
*Campaign Chair and Board of Trustees Member*

“Sonya and I are very proud to have been participants in the largest comprehensive campaign in Otterbein's history. A point of special importance, from our perspective, was the significant increase in the number of donors. This is a time when many private universities are experiencing financial and enrollment problems, but Otterbein has taken a series of very bold steps. We are very proud to STAND with Otterbein as it demonstrates leadership for private universities in the Midwest and we hope that other donors share this pride and commitment.”

**Bill Evans '56**  
*Campaign Leader and Trustee Emeritus*

“I stand with Otterbein because changing lives is our shared story — a story that grows with every new student that arrives on campus. Each one of us stands here because someone along the way believed in us. From where I stand — in my daily work in the classroom, the laboratory, the hallways and in the field — we are all better for such a place as Otterbein.”

**Michael Hoggarth**  
*Faculty and Staff Campaign Co-Chair*

“I was proud to be associated with the campaign as a member of the Board of Trustees, chair of the advancement committee and a donor. I think one of the great results of the campaign was taking a giant step forward in building a sustainable culture and spirit of philanthropy throughout all the constituencies of the Otterbein community.”

**Alec Wightman**  
*Campaign Leader and former Board of Trustees Member*

“I was proud to stand with Otterbein and this campaign because it has given me the opportunity to give back to this wonderful institution and help others obtain an Otterbein experience. I am honored to be a part of this community and will continue to pledge my support so that future students can share in my experience.”

**Nevalyn Fritsche Nevil '71**  
*Campaign Leader and Board of Trustees Member*





# CAMPAIGN MILESTONES THAT **STAND** OUT

## 2011 – 2014

- Otterbein raises the seed money to begin the Where We STAND Matters campaign in the Fall of 2014.

## SUMMER 2015

- Renovation of Battelle Fine Arts Center windows and exterior begins.
- Lambda Gamma Epsilon endows \$80,000 scholarship, largest from a Greek organization to date.
- Largest gift to date received, \$1.5 million, from alumna **Annie Upper Ames '86**.

## SEPTEMBER 2015

- Campaign total reaches \$22.4 million with 7,700 donors.

2011

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

## SEPTEMBER 2014

- Public launch of the campaign at Homecoming with \$16.4 million raised toward the \$50 million goal.

## APRIL 2016

- Otterbein shares plans for a new STEAM Innovation Center located at 60 Collegeview Rd, with the City of Westerville as a local partner.
- 8,900 donors to the campaign.

## SEPTEMBER 2016

- Pace of campaign begins to accelerate, reaching \$34 million mark.
- \$1.75 million estate gift from alumnus David Ward '74 marks largest individual commitment to the campaign.

## OCTOBER 2016

- “Wire cutting” ceremony held for the opening of Phase I of The Point at Otterbein.

## MAY 2018

- Campaign surpasses \$48.5 million from 10,000 supporters.
- Otterbein establishes the Kathy A. Krendl Distinguished Lecture Series Fund, in honor of Dr. Krendl's retirement.

## JUNE 2018

- Campaign officially concludes on June 30, 2018 after exceeding \$50 million in commitments, final total and celebration held at Homecoming.
- Faculty and staff support reaches a record 60% participation.

## JULY 2018

- University welcomes John Comerford, Ph.D., as 21<sup>st</sup> Otterbein president.

## SEPTEMBER 2018

- Campus celebrates success of Where We STAND Matters campaign at Homecoming & Family Weekend, announcing a final total of \$52,775,000 in commitments.

## FEBRUARY 2017

- Campaign reaches \$38 million mark and is celebrated on campus with a “Standing Ovation” event.

## MAY 2017

- Nearly 10,000 donors to date with 3,300 first time donors.
- Faculty and staff support of the campaign reaches 54% participation.

## SEPTEMBER 2017

- Campaign total reaches \$42.2 million.
- First-time donors tops 3,980 supporters.
- Otterbein FUND Alumni Scholarship program established to help support access and affordability priority.





## GENEROSITY PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES



Jeremy Paul '19

Jeremy is a political science major and recipient of the Mark '45 and Helen Coldiron Endowed Scholarship and the Lewis E. Myers Scholarship.

“A college of opportunity... Since our inception, Otterbein has served as a catalyst for inclusion. While accolades are nice, Otterbein has made the conscious decision to chase people, not rankings.”

I am grateful that Otterbein welcomes students who, without the mission and values of our institution and without the generosity of our donors, might otherwise be left out. Our students' and their families' socioeconomic status is not a disqualifier at Otterbein. Getting students in the door is only half of the battle. Once students have acclimated, Otterbein takes it a step further. Our students serve on our University Senate, serve as CardinalCorps Leaders, Van Sant Fellows, Nurturing Educational Success and Transition Mentors and Mentees, Orientation Leaders, Resident Assistants, and more. These opportunities are made possible by those who have benefitted from similar experiences and understand their value.

Jeremy is serving his second term as the president of Otterbein's Student Government. He also serves as the student hall director of Dunlap-King, is an office worker for Student Affairs and was an orientation leader for two summers. After graduation, Jeremy plans to pursue a graduate degree in higher education with aspirations of continuing to serve in a university setting as a vice president of student affairs and perhaps someday as a university president.

# ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY

## Providing a Stepping Stone to Success

Being the first person in his family to attend college, **Jim Rutherford P'99** always wanted to help others achieve the same goal as a stepping stone to success. The James and Kathleen Rutherford Endowed Scholarship helps to support the education of first-generation Otterbein students. “Kathy and I want these students to use their education to go out and do good things. It doesn't matter if they make a lot of money — we want them to lead a life they're proud of. You're helping deserving students become successful. When they become successful, they can help others become successful. To Kathy and me, that's how philanthropy works.”



## Giving Faculty and Students Resources to Learn

“I stand with Otterbein because the value of our collective efforts soars beyond what any one of us could ever do alone,” said professor Michael Hoggarth. Because he believes in this so strongly, he funded the Biology and Earth Science Faculty Research and Scholarship Endowed Fund in the Department of Biology and Earth Science as well as the Biology and Earth Science Student Travel Endowed Fund. The funds have helped support scientific research and travel on everything from frogs and fossils to microbes and molecules. “Fellowships, research, faculty development, classroom and laboratory enhancements and creative campus initiatives are critical to the work we do. They are an important part of building a model community,” said Hoggarth.

## First-Ever Nursing Endowment Established

Otterbein Board of Trustees member Cheryl Herbert Sinden and her husband, Joel Sinden, generously donated \$25,000 to create the Cheryl and Joel Sinden Nursing Student Endowment. Their belief in the value of higher education and in the ability of the nursing profession to change the world for the better, led them to make the gift, which is the first endowment of its kind to assist nursing students with course and program-related expenses. Cheryl is currently the senior vice president of regional operations for OhioHealth and was the chair of the search committee that selected John Comerford as the 21st president of Otterbein University.





## Supporting Access to First-Class Programs and Facilities

**Nevalyn Fritsche Nevil's '71** generous support of Otterbein includes gifts to the Joanne Van Sant Center for Student Affairs, the Department of Theatre and Dance and annual support of The Otterbein FUND. "This is the biggest campaign we've ever undertaken," Nevalyn said, "and it means

everything to our future. It will allow us to move forward on some very important capital projects, increase our endowment so we can have a sustainable future, and make sure that students are able to access and afford an Otterbein education. I believe in this University, Nevalyn says, and want to see as many students as possible have the same opportunities, education and life preparation that I had."

## Paying It Forward to Help Students Learn and Travel

**Carolyn '53 and Richard (Dick) Sherrick '54**

have been steadfast supporters of Otterbein, both with their time and generosity. With a \$100,000 commitment, they established the Richard and Carolyn Sherrick Endowed Scholarship for a student majoring in business or math and the Richard and Carolyn Sherrick Five Cardinal Experiences Fund in support of the Otterbein experiential learning program that engages students in real-world opportunities to apply the knowledge and skills they have acquired in the classroom. "Dick and I like to say that Otterbein has done a lot to make us what we are," Carolyn said. "We think others at Otterbein feel the same way and we all need to pass it forward to the next generation." "Those who have received have an obligation to give," Dick added.



## Decades of Support for Student Scholarships

The Westerville Otterbein Women's Club (WOWC) was founded in 1921 for the purpose of raising funds for Otterbein students. What began as bake and rummage sales later led to the opening of the Otterbein Thrift Shop in 1952. During the Where We STAND Matters campaign,

the WOWC celebrated a milestone: reaching the \$1 million mark in support for student scholarships. All proceeds from the sales of its Thrift Shop on Otterbein's campus go directly to fund seven endowed scholarships. To date, more than 250 students have benefitted from their support.

## PAYING IT FORWARD THROUGH SERVICE



Haylie, pictured above with President Emerita Kathy Krendl H'18, is a public relations, journalism and media communication major and a Battelle Scholar.

**“Thank you for believing in students, for pushing us to dream big and for ensuring that all students — regardless of their financial circumstances — can obtain an Otterbein education. ”**

I would like to thank every individual investing in the student experience at Otterbein. Through your actions, I am continually shown the importance of giving back. Through donor support, I have been able to do more than I ever thought possible. You have given me the resources to expand my knowledge outside the classroom. You have directly supported my work as one of the co-founders of the Promise House, Otterbein's community resource center and food pantry breaking down socioeconomic barriers to student success. You helped create opportunities that enhanced my leadership through student experience, professional development and civic engagement conferences. And lastly, you have simply enabled, empowered and motivated me to commit my life to service at Otterbein and beyond.

*In addition to helping co-found the Promise House, Haylie has received the Newman Civic Fellowship, was a two-time recipient of the Vernon Pack Fellowship, and led the Otterthon fundraiser to benefit Nationwide Children's Hospital. Haylie has received several endowed scholarships and says that her commitment to serve is only further fueled by the fact that alumni and other donors have invested in her education.*





## FINDING HER VOICE THROUGH INTERNSHIPS



**Madison Moore '20**

**Madison is a business administration and women's gender and sexuality studies major and recipient of the David R. & Marybelle S. Simmons Endowed Scholarship.**

“I've taken Otterbein values and lessons with me as I've accepted more internships and professional opportunities. What Otterbein stands for really does matter to me — and to many others.”

Through dedication to my studies, I have excelled in the classroom and I've been able to transfer those important lessons and skills to the workplace. I've successfully completed two internships, both with national non-profit organizations — one for Girl Scouts USA, where I helped plan a national convention for over 8,000 attendees; and another in Washington, D.C., for the American Heart Association where I planned large-scale galas. The moments I grew the most were those where I was engaged in the world around me, whether that was inside or outside of the classroom. I'm thankful donors invest in students first. Those contributions have given students like me the opportunity to thrive in higher education, and to find our voices and our calling.

*Madison extends her appreciation to all donors who believe in the power of education. Growing up in Westerville, Madison says when it came time to make a college decision, she said the choice was easy — it was Otterbein because she knew she would be engaged, she would learn and that she could give back to her hometown community.*

# BUILDING A MODEL COMMUNITY

## A Passion for Education and Experiential Learning

**Cameron Allen '47** was a lifetime educator with a passion for faculty, students and the Otterbein educational experience. Through a generous \$500,000 gift from Allen's estate, Otterbein invested in the transformative power of experiential learning to make applied learning opportunities more affordable and available to students in the Five Cardinal Experiences program. “This gift will enable us to enhance our infrastructure for fully implementing the Five Cardinal Experiences, and it will provide much needed support to make it easier for more students to complete these hallmarks of an Otterbein education,” said President Emerita **Kathy Krendl 'H18**. “It will also allow us to recognize faculty who invest in mentoring, guiding, supervising and sponsoring Five Cardinal Experiences.” In addition, the Allen estate provided \$1 million for The Point at Otterbein.



## Otterbein's Supportive Community Inspires Gift

**Annie Upper Ames '86** generously supported the campaign through gifts to the Otterbein FUND, women's leadership, continuing studies and the future development of a greenspace and pedestrian mall on Grove Street adjacent to the Campus Center, now being coined as “The Grove.” “I really believe in Otterbein. It's the perfect size, the campus is beautiful, and I love the leaders there. It's an easy place to get to know people and be one-on-one with your professors. That made a big difference for me since I had been out of school for so long. I found the professors were willing to go all out to help me. Education is so important,” Annie said, “and we must protect the places that do it well and take care of their students. That's Otterbein.”

## Foundation Gifts Lead to Campus Transformations

The Vida S. Clements Foundation provided the largest foundation gifts to the STAND campaign by giving \$800,000 to support the turf and track renovation at Memorial Stadium as well as \$1 million to support The Point at Otterbein. President Emerita **Kathy Krendl 'H18** noted, “The \$1 million

leadership gift for The Point will support the development of the facility and innovative concepts. It is yet one more powerful example of the legacy that Frank Clements established as an innovator ahead of his time and the philanthropic vision Vida Clements established.”





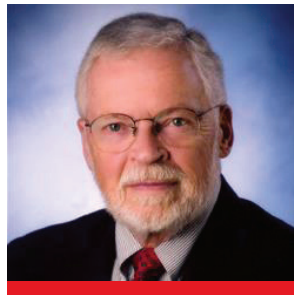
## Laying a Foundation for MBA Program Success

**Sean Donnelly MBA '07** and his wife, Kellyn, established The Sean T. and Kellyn E. Donnelly MBA Program Endowment to enhance the MBA program and attract future students. Their gift was the first-ever charitable gift endowment dedicated solely to assist with the cost of running a graduate

program. "Otterbein provided a unique learning experience during a hectic time in our lives. The family atmosphere and flexibility of the MBA program delivered the necessary work/life balance so many graduate students seek. Through this endowment, we hope the program can continue to find and retain other students who recognize the tremendous opportunities afforded by an Otterbein University education," Sean said.

## A Role Model for Annual Giving to Otterbein

Through his generous support of numerous areas at the University and most notably the annual Otterbein FUND, **Wendell Foote '60** has been standing with Otterbein for many years. He remains an advocate for the Otterbein FUND and is the largest consistent annual donor. Foote was honored during the STAND campaign with the Mary B. Thomas Commitment to Otterbein Award for his longstanding dedication and philanthropy.



## Innovative Pathways to Success

In support of the Model Community priority, The Nationwide Foundation gave a \$200,000 grant to support a groundbreaking partnership with the Columbus City Schools and The Point at Otterbein to enable teachers and students to receive a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) education.

The three-year initiative will include a teacher academy, engineering camps, arts-oriented programs and early orientation for Columbus public school students.

## Leading by Example

Chair of the Board of Trustees, **Mark '78**, and **Debbie Scott '77 Thresher**, wanted to honor the impact that Otterbein had in helping to prepare them for life. The couple committed \$150,000 for the establishment of the Deborah and Mark Thresher Family Scholarship for students majoring in music education — something near and dear to Debbie's heart. They also pledged \$350,000 to establish the Mark and Deborah Thresher Fellowship to provide funding for faculty and students to pursue scholarly activities, including research and travel, outside the classroom. The endowment will support experiential learning at Otterbein as part of the Five Cardinal Experiences that were created during Mark's tenure on the Board of Trustees. "This is something we needed to do as a couple and give back to what nurtured us so well," Debbie said. "Otterbein is obviously where it all started for the two of us."



# OVERCOMING FEARS TO HELP OTHERS



**Meggin Kelley '19**

Meggin is an allied health major and recipient of a Richard and Carolyn Sherrick Five Cardinal Experiences Fund grant for experiential learning.

“I want to say thank you for the support that I received to complete an experience that helped me discover more about myself, what I'm capable of, and who I can be.”

I made the decision to complete a 6-week professional internship abroad in Cape Town, South Africa. I never could have anticipated the ways my experience would help me grow. During my first day, I learned that I would be handling primarily Neurological Physical Therapy cases, something that I had never experienced before. This was intimidating, but through encouragement, I overcame my fears and excelled. One student, on that first day, fought any therapy. Through trial and retrial, we convinced him to complete the tasks we knew he could do. We helped him have confidence in his own abilities. This was an important discovery for me. The tactics I used to encourage the student were the very same tactics my mentors used to encourage me to be a more outgoing, confident intern. This was my transformational moment — to discover that the best way to learn is by doing.

*Meggin says that taking a bold risk and traveling 8,215 miles by herself was important to her development as a professional and a person. Her transformational experience was funded in part by the Sherrick Five Cards Fund. She says that Otterbein prepared her for her experience in South Africa and that her experiences there prepared her to become a more confident leader — one who is different and ready to take on risk again.*





## “FIRSTS” MADE POSSIBLE BY SUPPORT



Mikayla, pictured above in the front row center, is a systems engineering major and has benefitted from campaign gifts to support The Point at Otterbein.

“My accomplishments would not be possible without the academic, emotional and financial support from Otterbein University. I would like to thank everyone for standing with me and supporting me as I grew into the leader, scholar and engineer I am today.”

My time at Otterbein is defined by “firsts.” As a freshman, I was the first student to speak at the press conference to announce plans for The Point. Stepping off the event stage, I was offered my first professional internship at Lake Shore Cryotronics — this was the first time I thought of myself as a scholar. After an amazing summer working at Lake Shore, I worked at Honda of America Manufacturing for two consecutive summers. After my last internship, I received my first job offers from seven different departments within Honda. This spring, I’ll be a part of the first graduating class of systems engineering majors at Otterbein. It’s the first time I am not nervous to take this leap because I’m confident that Otterbein has given me what I need to succeed.

*Mikayla said faculty encouragement and Otterbein funding enabled her to attend leadership conferences to help her achieve her goal of establishing the first Otterbein affiliate of the Society of Women Engineers. Throughout her career, she has served as an advocate — helping to recruit young women into engineering. She was a panelist for the Westerville Women in Business Luncheon and received the Otterbein Student Bread and Roses Award for her contributions and leadership on women’s issues.*

# CAMPUS RENEWAL



## Transformative Gift Plants the Seed for Innovative Learning

Otterbein’s construction of The Point received a \$1.17 million gift from the **George H. H’91 and Gladys Dunlap H’93** Trust during the STAND Campaign. George, former CEO of Nationwide Insurance, served many years on Otterbein’s Board of Trustees and the Harrison County board of education. Gladys was a teacher and world traveler. The Dunlaps’ longtime support of Otterbein also includes Dunlap Gallery (Battelle Fine Arts Center), Dunlap-King Hall, the Dunlap Faculty Conference area (Roush Hall), and the Dunlap Emergency Loan Fund, as well as a memorial scholarship in their names endowed through Gladys’ estate.

## Teaching Sustainability Within Our Campus Community

Global warming, water scarcity and disappearing arable land are some of the reasons behind the creation of the Innovative Sustainability Fund through a generous donation made by **Alan Goff ’75** and Coral Harris. The \$100,000 gift will support a solar powered well and an outdoor laboratory at The Point to help fund programming and internships for students in the Sustainability Studies program at Otterbein. “To us, sustainability means living responsibly within the confines of the earth’s natural resources,” Alan and Coral wrote in an explanation for establishing this fund. In addition to creating this fund, Alan and Coral support the Otterbein Fund and have made generous provisions in their estates for the future of Otterbein.



## Taking Community Partnerships to a New Level

The American Electric Power (AEP) Foundation donated \$500,000 toward the completion of The Point at Otterbein during the Where We STAND Matters campaign. Students, educators, business, industry and community partners work together at The Point through hands-on experiences, internships and job placements in Central Ohio. “We are impressed with the hands-on opportunities offered at The Point alongside the integration of the liberal arts and the one-to-one teaching by faculty and area business experts,” said Nicholas K. Akins, chairman, president and CEO, who also serves as the chairman of the AEP Foundation. “Otterbein is advancing the future of our leaders and learners and we’re pleased to support their integrated and hands-on efforts. We expect these new labs will offer the space to learn, test, fail and thrive.”





## Preserving Our History to Move Otterbein Forward

**Dick LeGrand '62** and his late wife, **Glenna '64**, are loyal and long-time supporters of Otterbein. Their generosity has made a difference for Otterbein through 31 years of giving to the annual Otterbein FUND; a cash gift to establish a fund for the preservation of the Frank

Museum's art collection to provide resources to extend the life of Otterbein's art collection; and an estate commitment that will give Otterbein the discretionary ability to meet its most pressing institutional needs at the time the gift is realized. "I give to Otterbein because of the importance of education. The quality of the experience—the academic, the social and the spiritual — and the maturing process that happens here is so important. Otterbein people believe in encouraging students—not only in how to accept responsibility but how to accomplish their goals," says LeGrand.

## Love and Music Inspire a Gift for Campus Renewal

The melodic sound of inspirational music was always central to the life that **Virginia "Ginny" Phillippi Longmire '55** led with her late husband, **Howard Longmire '55**, starting when they first met at Otterbein.

In memory of her husband and their shared love of music, Ginny donated

\$150,000 toward the restoration of the Battelle Fine Arts Center, the current home of Otterbein's music department. In support of campus renewal, Ginny shared, "I am so happy that I have some resources to share in this way. The restoration will dress up Battelle Hall a bit and make it more compatible with other buildings in that part of campus." Her gift supported the replacement of old, boarded up windows as well as exterior improvements to restore the historic features of the building.



## Strengthening Our Town-Gown Relationships for Students to Excel

Recognizing the need for the convergence of education, industry, business and community, the City of Westerville generously invested \$1 million in the bold vision for The Point at Otterbein. "From prototype development, to capstone

experiences, to internships working side-by-side with industry professionals, The Point gives students the experience of moving from idea generation and product design to the marketplace," said Erin Bender, executive director of The Point at Otterbein University. "In addition, the State of Ohio committed an unprecedented \$775,000 in support for The Point."

## BECOMING A LEADER ON AND OFF THE FIELD



**Jaden Lunger '18**

Jaden, pictured above holding the trophy, is a philosophy and sociology major and recipient of the GAR Foundation Scholarship.

“Otterbein has taught me the values of open-mindedness and challenging myself and others. It's taught me that with support, expression and love, that positive change can be made.”

Coming in, I was just as excited and nervous to start college as I remember being on my first day of high school. I was a stranger to Otterbein, it was a place I had only visited once before because the soccer coach was interested in having me play for the program. There I was, a freshman studying athletic training and playing soccer. By sophomore year I decided to study philosophy and sociology instead, my first steps into the world of humanities. I was trying to figure out who I was and who I wanted to be. What does it take to be a good leader? I was surrounded by so many people that supported me and cared about my success. Otterbein had my back. I've formed many incredible bonds with amazing individuals that I've met here. I've learned so much about myself and the world we all find ourselves preparing to enter and explore.

*Jaden was a standout defender for the Otterbein men's soccer program. A four-time All-OAC athlete, he was voted the league's Defender of the Year in 2016 and 2017 before also receiving All-Ohio and All-Region status. He was a recipient of the Ohio Athletic Conference Clyde Lamb Award. In his senior year, Jaden led the team to 19-3 overall, helping to advance to the NCAA Sweet 16 in Chicago.*







# THE VALUE OF FAMILY AND GIVING BACK INSPIRES GIFT TO HELP FUTURE STUDENTS

by Ed Syguda

## *Love times two sums*

up the lives of Otterbein Professor Joan Rocks and her twin sister, Jean Rocks Mizia, who passed suddenly in 2010 at the age of 45, leaving behind a husband and five children.

From that moment on “it was important for me to develop something in Jean’s name so she could always be remembered,” said Joan, who serves as chair of the Health and Sport Sciences (HSS) Department at Otterbein University. “I had a hard time after her passing. We used to talk every day on the phone. There were many days after she passed that I would

pick up the phone to call her on my drive home from work. It was a habit I had.”

Joan finally settled upon establishing a scholarship in the name of her sister and, after the urging of family members, decided to add a second scholarship in her own name. Two new scholarships, the Jean A. Rocks Mizia Endowed Scholarship and the Dr. Joan E. Rocks Endowed Scholarship came to fruition in 2018 as part of the Where We STAND Matters campaign. Joan credits President Emerita **Kathy Krendl H’18**, Cheryl Herbert Senden, member of the Otterbein Board of Trustees, and **Jane Morrison Horn ’50**, who recently passed,



as influential and inspirational in her decision to fund the two scholarships and give back to the University.

“This gift is more than about giving back—it is about making a difference for someone,” Joan said “That was one of the main driving forces of Jean throughout her entire life. She always thought of others first, and would put off her own work, errands and especially sleep to get so many things done for others. Regardless of what was happening in her life, she found time to give back on so many levels, including the PTO, church, neighbors, and especially family; and she always had a smile on her face.”

Joan, too, reflects her twin sister when it comes to putting others first. Throughout her 27-year career at Otterbein, Joan has faithfully served the campus in numerous leadership roles, including chairperson for the HSS department, during which time the department saw enrollment double in size thanks to strategic vision and collaboration among colleagues. Additionally, Joan has served as a mentor to countless students and participated as an engaged partner on several committees, presidential search and campus governance groups.

Jean and Joan were the first two of five children born into the Rocks family. “My mom didn’t know she was having two,” Joan said. “I was the surprise baby. Jean came first. We were the only twins that I knew of in our neighborhood. We grew up in a very close-knit neighborhood in Pittsburgh. We all went to the same church. All ended up playing on the same athletic teams. Jean was not an athlete, but she was always the team manager. She was always the organizer. That

was her strength. Working with people was her strength.”

The family’s idyllic life took a pause when at the age of 16, the twins lost their father to a major heart attack. The youngest in the family, Jennifer, was just 5 years old. “Having three other siblings, trying to help

in sports medicine/athletic training, Jean, industrial engineering with an emphasis on healthcare administration. After graduation, the pair separated. Joan went onto graduate school at Canisius College and then onto her first job at Heidelberg College in 1986. Jean moved to Youngstown, OH, and worked at a local hospital.

Then tragedy struck the Rocks family again. Jean and Joan lost their mother in 1988 and were appointed legal guardian of their youngest sister, Jennifer, who was 13 years old. The twins both looked for jobs in Pittsburgh. Jean struck first, landing a job at Allegheny General Hospital and moved back home to Pittsburgh to take care of Jennifer. Joan remained at Heidelberg College — coming home on weekends and breaks — until accepting a position at Otterbein in 1992. Jean rose to the position of vice president at Allegheny. She left in 1999 to marry Robert Mizia, who had three children of his own, and moved to New Jersey. The couple would add two more.

“For as long as I can remember Jean wanted at least five children to love and raise,” Joan said. “She truly thought being a mom

and having a family to care for was the ultimate and most valuable and rewarding role she could play. It was also very rewarding for me to watch Jean be a mom. She instilled the value of family as well as caring and giving back to others in all of us but especially her children. To this day, we are a close-knit family and her children are among the closest group of siblings I know.”

Through these scholarships, Jean will long be remembered, and, just as importantly, her twin sister, Joan, too. ●



**Top photo:** Sisters Jean, Jennifer and Joan celebrate Jennifer’s wedding day. **Bottom photo:** Joan teaching a class in the Department of Health and Sport Sciences.



mom out with everything that was going on, that’s kind of where Jean and I assumed our roles as caretakers and making sure everyone lived by the family values, putting family first,” Joan said. “We did not have a lot of money. Mom lived on social security, and that’s how she took care of us.”

The two remained inseparable. Both went to Marietta College, initially as pre-med majors, and lived in the same dormitory as freshmen. Joan joined the softball team, Jean, a sorority. Joan majored





# RECENT CAMPAIGN GIFTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

## Johnsons Share Story of Love, Family and Philanthropy



Both **Mark Johnson '82** and his wife, **Debbie Hillis Johnson '84**, grew up in small rural communities with limited

opportunities and they firmly believe in the value of higher education and in the importance of enabling the growth of future leaders. They also consider it important to address the financial need of students who may or may not qualify under governmental need-based programs and for this reason, they have established the **Deborah (Hillis) Johnson '84 and Mark Johnson '82 Endowed Student Leadership Scholarship**, to assist students in becoming leaders while earning a degree at Otterbein.

Debbie and Mark were recipients of scholarships as college students and now they have become donors, because it is important to them to pay it forward. When it comes to giving, Mark said that it is important to “walk

the walk and talk the talk, so to speak.” To learn more about Mark and Debbie and their gift to Otterbein, please visit [www.otterbein.edu/leaderswhogive](http://www.otterbein.edu/leaderswhogive).

## Inspiring a New Generation of Philanthropy

Steven and Patricia Steinour generously donated \$125,000 in honor of their daughter, **Kaitlin Steinour '15**, to establish the **Kaitlin Steinour '15 Communications Endowed Scholarship**.

Kaitlin, a public relations graduate, was actively involved on campus, singing with Ottertuned and as a member of Sigma Alpha Tau Sorority.

The scholarship will provide lasting support for students in the Communications department and will help students with resources they need to continue meaningful academic work both in and outside the classroom, just as Kaitlin did. The endowment also honors



the family's commitment to philanthropy and a meaningful way for Kaitlin to follow the impact of the scholarship with annual reports and opportunities to know student recipients.

## Alumnus Helping to Meet the Needs of Students

During a visit to campus, **Jeff Wilson '85** was inspired by the mission of The Promise House, a student-led community resource center and food pantry for Otterbein students that builds community to break down socioeconomic barriers to student success. Wilson has been generously supporting The Promise House regularly ever since. “The Promise House didn't exist when I was in school and I think it's such a fantastic resource for students. It's everything Otterbein is about: we are driven by action. I'm deeply committed to getting these students through school,” says Wilson.



# ORGANIZATIONS PARTNER WITH OTTERBEIN

In recent months, Otterbein has acknowledged both returning and new organizational supporters. **The Austin E. Knowlton Foundation** gave an additional \$100,000 for its endowed scholarship created in 2005. More than 16 students have benefited from the scholarship over the years.

The **Sertoma Club of Westerville** endowed a scholarship with a \$50,000 gift. The scholarship is for students in the Westerville community, with a preference for those with communicative disorders, an area important to Sertoma's service mission. The Club officers John Seith,

Jerrold Brown, and John and **Andrea Stoughton P'11** voted to continue to grow the fund annually through its national endowment.



Two events in the summer months had significant outreach. A press conference for **Nationwide Foundation** in July showcased the Foundation's support of the groundbreaking partnership that allows Columbus City Schools' teachers and students to receive STEAM education over the summer at Otterbein University. Nationwide attendees and partner speakers, including Chair of the Otterbein Board of Trustees, **Mark Thresher '78**, were interviewed by local media, including WCMH-NBC 4.

In August, Otterbein and **OhioHealth** (pictured right) teamed



up to host a Corporate Alumni Lunch at McConnell Heart Health Center in Columbus. More than 40 alumni and friends registered for the luncheon, hosted by Otterbein Trustee Cheryl Herbert Sinden and alumna **Donna Hanly '00**.

The **Otterbein Women's Leadership Network**, known as "The NET," provides a stream of educational, networking, and transformational leadership opportunities for girls, university students, and community leaders. The members chose last spring to honor President Emerita **Kathy Krendl 'H18** by endowing a scholarship in her name through a collective major gift.

### Grants Help Faculty Provide Meaningful Programs

Kristy McCray, assistant professor in Health Sport Sciences received funding



from the Ohio Department of Higher Education to establish a program called "Zero Tolerance Approach: Sexual Assault Prevention Education for Student-Athletes." This 10-week comprehensive bystander intervention program is designed specifically for intercollegiate student-athletes. The program is built on

key curricular components such as awareness of sexual assault and consent, risk reduction and bystander intervention. The pilot program, which started this fall, may be developed for other campuses.

Melissa Gilbert, Otterbein's director for the Center for Ccommunity Engagement, received funding from the Westerville Fund for a Pop-Up Shop, which the Engineering Department will build on a large tricycle or trike. The Pop-Up Shop is a social entrepreneurial project enabling The Promise House, along with the Otterbein Women's Club Thrift Shop, to meet needs by raising awareness of services, increasing numbers of clients, and leveraging funds and material donations to sustain their work.

## CAMPAIGN DONOR HONOR ROLL

Otterbein University deeply appreciates each and every gift from our incredible alumni, students, faculty, staff, parents and extended community. Your generosity throughout the campaign increased access and affordability for our students, helped us build a model community of educators, leaders, learners and keeps our campus beautiful. Thank you to our 10,000+ donors who have made an impact!

The honor roll below is reflective of gifts and commitments totaling \$25,000 or more made to the Where We STAND Matters campaign between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2018.

† Denotes deceased.

### Commitments of \$1,000,000 and above:

Anonymous  
Cameron Allen '47 †  
Annie Upper Ames '86  
City of Westerville  
The Vida S. Clements Foundation  
George H. & Gladys R. Dunlap Trust  
Alan R. Goff '75 & Coral Harris  
The Austin E. Knowlton Foundation  
ElDoris J. McFarland '53  
Thomas C. '63 & Sarah Morrison  
Nevalyn Fritsche Nevil '71  
"O" Club Foundation  
The Pioneer Fund  
David L. Ward '74

### Commitments of \$500,000 – \$999,999:

Anonymous  
Morton J. H'00 & Barbara K. Achter  
American Electric Power Foundation  
Tom E. '36 & Jean E. Brady †  
Michael '61 & Judy Pohner '61 Christian

Gary & Beth Daugherty  
Joanne Klepinger Ditmer '50  
Michael E. Ducey '70 & Pattie Black-Ducey  
John T. '57 & Eileen Fagan '57 Huston P'85 P'89  
Raymond '43 & Helen Boyer '43 Jennings †  
Kathy A. Krendl H'18 & Richard S. Gilbert H'18  
Richard '62 & Glenna '64 † LeGrand  
Virginia Phillippi Longmire '55  
The Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges  
Joan E. Rocks  
Peggy Miller Ruhlin '79  
James & Kathleen Rutherford P'99  
State of Ohio  
Kent D. Stuckey '79  
Mark R. '78 & Deborah Scott '77 Thresher P'05

### Commitments of \$250,000 – \$499,999:

Matthew R. D'Oyly '04 & Matt Haverman  
Jane Dudinsky  
Stanley & Leokadia Cummings '48 Jensen †  
Nationwide Foundation  
Susannah Rose

Richard A. '29 & Charlotte H'91 Sanders †  
Lois Francis Szudy MAE'99  
Westerville Otterbein Women's Club  
Alec & Kathleen Wightman

### Commitments of \$100,000 – \$249,999:

Miriam Fetzer Angerer '84  
Warren Benson  
Richard '63 & Jean Davidson '63 Berry  
John W. '61 † & Betty H'13 Campbell P'84  
C. Brent DeVore H'86 P'91 &  
Nancy E. Nikiforow H'09 P'04  
Susan Echols  
David W. '75 & Beth Fisher P'11  
Wendell L. Foote '60  
Jim '71 & Linda Francis  
Gwendolyn Blum Garrison '46 P'73 †  
Chad & Amy Hamann  
Joseph & Marilyn Harpster P'99  
David R. & Loretta Evans '69 Heigle  
Jane Morrison Horn '50 †





Philip L. Johnson '63  
 Sandra A. Jones  
 Christine Clawson Judd  
 Jan & Phyllis Beach '60 † Litton  
 Craig O. Morrison  
 Luis & Mary Navarro P'11  
 Vernon L. Pack '50  
 William O. & Elizabeth Reed  
 The Reinberger Foundation  
 Elizabeth A. Salt  
 Richard '54 & Carolyn Brown '53  
 Sherrick  
 Stephen & Patricia Steinour P'15  
 Diana M. Topolnicky-Geary  
 Don '55 & Dorothy Unger  
 Sharon van der Walde  
 Gus Van Sant, Sr.  
 Ruth Gaugh Vogel '60 †  
 Alan Waterhouse '82 &  
 Beena Wycliffe  
 The Wendy Foundation/Van Sant Family  
 Ben H. Williams

**Commitments of \$50,000 – \$99,999:**

Anonymous  
 Thomas R. & Carolyn Cadier  
 William E. '54 & Barbara  
 Seabrook '54 † Cole  
 John B. & Olive S. Cook Foundation  
 Alan & Christy Coupland  
 Lauren Cummings  
 William A. '67 & Deborah  
 Ewell '67 Currin  
 Michael & Catherine DeMane  
 Louis P. Diefenbach Fund of the  
 Dayton Foundation  
 Duane H. '60 & Arline  
 Speelman '60 Dillman  
 Sean T. MBA '07 & Kellyn Donnelly  
 Jeff Dorsey & Marcel G. Mahaffey  
 James '43 & Freda † Eby  
 Jon C. & Lisa Fletcher  
 William S. Gornall '67 P'92  
 Dorothy Allsup Harbach '38 †  
 Eddie '94 & Valerie Harrell  
 Diane Kristine Harvey  
 Kathlene Hicks  
 Michael A. Hoggarth  
 John G & Winifred R Hoyt  
 Trust Fund  
 Mark A. '82 & Deborah Hillis '84  
 Johnson  
 Chris '77 & Karen Kaiser  
 Mary G. Keck P'60 †  
 Kyle Miller Memorial Race  
 Lambda Gamma Epsilon  
 Michael G. '69 & Deborah Leadbetter  
 David E. '70 & Claudia H'97  
 Lehman P'07  
 Jane M. Leiby '73  
 David & Robyn Lupica  
 Kurt W. Lykins MBA'15  
 Carol A. MacRae '67  
 Kristin Michaloski

Oakland Nursery  
 Ohio ENT & Allergy Physicians  
 OhioHealth  
 Paul '66 & Laurie Elwell '67 Paulus  
 Doug Payne  
 Thomas & Kathleen Perrine  
 Pi Beta Sigma Alumni Association  
 Thomas & Victoria Picciochi  
 Jennifer M. Prikkel  
 Matthew P. '88 & Kristine Heston '88  
 Puskarich  
 Paul S. '68 & Sheila Reiner  
 Roush Honda  
 Dwight Peter Sanderson  
 Louise Stouffer Schultz '49 P'70 P'76  
 Stacey L. Scott  
 Ethel Lawyer Shaw '40 †  
 Cheryl Herbert & Joel Sinden  
 Hilary Stiff Tarantino  
 Richard Taylor '66 P'97  
 Carol A. Thompson '61  
 The Joanne Van Sant Trust  
 The Robert and Margaret Walter  
 Foundation

Westerville Sertoma Club  
 John A. '66 & Karen Persson '67  
 Whalen  
 Robert J. '48 and Eleanor J. Wilcox †  
 Robert E. '56 & Annbeth Sommers  
 '56 Wilkinson  
 Mable M. Williams  
 Robin Worden  
 Robert E. Woodruff '67  
 David S. & Olivetta McCoy Yohn '51  
 P'73 P'78 †

**Commitments of \$25,000 – \$49,999:**

Anonymous  
 Julie Abrams  
 Hugh D. '62 & Elizabeth Glor '64 † Allen  
 Frederick A. Ashbaugh '53 P'79  
 Aspen Community Foundation  
 Carmen Bagley P'99  
 Irvin J. '56 & Connie Bence  
 Peter R. '80 and Judy Harker '81 Bible  
 Jefferson R. & Denise  
 Blackburn-Smith  
 BMI Federal Credit Union  
 Dan H. '70 & Regina Parcels '70  
 Bremer P'98  
 Richard H. '49 & Carolyn Boda '50  
 Bridgman P'73 P'78  
 Henry C. Brooks P'87  
 Duane G. & Ellen Rapkin Buck  
 Susan L. Canfield '58  
 Fred O. '61 & Beverly Dornan '59  
 Ciminello  
 Rev. Robert C. Cole '60  
 Corna Kokosing Construction  
 Edmund L. '58 & Diane Daily '59  
 Cox P'87  
 David Lee Davis  
 Marianne deBarbadillo  
 Margaret Ann Dennis

Ruth "Petie" Dodrill  
 Charles R. '76 & Paula Bricker '77  
 Erickson P'08  
 Bruce Etkin P'21  
 William L. '56 & Sonya Stauffer '56  
 Evans  
 Michael Fardy  
 Virginia A. Ford '55  
 Ernest G. '38 & Neva Fritsche P'71 †  
 William C. Fritsche  
 Patricia M. Hajek P'66 †  
 Jeffrey & Martha Hargis  
 Reynold C. Hoefflin '57  
 Hudson Community Foundation  
 Joanne Van Sant Trust  
 The Ralph Johnston Family  
 Judith & Edward Ward Family  
 Foundation  
 John L. & Regina Kengla P'05  
 Thomas J. H'71 & Donna L. H'71 Kerr  
 John E. '68 & Susie King  
 Douglas R. '63 & Mary Pat H'00 Knight  
 James & Cathy Krendl  
 Kristina S. Krendl  
 Connie Hellwarth Leonard '63  
 Louise Laukhuff Irrevocable Trust  
 Eunice Lovejoy  
 Bruce G. Mandeville  
 Martha Holden Jennings Foundation  
 George Masselos  
 Conor McCaughley  
 Edward L. '58 & Constance Myers '60  
 Mentzer P'85  
 James D. '51 & Phyllis Reed '52  
 Morgan P'72 P'78  
 Marcella S. Murphy P'67  
 Roger & Betty Neff P'83 P'85  
 Brian E. '93 & Gwendolyn Swigart '93  
 Nichols  
 Mark N. Peters '70  
 Mindy S. Phinney '85  
 Mark A. & Maria C. Pizzi P'11  
 Presser Foundation

Rebecca Coleman Princehorn '78 &  
 Clay Cormany  
 The Mary B. Puskarich Families  
 Michael T. Puskarich '82  
 Roush Equipment Inc.  
 Grace Rohrer Rymer '48  
 Charles F. Salt †  
 James L. '99 & Elizabeth  
 Minnich '99 Saltzgeber  
 Marsha Rice Scanlin '74  
 Carl '49 † & Mildred Cox '48 Schafer  
 Patricia Schutz  
 Ron A. '92 & Ashley Kraynak '94  
 Severance  
 Emily A. Smith '65  
 Rev. Harvey B. Smith '55  
 Gary '64 & Judy R. Stansbury  
 Lawrence A. Stebleton '53  
 Norma Smith Stockman '63  
 Tau Epsilon Mu Alumnae  
 Jonathan & Susan Thomas  
 Malinda Van Sant  
 Warren Co. Foundation Depository  
 Margaret White  
 Wilson Grabill LLC  
 The Women's Fund of Central Ohio  
 Worthington Industries Foundation  
 Sherry Worthington  
 Elmer W. Yoest '53 P'77 P'80  
 Joseph J. & Deborah Yohn  
 Lois Abbott Yost '52  
 Robin Zimmerman

**Every gift made a  
 difference by impacting  
 the lives of our students.  
 To view a complete  
 listing of donors, please  
 visit [www.otterbein.edu/  
 standdonors](http://www.otterbein.edu/standdonors).**



# Giving Societies and 70 Years of Philanthropy

Philanthropy is a tradition that runs deep at Otterbein.

Since the institution was founded in 1847, donors and volunteers have helped accomplish incredible things. Every year, parents, alumni and community members engage with Otterbein by attending Homecoming, musicals, plays, sporting events, and community service plunges. Faculty and staff go the extra mile by supporting campus initiatives like student emergency funds and the Promise House food pantry.

Generosity has also transformed Otterbein. More than 10,000 people came together to contribute to the successful completion of the groundbreaking Where We STAND Matters campaign. Nearly 4,000 people give to the University on an annual basis, serving as catalysts to the University's growth. More than 3,000 of our annual supporters choose to designate their gifts to The Otterbein FUND, a critical source of unrestricted funds that provide for the institutional needs not covered by tuition.

To recognize the philanthropic spirit and generosity of all of our supporters, and celebrate the 70th anniversary of The Otterbein FUND, we are launching new and exciting ways to thank our donors for their impact. In addition to the existing Joanne Van Sant and 1847 Societies, we are adding new societies that honor all those who help shape Otterbein through their giving.

**Note: Otterbein's fiscal year is July 1 to June 30.**



**The 1847 Society:** Honors donors and their families who leave their estates in memory to Otterbein.



**The President's Society:** Honors donors who make gifts totaling \$5,000 or more, to any fund, within the fiscal year.



**The Joanne Van Sant Society:** Honors donors who make annual gifts of \$1,000 to \$4,999 to any fund, within the fiscal year.



**The GOLD Young Alumni Society:** Honors Graduates of the Last Decade who give \$100 or more for each year since graduation, to any fund, within the fiscal year.



**The Cardinal Loyalty Society:** Honors donors who give consecutively, from 2 years to 25+ years.

To learn more about all of our recognition societies, contact Katie Butt, director of annual giving, at [kbutt@otterbein.edu](mailto:kbutt@otterbein.edu) or 614-823-1472.



compiled by Becky Hill May '78, Tuesday Beerman Trippier '89 and Derek Parham '20

**Robert Crosby '50** celebrated his 90th birthday in June. He hosted a concert featuring Broadway guitarist Alvin Ailey as well as Leon Atkinson. Celebrating both Crosby's birthday and the 200th birthday of Frederick Douglas, the concert featured artists from all around the world.

**Marlie Griffin '75** recently retired after teaching special education for 41 years. In her retirement, she plans to read and travel as often as she can.

**Nancy Bocskor '79** is the first director of the Texas Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy. This program promotes civic engagement and public service on the Texas Woman's University campus.

**1954** reunion year  
Homecoming 2019

**1959** reunion year  
Homecoming 2019

**1964** reunion year  
Homecoming 2019

**1969** reunion year  
Homecoming 2019

**1974** reunion year  
Homecoming 2019

**1979** reunion year  
Homecoming 2019

**Beth Carnahan Cave '80** is a teacher with Conroe Independent School District in Conroe, TX.

**Susan Nguyen Abraham '80** is a substitute teacher at

Edmonton Public Schools in Alberta, Canada.

**Don Good '82** is stationed in Hong Kong, China, as a pilot for FedEx.

**Lynn Maurer '82** is the new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Lamar University in Beaumont, TX. She earned her master's and doctorate degrees in political science from The Ohio State University.

**Melinda Ulry '83** is an income tax administrator in the Finance Department for the City of Westerville.

**Kirk McDonald '85** was selected for the 11th Otterbein University Athletics Hall of Fame class for baseball.

**Jean Moats '85** is a librarian at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, RI.

**Lori Ashcraft Spinnenweber '85** is an account executive with Sheakley UniService, a human resources and risk management service in Columbus.

**C. Brent DeVore H'86** was recently recognized in the 11th Otterbein University Athletics Hall of Fame class for his contributions to the University during his presidency.

**Gregory Masters '87** works with Masters Insurance Group, a company that was named the largest personal lines agency for Nationwide in Ohio.

**Candace Viers-Hartzler '87** completed her master's in alcoholism and drug abuse ministry from The Methodist Theological School in Delaware, OH. Retired from The Ohio State University, she maintains a private practice in Clintonville and was a chosen presenter at the 2012 National Conference

## Giving Note

The trust of the late **Cameron Allen '47** has made a gift of \$1 million to Otterbein University: \$990,000 to support capital improvements at The Point at Otterbein and \$10,000 for the Otterbein FUND.

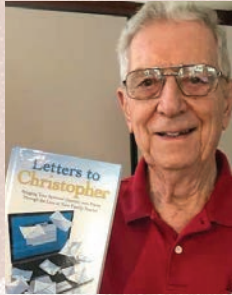


**Barbara Stephenson Lyter '49, Shirley Hanaford Philley '49, Alice Walter Stoddard '49, Marie Anderson Murray '49, and Evelyn Widner '49** have returned to Otterbein's campus every third Wednesday in August for a number of years to celebrate the beginning of classes as well as the beginning of their friendships that began here.



**Richard Andrews '75** is a United Methodist minister working as a pastor at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Spartanburg, SC. He previously worked as a polymer and rubber chemist.

## Otterbein Book Corner



**James Wagner '56** has authored six books in the area of prayer and holistic healing ministries. His latest book is *Letters to Christopher*.



**Elaine Clinger Sturtz '81** has recently published her fourth book, *Living in the Different: The Passages Through Sorrow and Loss*. She is a United Methodist minister and a licensed professional clinical counselor.



**Candace Hartzler '87** recently published a book titled *Learning to Love Differently*, a healing pathway for families of addicts.



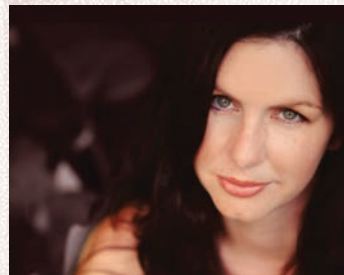
**Kerri Davidson '00** is a poet, author and screenwriter. She recently released her latest book of poems, *How to Fly*.



**Have you written and published a book? Let us know at [classnotes@otterbein.edu](mailto:classnotes@otterbein.edu). Send us a high-resolution photo of yourself and the book cover. Let all your Otterbein classmates know of your publishing success.**



**Mindy McGinnis '01** was inducted into the Cardington High School Alumni Hall of Fame honoring her successful career as an author of young adult literature. She has received eight awards for her novel, *A Madness So Discreet*. She is author of seven books and writes short stories.



on Addiction Disorders held in Washington, D.C.

**James Moyer '88** works as an intervention specialist with the New Lexington School District, New Lexington, OH.

**Jolene Thompson Tuttle '88** was elected vice chair of the American Public Power Association board of directors. She also serves as the executive vice president of American Municipal Power and executive director of the Ohio Municipal Electric Association.

**Jim Day '90** has been with the Cincinnati Reds for several years, filling in on TV play-by-play, as well as filling in for radio broadcasts. This coming season, he expects to have an increased broadcast workload with FOX Sports Ohio.

**Mark Curtis '91** was selected as a member of the Diversity & Equity Committee by the Ohio School Boards Association. He will be developing platforms to promote progress in Ohio.

Alumni of Jonda fraternity recently hosted a reunion with active members. Alumni in attendance were **Chuck Share '71**, **Jim Bruce '67**, **Tom Schultz '70**, **Tom Jent '69**, **Doug Smeltz '69**, **Mike Hudson '68**, **Jon Banning '69**, **Harry Mandros '69** and **John Roby '70**. Wives of many of the men of Jonda were in attendance as well, including **Pam Hennings Roby '70**, **Char Bennett Schultz '70** and **Karla Courtright Banning '70**.



**Jeff Yost '77** recently hiked the Chilkoot Trail in Alaska. In his retirement, he plans to hike the Buckeye Trail, a 1,444 mile trail that reaches each corner of Ohio.





**Terri Shipkowski '91** is an accounting assistant in the Finance Department for the City of Westerville.

**Kelly McAdams Reichert '92** recently had her artwork chosen for several exhibitions including Studios on High and Ohio Art League Spring Juried Exhibition. She was also chosen for a solo exhibition, *fellowship + solitude*, with Ohio Art League's X Space Gallery. Her paintings explored the relationship of color to light as well as the reflection of light on surfaces.

**Kathleen Miner Kisner '93** is an associate pastor at Walnut Street United Methodist Church in Chillicothe, OH.

**Michael Morgan '93** serves as the CEO of Updax, a company that offers secure communication channels to independent physicians. He has also worked closely with Otterbein, developing a program for interns placed in startups as well as helping to develop The Point.

**Larry Gifford '94** is a program director at CKNW, a public talk show based in Vancouver, Canada. He was diagnosed with young onset Parkinson's Disease and made his diagnosis public on World Parkinson's Day. He has been an advocate for those living with Parkinson's Disease by sharing his story through podcasts, blogs, television and social media.

**Scott Wilson '94** is a fine arts consultant with the Ohio Department of Education.

**Pam Nance Allen '96** recently celebrated 40 years of dedicated service to the Hanby House, the home of **Benjamin R. Hanby '1858**. She also edited the updated history for Church of the Messiah in Westerville.

**Melissa Carpenter Bell '96** is the director of membership outreach with the Ohio Pork Council in New Albany, OH.

**Larry French '96** is a detective for the Westerville Division of Police.

**Bryan Thao Worra '97** was appointed to serve on the state of Minnesota's council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans. He will be advising the Minnesota State Legislature on issues affecting the Asian American community.

**Timothy Duffey '98** is the CEO of Wellness Supply Group, a Columbus company founded with the goal to provide exercise therapy to those affected by illness, injury or aging.

**Brian Miller '98** is the fire chief for the City of Westerville Division of Fire.

**Matthew Zemanek '99** works with Rathbone Group, LLC., a national law firm focused on subrogation claims paid by an insurance company or self-insured entity.

**Deke Hocker '00** is the head football coach at St. Charles Preparatory School, Columbus.

**Lynnea Knobel Johnson '01** is a teacher with Groveport Madison Schools in Groveport, OH.

**Adam Bauer '03** is the vice president of category sourcing for JPMorgan Chase in Columbus.

**Wes Coulter '03** is an event specialist with Specialty USA, an event planning company based in Philadelphia.

**Claire Cahoon Curtis '03** works with the Ohio Public Defender's Office in Columbus.

Giving Note

Loyal Otterbein FUND donor **Jan Litton**, whose late wife **Phyllis Bench Litton '60** earned her B.A. in Psychology at Otterbein, has provided for more than \$200,000 in support of the University through an estate commitment.

Giving Note

A bequest of more than \$52,000 was received from the estate of the late **David '51 and Olivetta (Ollie) McCoy '51 Yohn** and more than \$5,200 was given in their memories for the **Kristine Yohn Wellness Program Endowment**, established by the Yohns in 2001 to support health and safety education and outreach programs for Otterbein students in their daughter's memory.

### Jennifer Morgan Flory '95

was awarded the Charles Dunn Award from the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges. The award is for a faculty member who goes beyond the traditional roles of a teacher or academic advisor, showing a commitment to education. She is interim co-chair of the music department, and professor of music and director of choral activities at Georgia College in Milledgeville, GA.



**Heather McLeish Juzenas '02** is the communications manager with The Energy Cooperative in Newark, OH, a member-owned electric, natural gas and propane utility service. She also recently received her MBA from Ashland University.

**Julie Wells '03** is a teacher for Westerville City Schools.

**Jennifer Stepancik '03** is employed with Amazon in Indianapolis.

**Richard Wheeless '03** is the chief financial officer for Squire Mining Ltd., a Canadian-based mineral mining company.

**Derrick Fetz '04** is the dean of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in Buffalo, NY.

**Katherine Meta Miller '04** was selected to be a 2018 WPT Education Innovator, an elite group of innovative Wisconsin educators. Through her work with kindergarten through fifth graders, she has proven to be a dedicated educator, serving as a model technology classroom for the district.

**Manilath Southammavong '04** is the director of external relations for the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio.

**Jonathan Juravich '05** will represent the educators of the State of Ohio for the 2019 NEA Foundation Awards for Teaching Excellence.

**Brandon Moss '05** is the district 15 president of the Ohio Music Education Association, president-elect of the Ohio Choral Directors Association and choir director at Central Crossing High School in Grove City.

**Sarah House Wilttrout '05** earned her master's degree in education curriculum and teaching from Bowling Green State University in May.

**Dennis Ziegler '05** is the new athletic director for Strongsville High School (OH). He received his master's degree from Marietta College and his Certified Athletic Administrator degree from the University of Maine.

**Nic Goldsberry '06** is a senior body design engineer at Honda R&D North America in Ohio and was recently awarded

an Automotive Excellence Award from the Steel market Development Institute.

**Dave Hutte '06** is the newscast director for Gray Television in Atlanta.

**Jessica Fuller Martin '06** is a teacher with Westerville City Schools.

**Chaz O'Neil '06** is the assistant director of fine arts for the Ohio State Fair and Expo. **Julie Nye '21, Shelleigh Harris '21, Susanna Harris '18, Kyra Bryan '09 and Flint Garabrant '09** are part of his crew of gallery assistants.

**Jared Rutecki '06** works with the Better Government Association (BGA) in Chicago as an investigative reporter and data coordinator. He recently published a groundbreaking series on the recent police

shootings in Chicago and assisted in the BGA being awarded the Eugene S. Pulliam First Amendment Award from the Society of Professional Journalists.

**Tara Trigg '06 MBA '16** is the business manager of the Westerville Electric Division, Westerville.

**Kristin Lavric '07** is a teacher at New Lexington City Schools, OH.

**Bret Billhardt '08** is the senior associate athletic director for athletic operations at Wittenberg University.

**Lucas Buck '08** is the director of sales for Farmers Insurance in Los Angeles, CA.

The Pi Beta Sigma Scholarship Foundation and Alumni Association committed more than \$77,000 to endow a fund that will provide scholarships for students who are active members of Pi Beta Sigma at Otterbein. **Jeff Rutter '97, Dick Beckner '69 and Karl Niederer '75** provided leadership and guidance to Pi Beta Sigma in establishing the scholarship.

Giving  
Note



**Tyler TerMeer '05** was selected as a 2018 Forty Under 40 award winner in *The Portland Business Journal*. Through his work with the Cascade AIDS Project, a nonprofit that offers free HIV testing as well as assists those who live with the disease, he has shown that he is a dynamic individual who will prove to be influential in his community's future.

**Tracey Berg-Fulton '07** was promoted to web developer with the National Kidney Foundation, an organization that helps those affected by kidney disease. She also recently took first place in the Women's 90 kg Open Raw category at the U.S. Powerlifting Association Pennsylvania State Championship.





## Aaron Kerr '91

## This Alumnus Discovered Much in the Campus Center — Including Love

By Aaron Kerr '91

**Aaron Kerr '91** recalls how the Campus Center impacted his student experience. After graduating from Otterbein, he earned his master's degrees in divinity and theological studies and a doctorate degree in philosophical theology. He currently teaches at Gannon University. He is married to **Gretchen Hall Kerr '91**.



I remember vividly a local preacher who would come with some assistants and preach to the hundreds of students who came in and out of the Campus Center during lunchtime. We learned that freedom of speech and religious freedom are values any educational context must honor. On the green behind the Campus Center, a Reggae band played one Friday afternoon for students seated on the grass. The concrete preacher and the Jamaican Rastafarians could not have made for a more informed contrast.

In the late nineties, Kuwait was invaded by Iraq, and the United States declared: "This aggression will not stand." Many of us were upset by the news, some among us decided to boycott classes, thinking that it would be too difficult to concentrate while our peers were in mortal danger. Dean Van Sant invited the student body to the Campus Center for a

campus-wide discussion. The gathering wound up the back steps, students hanging on the railings as they listened to each other's every word.

The Campus Center was the place where the community shared from the inside out — from the anxiety of war to the outlandish air-band competitions, rehearsed a thousand times in the inner sanctums of dorm and Greek houses. The Campus Center was a place of community catharsis.

Inside the Campus Center, you were exposed to the whole student body — The Theatre Department, Campus Programming Board, fraternities and sororities...The Campus Center was the way we embodied community; unity in diversity, never an easy task, or a task completed — the Campus Center was the living lab of integrative studies.

Otterbein had one dining option, and this was one of its greatest assets as far as I'm concerned. There are no strangers when every student eats in the same place.

Gretchen Hall and I met at the center of the dining hall, at the center of the campus, and good food and great conversation have been a staple in our lives ever since. There we learned to integrate our lives, together, from the inside out — to linger, talk, create and eat well with whatever we were given.

**Jessica Hilts '08** is a customer service representative with the Department of Planning and Development for Westerville.

**Peter Sichko '09** is a radiofrequency engineer with

Broadcast Sports International in Hanover, MD.

**Flint Garrabrant '09** is a high school art teacher with Southwest Licking School District in Etna, OH.

**Chelsea Hamons Nichols '09** is a city planner with the Department of Planning and Development for Westerville.

**Katherine Johnson Treadway '09** is head of regulatory affairs at One Energy Enterprises LLC, a private electric company and wind energy developer in Findlay, OH.

**Eryn Kane '10** is an administrative assistant and coordinator of recruiting and advising for the Department of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein University.

**Sean McDaniel '10** is the administrative assistant for animal programs at the Columbus Zoo.

**Charlotte Halliday Morello '10** is the marketing manager for Novasys LLC, a provider of innovative health care technology in Carlsbad, CA.

**Hannah Teitt Thompson '10** is the director of marketing automation and operations with McGrawHill Education in Columbus.

**Catherine Brunoehler '11** was selected for the 11th Otterbein

Giving Note

President Emeritus C. Brent DeVore H'96 P'91 and Nancy E. Nikiforow H'09 P'04 have established a \$100,000 bequest that will create a scholarship for first generation Otterbein students.

Giving Note

Last spring **Nationwide Foundation** awarded the \$200,000 grant "Creating Innovative Pathways and Opportunities" to **The Point at Otterbein**, supporting unique learning experiences for local and underserved middle, high school and community college students, plus training to help schoolteachers strengthen their impact in the classroom.

## Eight Patents and an Excellence Award for this MBA Alumnus

By Ed Syguda

**Nic Goldsberry MBA '06**, fondly referred to as the “man of steel” among engineers working at Honda R&D Americas, Inc. in Raymond, OH, received the Automotive Excellence Award from the Steel Market Development Institute last spring for his presentation about the use of Honda’s advanced high-strength steel innovations in the 2018 Honda Odyssey.

The 39-year-old helped lead the engineering team to a complete redesign of the Odyssey chassis. The Odyssey is comprised of 58 percent high-strength steel leading to high rigidity and a lightweight body.

“At 58 percent high-strength steel, that is a significant increase from the previous generation of the Odyssey,” Goldsberry said. “Although we increased the percentage of high-strength steel, we were able to decrease the body weight by 34 kilograms and still maintain our high safety marks.”

Goldsberry, principal body design engineer, joined Honda in 2002, fresh out of Indiana Institute of Technology where he earned his bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. He serves as technical leader for front- and rear-end styling along with aerodynamic devices. He holds eight patents with Honda.



“I always had a passion for cars,” Goldsberry said. “In college there was a contest called Mini Baja. We made small Baja cars, basically go-karts, and raced them. Honda was one of the sponsors. I talked to some of the Honda representatives and eventually submitted an application.”

After a couple of years on the job at Honda, Goldsberry decided to expand his knowledge, sensing that there was more that goes into building a vehicle than engineering.

Goldsberry, from Hilliard, OH, visited a number of schools in the area before he settled on Otterbein for his MBA. “I’m more of a person who likes to be in a small classroom, have direct communication with professors,” Goldsberry said.

“The Otterbein MBA program provided diverse experiences and perspectives that have proved valuable in my current role as a principal design engineer at Honda,” Goldsberry continued. “This education came not only from the course work, but also from the personal interactions and networking with teachers and students. I find myself leveraging those experiences today to help me think outside of the box. I know that the program made me a more well-rounded engineer and taught me the business acumen that I incorporate into the daily engineering I undertake at Honda.”

University Athletics Hall of Fame class for women’s golf.

**Mark Cramer '11** is the strategic planning manager with Turner Sports, a division of Turner Broadcasting System in Atlanta, GA.

**Steven Green '11** is the senior systems consultant, business analyst, and project manager for The Ohio State University.

**Samantha Paige Davis '12 MSN '18** works as a nurse at Adena Medical Center in Chillicothe, OH.

**Stanzi Detzel Davis Schalter '12** is a member of the logistics committee for Otterbein’s Theatre and Dance program.

**Marcy Eckhart '12** recently went to Guatemala with Surgicorps International, a provider of free medical and surgical care to developing countries. She provided anesthesia for charitable GYN, pediatric, trauma, and general surgery cases.

**Catherine Mackay Kerber '12, Jarod Smith '15** and Hugh Evans, an international exchange student during fall '11, have been living abroad in London since 2012,

exemplifying international education.

**David Kruk '12** works in wholesale sales and marketing with America’s Floor Source, based in Columbus.

**Janelle Myers '12** is the communications manager for Bridgeway Academy, Columbus.

**Cailin Sendelbach '12** participated in Miami University’s Earth Expeditions, traveling to the Amazon Rainforest to study avian and tropical ecology. She is a science

teacher at Gahanna Middle School South in Gahanna, OH.

**Ashley Bruehl '13** is an insurance coordinator with Rocky Mountain CARES, an HIV/AIDS advocacy group in Denver, CO.

**Elizabeth Carr '13** is a Columbus recruiter for Ohio Christian University in Circleville, OH.

**Amanda Zahn Cohen '13** is a marketing coordinator for Temple Beth Shalom, a Jewish synagogue in New Albany, OH.



## Chris '08 and Erin Sites Ensign '08

### Found at Otterbein: Friendships, Career Directions and Each Other

By Shirley Scott '70

**Erin Sites Ensign '08** from Fredericktown, OH, was looking for a small school, while **Chris Ensign '08** from Columbus needed a college near his full-time job. What they found was Otterbein, career direction, treasured friendships — and each other!

Chris's business major led to an MBA and his current credit portfolio managership at Huntington Bank. Erin parlayed her public relations/journalism major and four years on the *Tan and Cardinal* staff, including a year as editor, into her position at the Columbus Zoo as manager of the Jack Hanna team.

The couple began dating their senior year and, along with their 2008 classmates, said farewell to Otterbein, stepping into careers, marriage — and the Great Recession. And yet, Erin and Chris now return to campus regularly, more involved in the life of Otterbein than ever.

In 2013, the Ensigns joined **Maggie Ellison '10** as "founding members" of the Young Alumni Board, formed to advise the university as representatives of its youngest graduates.



In the ensuing years, this group of millennials and beyond has further defined its role by bridging the gap between generations of traditional alumni and those who today graduate with affinities to an ever-increasing number of interests, all competing for their attention.

Chris and Erin provide leadership as the Young Alumni Board focuses its energies on three fronts: marketing/recruitment with activities such as the popular Puppies and Pints at The Point; events to encourage alumni participation in campus get-togethers; and philanthropy to coordinate donations of time, talent and treasure.

Appreciative that Otterbein was what they and their classmates needed, Erin and Chris help the board speak for alumni under 40 while encouraging these most recent grads to support the Otterbein of the future.

In response to questions about campus changes since their graduation day, the Ensigns cited physical differences including a new dormitory and The Point. However, echoing alumni of all ages, for Chris and Erin: "It is still Otterbein."

**Courtney Kast '13** is a dentist in Port Clinton, OH.

**Kelli Draher Kulp '13** works as a critical care nurse at Grant Medical Center, Columbus.

**Adelyn Passaro '13** is the owner of her own yoga studio, Homegrown Yoga, located in Columbus.

**Tiffany Rader '13 MAE '18** is a first grade teacher with Dublin City Schools, OH.

**Sydney Tammarine '13** is an adjunct English professor at Ferrum College, Ferrum, VA.

**George Balut II '14** is the manager of sterile processing at OhioHealth Grove City Methodist Hospital.

**Christine Humphrey '14** had a poster presentation accepted by the Nursing Management Congress and is working to publish her studies in the *Journal for Specialists in Pediatric Nursing*.

**Bicetta Partlow '14** works as a certified registered nurse anesthetist at Avita Hospital System in Galion, OH.

**Aaron Tieman '14** works at Penn State University – Erie as a student activities coordinator.

**Margaret Trevino '14** recently completed her doctor of nursing degree at Wilkes University Passan School of Nursing in WilkesBarre, PA.

**Britney Peck Warburton '14** works in Westerville City Schools.

**Denton Warburton '14** is a school psychologist in Dublin City Schools, OH.

**Kristine Josson '15** is employed with United States Anesthesia Partners in Houston, TX.

**Audrey Leach '15** is a teacher in Columbus City Schools, OH.

**Andrew Lingrel '15** works with Cardinal Health in Columbus, as the lead coordinator for medical supplier agreements.

Giving Note

In May, the **Austin E. Knowlton Foundation** contributed \$100,000 to the **Austin E. Knowlton Memorial Scholarship** at Otterbein, bringing its total scholarship support to \$400,000 since the fund was created by **Foundation Trustees** in memory of **Austin E. "Dutch" Knowlton** in 2005.

Giving Note

**Mary and Luis Navarro P'11** have made a generous multi-year commitment to the **Otterbein FUND** and for **Campus Center Renewal**. Mary has served on the Otterbein Board of Trustees since 2014.

## Entertainment Center

### Robert Liotti '86

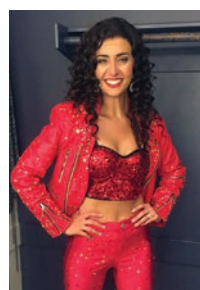
was recently the lead actor, writer and director of his screenplay, *Family Values – The Rise of Anthony Morelli*. This project was unique in that there was no actual budget aside from \$300 allocated to still photography and minor materials. Liotti still saw his film eventually picked up by Punch TV, a publicly held network based in Los Angeles and later offered for distribution in the USA, the Far East, Germany, Spain, and Italy.



**Johnny Steiner '96** presented a concert in August called *Love Scenes*. Hosted at Otterbein University, it featured a program from the Great American Songbook and golden age of pop music. Backing up Steiner throughout the concert were **Eileen Huston '57**, **Paul Baker '15** and David K. Johnston.



In a production of *The Fantasticks* at the Northland Performing Arts Center, **Ian Short '93** directed, **Cabot Rea '78** played El Gallo, **Heidi Kok '04** was choreographer, and **Kent Stuckey '79** was producer and played Henry.



**Marina De Macedo Pires '14** will be touring North America as an ensemble member of the Broadway musical, *On Your Feet!* The show is a celebration of heritage and love surrounding the main characters Gloria and Emilio Estefan.

**Joanna Ross Schroeder '17** has been working on Broadway for *Wicked*, *Les Misérables*, and, most recently, as company manager for an off-Broadway show called *Puffs!* Fellow alumna, **Kaila Hill '15**, is the stage manager for the show, which will be shown at movie theaters across the nation.



**Todd Crain '94** was recently a guest star on *Law and Order* with Academy Award nominee Anne Archer.



**Melissa Catherine Schlecht '18** is a stitcher for the Ogunquit Playhouse, a regional theater located in Maine.

**Nicholas Pitzer '15** is a police officer for the Marion City Police Department, OH.

**Alexandria Weber '15** is an applications chemist with CEM Corporation, a company that provides microwave instruments for food production as well as environmental testing.

pharmaceutical medicines, health and research.

**Brian Flowers '16** is a nurse at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus.

**Cara Hardy '16** is completing her second year in the biomedical sciences doctoral program at UConn Health. She

is working towards a doctorate degree with a concentration in neuroscience. Currently, she is working in the Center on Aging, studying urinary dysfunction in the context of aging.

**Marlena Latham Luikart '16** is a field canvas director with Clean Water Action, an

environmental advocacy group in Washington, D.C.

**Connor Musial '16** is working with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Wilmington, NC.

**Hanna Wiley '16** is a teacher at Olentangy Orange Middle School, Lewis Center, OH.



**Luke Hassenpflug '17** is an elementary teacher at Bridgeway Academy, Columbus.

**Ivy Hou '17** is a financial analyst with Scotts MiracleGro, Marysville, OH.

**Mikayla Pieper '17** is the executive director of the Paulding Chamber of Commerce, OH.

**Kevin Ahman '18** works with Northern Colorado Anesthesia Professionals.

**Ashley Beaujon MSN'18** is a nurse at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus.

**Katie Beth Carroll MSN'18** works with Society Hill Anesthesia in Philadelphia, PA.

**Sadie DeWitt '18** is a global finance and business management analyst for JPMorgan Chase in Columbus.

**Amanda Esselstein MSN '18** works at OhioHealth Doctors Hospital in Chillicothe, OH.

**Regan Claire Fedor MSN'18** is a nurse at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

**Michael Grimm '18** is the elementary band and vocal music teacher for the Olentangy Local School District, Delaware County, OH.

**Stephen Hoffman MSN'18** works as a nurse at Springfield Medical Center, OH.

**Emily Jeffries '18** is a reporter with Columbus Business First in Columbus.

**Hannah Kuo '18** is a registered nurse with OhioHealth in Columbus.

**Timothy Maiden MSN'18** works as a nurse at Adena Medical Center in Chillicothe, OH.

**Audra Miller-Schaar MSN'18** is a nurse at Fairfield Medical Center in Lancaster, OH.

**Gregory Mountain MSN'18** is a nurse at OhioHealth Doctors Hospital in Columbus.

**Casey Mueller MSN'18** works as a nurse at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

**Koryn Naylor '18** is an account manager with Hinson LTD, a provider of public relations counsel to many of central Ohio's strongest brands.

**Dawn Palumbo MSN'18** is a nurse at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus.

**Eric Reing MSN '18** is a nurse at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus.

**Paul Anthony Richmond '18** is a communications technician with the Dublin Police Department, OH.

**Paris Elena Ring '18** is a marketing specialist with Mettler Toledo, a manufacturer of scales and analytical equipment in Columbus.

**Brittany Lauren Rupert MSN '18** is a nurse at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

**Stephen Christopher Sherer MSN '18** is a nurse at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

**Clara Elizabeth Smith MSN '18** is a nurse at Southern Ohio

Medical Center in Portsmouth, OH.

**Jessica Marie Tobey Wisler MSN '18** is a nurse at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus.

**Heather Renee Walker MSN '18** is a nurse at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus.

**Amber E. Wuersig '18** is the administrative assistant for animal programs at the Columbus Zoo.

**Kathryn Foltz '19** finished third in the women's division of the Baltimore Festival 5K run, OH. •

## OTTERBEIN'S CHALICE



This past July the Historical Society of the United Methodist Church held its annual meeting in Dayton, Ohio. This was a special gathering, as 2018 is the 50th anniversary of the merger of the Evangelical United Brethren Church (itself a merger of the Evangelical Church and the United Brethren Church, which founded Otterbein University) and the Methodist Church to form the United Methodist Church.

**Pam Nance Allen '96** and her husband, **Jim '92**, were present, and she holds the original communion chalice

of Bishop Philip William Otterbein (1726-1813). Philip Otterbein was a founder of the United Brethren in Christ. Pam was honored to carry the chalice during the communion service and later joined others who partook of the communion element from the historic cup.

### Giving Note

**Westerville Sertoma Club** has gifted more than \$50,000 to Otterbein to endow and support **The Westerville Sertoma Legacy Scholarship** for students in the Westerville community, with preference for those with communicative disorders.





Arthur Spessard, from 1926

It's the 100th Anniversary of

# The Otterbein Love Song

by Stephen Grinch '98, Otterbein archivist

The Otterbein Love Song, Otterbein's Alma Mater, is 100 years old in 2018.

The music was composed by **Glenn Grant Grabill '1900**, music professor from 1905 to 1948, and the words were written by his wife, Celia Ihrig Grabill. The following are excerpts from a 1960 Towers Magazine article by Grabill relating the story of how this beloved song came to be.

*In January 1898, 62 years ago, when I first enrolled in Otterbein University, as it was called in those days, I recall that there was a dearth of college songs. In fact, there was only one song to be sung by all the students, and that dealt with football. It started something like this: "We're the jolly football boys," and was sung to the tune of "Marching through Georgia," a Civil War song.*

*During my less than two years as a student, before graduating in music in 1900, I often thought that this situation should be remedied. But it wasn't until after I had held a position as head of the music department of Geneseo (Illinois) Collegiate Institute for five years, and came back to Otterbein to teach music half-time and study German, (preparatory to music study in Leipzig, Germany) that I gave it further study. At the request of the junior class I wrote the words and music to a song entitled "Crown Our Loved Otterbein," the chorus of which started "O, we're proud of our Alma Mater." It was in the style of a march song and was not modeled at all like an alma mater song.*

*The Glee Club and students used this song in the days to follow. Later, I used the lyrics of a famous editor, graduate of Otterbein, **Nolan R. Best '1892**, and wrote the music to a song entitled, "Old Otterbein."*

*The chorus of the song follows:*

*Old Otterbein's my Alma Mater,  
I'm sent here by my darling pater,  
And I'll be heard from somewhat later.  
Razzle! Dazzle! Zazzle! Zoo!*

*This song was scored for Glee Club (male) and was used by clubs under Arthur Spessard, but it hadn't the dignity of an Alma Mater song.*

*My wife is a graduate of Wooster College and in one of their yearbooks I discovered a song which was at that time, and is now, being used as the Alma Mater. It is called the "Wooster Love Song" and is very beautiful. This gave me an idea, and I worried over the lyrics long after I had the music written. My wife was heartily in sympathy with my idea, and one night while ministering to several croupy children (our children were always croupy), she found the inspiration for the "Otterbein Love Song." She had heard the tune and rhythm of my music so often that the words of her poem fit the music perfectly. This song was copyrighted in 1918 and has served as "Alma Mater" to the present time.*

*I edited a booklet of Otterbein songs which contained these songs of mine as well as others, including the Literary Society songs of Philomatheia, Philophroneia, Philalethea, and Cleiorhetea, and last but not least, "Darling Nelly Gray" by the immortal Ben Hanby. This edition has long "run out," and that is a matter for thought. (This booklet is now available in the Digital Commons, at [digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/songbooks/2](http://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/songbooks/2))*

*Since 1960, the Otterbein Love Song has been performed across the globe, by Otterbein choirs and band, and groups of alumni who fondly remember their time in the "Quiet, Peaceful Village." •*



Celia Ihrig Grabill and Glenn Grant Grabill '1900 in a 1906 photo.



# MILESTONES

compiled by Becky Hill May '78,  
Tuesday Beerman Trippier '89 and  
Derek Parham '20

## Marriages

**Scott Humphrey '85** to Mark  
Cooke, December 5, 2017.

**Christine Bennett '87** to  
**Jeffrey Martin '85**, June 4,  
2018.

**Karen Crowl '02** to Joseph  
Bond, May 15, 2018.

**Lindy Gilkey '06** to Mike  
Farrow, March 31, 2018.

**Cristina Frick '07** to **Bradley  
Barnes '08**, June 2, 2018.

**Lucas Buck '08** to Monica  
Augustyn, June 16, 2018.  
Groomsmen included **Matt  
Brown '08**, **Justin Tatman '07**,  
**Paul Stelzer '08**, **Chris Ensign  
'08** and **Drew Owens '08**.

**Gina Bericchia '10** to Michael  
Horn, Sept. 16, 2018. Alumni  
in attendance included **Katelyn  
Hanzel '15**, **Conner Scott '15**,  
**Kaitlin Smith '10** and **Hannah  
DeMiltz '10**. The wedding was  
officiated by **Pam Barber '78**.

**Hillary Kessler '09** to **Ryan  
Goff '10**, Dec. 16, 2017.  
Included in the wedding party  
were **Jordan Green '10**, **Logan  
Peltier '10**, **Jordan Hilgenberg  
'10**, **Chris Kahler '11** and **Matt  
Carpenter '07**.



**Scott Humphrey '85** with  
**Mark Cooke**.



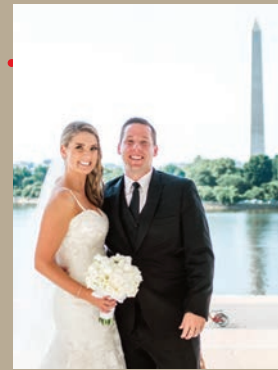
**Gina Bericchia '10**.



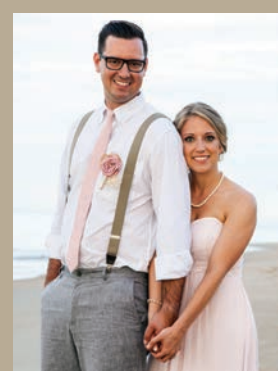
**Bradley Barnes '08** with **Cristina  
Frick '07**.



**Ryan Goff '10** with **Hillary  
Kessler '09**.



**Monica Augustyn** with **Lucas  
Buck '08**.



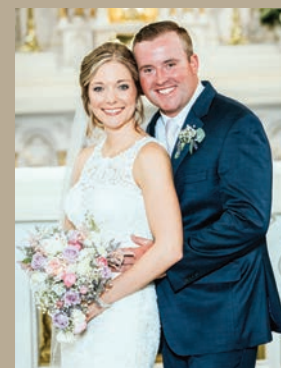
**Nate Hofacre** with **Rachel  
Kromi '10**.



**Brittany Rings '10** with **Justin Smolewski**  
and many members of family and the  
wedding party.



**George Balut '13** with  
**Alexandra Damron**.



**Rachael Puthoff '14** with  
**John Elking**.

**Rachel Kromi '10** to Nate  
Hofacre, June 21, 2017.

**Brittany Rings '10** to Justin  
Smolewski, November 18, 2017.

**George Balut '13** to Alexandra  
Damron, June 7, 2018.

**Rachael Puthoff '14** to John  
Elking, May 5, 2018.

## Births

**Lynnea Knobel Johnson '01**  
and **Andy Johnson '00**, a  
daughter, Aria Danielle. She  
joins big sister, Lyla Allison.

**Mark Lastivka '04** and Jessica  
Lastivka, a son, Landon Michael.  
He joins big brother, Mason.

**Shenita Miller Lyons '05** and  
Damian Lyons, a daughter,  
Londyn.

**Angela Goranites Nicolopoulos  
'05** and George Nicolopoulos, a  
daughter, Chloe Despina.

**Alyson Blazey Vigneron '05**  
and **Kristopher Vigneron '05**,  
a son, Judah Harrison. He joins  
older brother, Adam.

**Jennifer Immel Frederick '06**  
and Nathaniel Frederick, a son,  
Miles Darnell. He joins big  
brother, Owen.

**Sheridan Carr Miller '06** and Tyler Miller, a son, Anderson Don.

**Amanda Cattey Argo '07** and Matt Argo, a daughter, Grace.

**Bethanie Rowland Gigliotti '07** and **Raymond Gigliotti '06**, a daughter, Gabriella Mae.

**Erin Harting Fannin '08** and **Josh Fannin '08**, a daughter, Elaina Grace. She joins siblings, Nicholas and Alexander.

**Shannon Carr Swint '08** and Jacob Swint, a daughter, Annie Lee.

**Alyssa Petrella Crumley '09** and **Luke Crumley '07**, a daughter, Lennon Grace.

**Grace Proctor Culver '09** and **Kyle Culver '10**, a daughter, Katherine Grace.

**Larsa Ramsini '09** and **Jason Craig '07**, a daughter, Arbella Mae Craig-Ramsini.

**Stephanie Perry Staudt '09** and Mike Staudt, a son, Aaron James Staudt.

**Danielle Vickers Beltz '10** and Ryan Beltz, a daughter, Rowan Paige.

**Amanda Cramer Foraker '10** and Fritz Foraker, a daughter, Evangeline Marie.

**Megan Hartley Ford '10** and Dustin Ford, a daughter, Kelsey Elizabeth Ford.



'01

Aria Danielle Johnson with big sister, Lyla.



'05

Londyn Lyons



'05

Judah Harrison Vigneron with big brother, Adam.



'06 '08 '13

Shannon Carr Swint '08 with daughter, Annie Lee; Sheridan Carr Miller '06 with son, Tyler; Erin Carr McCammon '13 with daughter, Esther Grace.



'06

Nathaniel Frederick



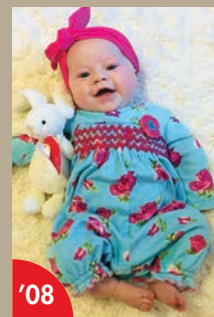
'07

Grace Argo



'07

Gabriella Mae Gigliotti



'08

Elaina Grace Fannin



'09

Lennon Grace Crumley



'09

Arbella Mae Craig-Ramsini



'09

Aaron James Staudt



'10

Rowan Paige Beltz



'10

Evangeline Marie Foraker



'10

Mae Hensel



'11

Carly Sue Davis



'12

Theodore Kruk

**Julianne Wallace Hensel '10** and Adam Hensel, a daughter, Mae.

**Erin Cochran Davis '11** and Sam Davis, a daughter, Carly Sue. She joins big brother, Jack.

**Sara Swank Mendez '11** and **Jaime Mendez '11**, a son, Archer.

**Courtney Kent Wendzicki '12** and Rob Wendzicki, a son, Chase Jordyn.

**David Kruk '12** and Sarah Kruk, a son, Theodore.

**Erin Carr McCammon '13** and Calvin McCammon, a daughter, Esther Grace.

**Lacey Underwood Synk '15** and Andrew Synk, a daughter, Mabel Mae.



## IN MEMORIAM

## Deaths

'41 Frank M. VanSickle	10/06/2018
'42 Mary Jane Kline VanSickle	09/16/2018
'45 Jeanne Ackley Lohmann	09/26/2016
'46 Ellen Ewing Pratt	12/11/2017
'49 Eileen Mignerey Kriazis	05/09/2018
'50 Jane Morrison Horn	08/20/2018
'51 Roy Felldin	06/10/2018
'52 Herbert Adams	04/30/2018
'52 Virginia Krauss Heam	08/19/2017
'52 Jo Ann May	12/13/2013
'52 Phyllis King Morris	05/05/2017
'52 William Taylor	06/13/2018
'53 Richard Borg	07/31/2018
'55 June Althoff Hickman	01/11/2015
'55 Barbara Hanson Shauck	05/11/2018
'57 William "Doc" Freeman	10/01/2018
'57 Carolyn Shafer	07/13/2018

'58 David Corbett	04/25/2018
'58 William Rea	08/16/2018
'59 Robert Derringer	04/25/2015
'59 Lewis Shaffer	07/10/2018
'59 George Stump	03/11/2017
'61 Donald DeBolt	03/03/2018
'62 Paul Gutheil	06/23/2018
'63 Gary Beamer	07/07/2014
'64 Sharon Shelton Skaggs	05/08/2018
'64 William Swan, Jr.	05/25/2018
'65 Connie Boren Fletcher	09/29/2017
'65 Charles Williams III	07/11/2018
'66 Dean Nemetz	07/25/2018
'67 Jean Weir Caskadden	07/16/2018
'67 Robert Speelman	04/29/2018
'68 Stephen Kessler	06/09/2018
'68 Cheryl White Kimer	07/28/2018

'70 Charles Weil	08/10/2015
'71 Kathleen Lee Senter	11/15/2017
'74 Michael Schacherbauer	05/04/2018
'75 Nicholas Basso	03/03/2016
'76 Howard Carlisle	08/13/2018
'78 Douglas MacCallum	09/11/2018
'95 Christina Moore Aheam	05/12/2018
'01 Matthew McClung	05/27/2018
'02 Ruth Gibbs	06/27/2018
'10 Christina Rose Camp	07/05/2018
'17 Alex Umble	08/14/2018

## Friends

Margaret "Peg" Harmon	07/16/2018
Larry Cox	05/23/2018
Barbara Paddock	06/10/2018
Guido Ricevuto	11/05/2018

Long form obituaries can be found at [www.otterbein.edu/classnotes](http://www.otterbein.edu/classnotes).  
If you would like a copy of a particular obituary, email [alumniinfo@otterbein.edu](mailto:alumniinfo@otterbein.edu) or call 614-823-1650.

## Larry Cox H'06

Professor Emeritus **Larry Cox H'06** died peacefully at his home on Wednesday, May 23. Professor Cox joined the faculty of Otterbein's Department of Psychology in 1965 and inspired students for 34 years with his passion for psychology and his caring support, counsel and mentorship for students and colleagues. He also served as a faculty member of the Otterbein Board of Trustees.

Cox retired in 1999 as associate professor and chair of the department and was named professor emeritus. In 2006,

he was named an Otterbein Honorary Alumnus. In 2010, former students led by **Mary Ellen Neutzling '98**, **Carol Ventresca '76**, **Steve Jones '75**, and **Jennifer Gilson Downey '76** created The Larry Cox Fund for Professional Development, which assists Otterbein psychology majors with funding for professional development opportunities. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; his son, Brad (Janel Miller); daughter, Kate (Harth Huffman); two granddaughters; and two great-grandchildren.



## Margaret "Peg" Harmon H'08

**Margaret "Peg" Harmon H'08** died July 16, 2018. Well-known resident on Grove Street, Harmon lived next door to the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity house with her bulldogs. For many years, she allowed students to live in her extra bedroom rent-free while being an advisor, watchful neighbor and caring friend to all. Born in Washington, D.C., where her father worked for Presidents Roosevelt and Truman, she earned her bachelor's degree from Miami University; her master's degree in American,

world and ethnic studies at The Ohio State University; and taught at South High School in Columbus where she was named 1982 Educator of the Year. In 2008, she was named an Honorary Alumna of Otterbein University. She established the Peg Harmon-Sarabella Johnson Scholarship Fund to be awarded to an enrolled student who is the first in their family to go to college. She is survived by Sarabella Johnson and her family; one sister; one niece; and several cousins.



**William N. Freeman '57**, MD, "Doc," died on Oct. 3, 2018. In addition to his Westerville private practice as a physician, Freeman spent his lifetime promoting and serving Otterbein University and especially Otterbein athletics. Freeman volunteered as Otterbein's team physician for four decades, leaving his practice and driving to



Otterbein alumna, friend and lifelong philanthropist **Jane Morrison Horn '50**, died at home on Monday, Aug. 20. Horn gave generously of herself to her community

## William "Doc" Freeman '57

the athletic facilities to check on student-athletes. The \$9.5 million Clements Fitness and Recreation Center, dedicated in 2002, had its genesis in a major gift from the Freeman family after the deaths of Doc's brother, **John Freeman '50**, and sister-in-law, **Margaret Eschbach Freeman '50**, dedicated to "The Freeman Athletic Training Facility."

Freeman served on the "O" Club board of directors and executive committee. He was the chairman of the board of trustees for the Vida S. Clements Foundation, co-chaired the "O" Club's Stadium Project and was instrumental in advancing and funding the Track and Turf Project among

other contributions to Otterbein University. In 1985, Freeman was presented the "O" Club's oldest and most prestigious award, the Outstanding Service Award. He was preceded in death by parents, Ida and **Harold '23 Freeman**; brother, **John Freeman '50**; sister-in-law, **Margaret Eschbach Freeman '50**; nephew, **David Freeman '83**; and relative, **Michael Sewell '79**. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Shelia; three daughters, including **Pamela Freeman Chaffin '83** and **Cheryl Freeman Hill '87**; 15 grandchildren, including **Jennifer Hill '08** and **Amy Chaffin Weimer '09**; six great-grandchildren; and cousin, **Marti Lou Harvey Wright MSN'00**.

## Jane Morrison Horn '50

and to Otterbein for 68 years. She met **Albert (Bert) Horn '49** at Otterbein; they married and raised their three sons in Westerville while he served as treasurer at Otterbein (retiring as emeritus in 1989). She was a teacher and volunteer in Westerville City Schools for many years. An enthusiastic learner, Horn took more than 20 courses at Otterbein over the past two decades. She was a member of Otterbein's Lifelong Learning Community, the Westerville Otterbein Women's Club and the Otterbein "O" Club. Otterbein honored her selfless leadership with the 2003 Service to Otterbein Award. She is survived by three sons, Thomas (Karen),

**John '80 (Melissa McCoy '84)** and William (Barbara); and eight grandchildren, including **Taylor '16**.

Jane and Bert were visionary philanthropists. Together they created an endowed award for Otterbein music students, and Jane established **The Bert & Jane Horn Endowed Student Research Fund** in the Sciences. Jane was a longtime supporter of Otterbein's annual fund and its theatre, music, athletics, nursing, library and student affairs programs. In honor of her grandson's graduation from Otterbein, Jane created the **Taylor E. M. Horn '16 Endowment for Health & Sport Sciences**.

## Guido Ricevuto H'11

**Guido Ricevuto H'11**, former track and field coach at Otterbein, died Nov. 5, 2018. Described as a coach, mentor and friend to over 100 Otterbein track and field athletes, he only intended to coach at Otterbein for a few years. Twenty-seven years later, he retired from Otterbein. He attended Texas A&M and Franklin University and worked 32 years at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety Inspection Services. After work, he would travel to Otterbein to coach many nights until the sun went down. His athletes

admired his wealth of knowledge in the events he coached, yet more importantly, they admired the example he served as a role model and mentor to ensure his athletes grew into quality individuals and moral citizens. He arranged for college students to train with Olympians Dwight Stone, Randy Barnes, John Powell and Joe Greene. In 2010, **The Miller, Ricevuto and Lehman Endowed Scholarship** was established in honor of coaches **Porter Miller '65**, Ricevuto and **David Lehman '70**, for students majoring in



the Department of Health and Sport Sciences at Otterbein. He was named an Honorary Alumnus in 2011. He was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Joann. He is survived by three children, Susan Ammon, **Christopher Ricevuto '80** and **Lori Ricevuto Moore '88**; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.



# Cardinal Tales

by Steve Crawford



*"She ever gives a welcome, to her friends both old and new..."*



**Kahla Johnson '13**, assistant director of Alumni Relations, and **Steve Crawford**, executive director of Alumni Relations, are ready to welcome you home.

What an exciting time to be at Otterbein! A new president, a successfully completed campaign, and an abundance of passionate alumni who proudly support their alma mater — it's a perfect mix.

With growth and success come two new faces. A familiar face to the Otterbein community is **Kahla Johnson '13**, the new assistant director of Alumni Relations. She will champion the Young Alumni Advisory Board, spearhead Alumni Relations social media, and use her many talents to inspire alumni and current students.

And I am honored to be the new executive director of Alumni Relations. I spent more than 25 years at other colleges, both large and small, and I already feel at home at Otterbein. I attribute my smooth transition to **Becky Fickel Smith '81**, who created a legacy that will last for generations to come. All alumni have benefited from her heartfelt thoughtfulness and attention to detail. She's been a friend and colleague for many years, and I look forward to building on her traditions.

Both Kahla and I look forward to meeting alumni, and we want to hear your stories. It's the people that make Otterbein a truly special environment, and we are eager to know you. If you are in the Westerville area, please stop by Howard House. Kahla and I want to welcome you home!

Steve Crawford

Executive Director of Alumni Relations

## Alumni Online Directory Privacy and Opt Out Statement

The Alumni Online Directory is free and easy to use. Use it to find old friends, post Classnotes and even update your own contact information. But if you wish that your information NOT be included in the directory, you can opt out. Standard directory information includes name, preferred class year, address, phone number, e-mail address and employment information. Your name and preferred class year will always be viewable by other alumni. You may "opt out" of having some or all of your directory information viewable by other alumni by updating your record at [www.otterbein.edu/alumni/optout.asp](http://www.otterbein.edu/alumni/optout.asp) or call 1-888-614-2600 or 614-823-1650.

**Privacy Statement:** All information contained within the Otterbein Alumni Online Directory remains the property of Otterbein University, is provided on a secure server and is only accessible to Otterbein alumni with a password. The directory information is for individual use only; it may not be retransmitted or published for any reason. Mass communications will only be approved to support the mission of Otterbein University and from Otterbein-affiliated organizations and alumni constituent groups in support of approved activities. Sale or other distribution of this information is prohibited by Otterbein policy.



## Lifelong Learning Community Begins Third Year

As the LLC begins its third year, membership has grown to just over 150! We have found a home at The Point for this academic year as we explore topics in all areas of interest.

Visit [www.otterbein.edu/lifelonglearning](http://www.otterbein.edu/lifelonglearning) to see our calendar of events. It's the best value at \$60 per academic year. In addition, enjoy more in-depth study with mini-courses in May presented by Otterbein faculty:

- *Chinese Painting: Seeing Culture in Art* with Janice Glowski.
- *Hollywood's Rapid Fire Romances: Screwball Comedies of the 1930s and '40s* with Candy Canzoneri.
- *The Life and Teachings of Jesus* with Glenna Jackson.



### Becky Smith Honored by Lifelong Learning

In August, the Lifelong Learning Community at Otterbein recognized **Becky Fickel Smith '81** for her involvement in building the community into the thriving program that exists today. Pictured are **Deb Madden '03**, project assistant; Smith, retiring executive director of Alumni Relations; Alison Prindle, program director; and **Becky Hill May '78**, executive assistant to the vice president for Institutional Advancement.







# 2018 HOME

IS WHERE THE  IS

OTTERBEIN'S HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND

SEPT. 21-22

Mark your calendars!

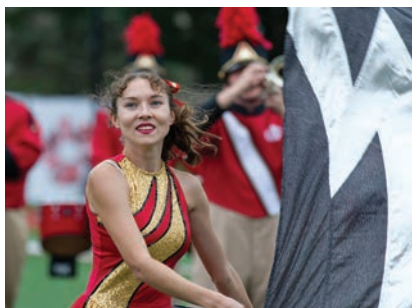
**HOMECOMING**  
2019  
Sept. 20-21

Celebrating the reunion  
classes of 1954, 1959,  
1964, 1969, 1974  
and 1979





More than 2,000 attended Otterbein's 2018 Homecoming and Family Weekend. The 100th anniversary of the Otterbein Love Song was recognized, the community met new Otterbein President John Comerford, the completion of The Point was revealed as were renderings of the planned renovation of the Campus Center, and the successful conclusion to the Where We STAND Matters campaign was celebrated.





You're invited to the

*Grand Soirée!*



To celebrate **OTTERBEIN EXCELLENCE** and **ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT**  
*Saturday, April 13, 2019, 7 p.m., Fritsche Theatre, Cowan Hall*

## 2019 Mary B. Thomas Awardee Announced

Otterbein University is proud to announce **Annie Upper Ames '86** will be the 2019 recipient of **The Mary B. Thomas Commitment to Otterbein Award**, Otterbein's highest honor for extraordinary philanthropic leadership, service and commitment to advancing the University's mission. Ames will receive the award at the Alumni Awards Ceremony on Saturday, April 13, 2019.

Ames began as a nontraditional student at Otterbein while raising her family and helping to build Donatos Pizza into a hugely successful enterprise. She graduated with a degree in psychology in 1986 and went on to earn two master's degrees in the field from other institutions. Having served Otterbein as a trustee and a member of the Alumni Council, she has also set an example for personal philanthropy, supporting many

initiatives across campus and endowing the Annie Baumann Upper Scholarship for Continuing Studies, which provides scholarships for women returning to college. She has also made a leadership commitment in support of The Grove green space and pedestrian mall, a future project near the Campus Center on Grove Street.

The Mary B. Thomas Award, named for donor and Trustee Emerita Dr. Mary Burnham Thomas '28 (1907-1999), was established in 2011 by President Emerita **Kathy Krendl H'18** and the University's Board of Trustees.



"WHEN I THINK OF OTTERBEIN MY HEART WARMS. GOING TO OTTERBEIN OPENED MY WORLD AND CHANGED MY PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE. I AM EVER GRATEFUL FOR THE EXPERIENCE AND HONORED BY THE AWARD." ~ **ANNIE UPPER AMES '86**



# Young Alumni on the Go

## Young Alumni Happy Hour at Aloft Hotel

Homecoming would not have been complete without an opportunity for young alumni to gather and reconnect. At the new Aloft Hotel in Westerville, nearly 50 alumni ranging from the 1980s to the 2010s came together to celebrate reunions and share in cardinal stories over drinks and appetizers. The Aloft Hotel provided the perfect backdrop with a full lounge and outdoor patio and bar.



## Puppies & Pints

Puppies and Pints was our most successful young alumni event to date, with nearly 200 attendees! In addition to an opportunity to tour newly opened The Point at Otterbein, alumni were able to play with furry friends and even learn how to do glass etching on pint glasses to take home. A special thanks to all who attended, and to the Franklin County Humane Society for bringing along adoptable pups to this family friendly event.







## GOLDEN REUNION CLASS OF 1968

**First Row:** Gwendy Miles, Tim Moody, Marybeth Wonders Tucker, Sandy Manning Moser, Cathy Alspach Boring, Karen Summers Jayne, Rachael Stinson Turner, Holly Puterbaugh, Carol Sue Andrews Spessard, Mary Ann Browne Porrata, Mary Lou Bistline Wiard. **Second Row (starts in the middle, standing on floor behind chairs):** Kristy Courtright, Brent Koudelka, Judy Forsythe, Connie McNutt Kubis, Carol Hull Stoner, Ron Spessard, Jerri Scott Wood, Karen Hohnhorst Strand, Bill Ellinger. **Third Row (starts on first step of riser):** Sandra Hartsook Turner, Sharon Anthony, Alice Hoskins Takase, Bonnie Baker Hildebrand, Katie Oplinger Walker, Jeanie Cheek Lumley, Carol Staudt Steele, Marilyn Eiffert Riggs, Karen Williams Holt, Terry Holt, Kathleen Dietz Lowery,

Nancy Smith Evans, Edna Hipsher Albright, Meg Clark Barkhymer, Marcia McCrea Andreichuk, Frank Jayne. **Fourth Row:** Kay Hedding Mitchell, Linda Keim Huseman, Sonja Goad Tweedle, Terra Baker McCanney, Janet Coe Noah, Patricia Wolfe Simon, Don Parsisson, Rodger Dougherty, Rick Pinson, Kathy Quintilian Pinson, Pat Merryman, Alice Shanley Kunkel, Nancy Anderson Fees, Beverly Putterbaugh Marckel Larson, Tim Heaton, Penny Smyth Comer, Phil Andreichuk, Grant Neely, Les Aiello. **Fifth Row:** Denny Hedges, Larry Ganger, Bob Buttermore, Jeremy Russell, Ron Anslinger, Bill Waight, Dick Klenk, Tom James, Jerry Laub, Ann Grimes Gunn, Bill Watts, Mark Stevens, Chuck Taylor, Mike Comer, Tom Powers, Larry Fees, John Thomas, Dave Widder.



1940s AND 1950s

**First Row:** Joyce Shannon Warner '58, Nancy Longmire Seibert '52, Ginny Phillippi Longmire '55, Janice Flaws, Marge Curtis Henn '57. **Second Row:** Dave Warner '56, David Cox '57, Edward Flaws '52, Bob Henn '57.

2018  
REUNION  
PHOTOS





**First Row:** Carol Shook Rufener, Kathy Ackerman McDannald, Liz Arnold, Lois Axline Compolo, Jean Berry, Lois Augenstein Harris. **Second Row:** Sharon Blakeman, Carol Simmons Shackson, Imodale Caulker-Burnett, Elaine Koehler Henn,

(Doris) Jean Gorsuch Hubbard, Judie Mack Salyer, Arlene Huff Chase, Marilyn Gorsuch Cromer, Connie Hellwarth Leonard. **Third Row:** Dick Berry, Ed Henn, Doug Knight, Thomas Martin.



**First Row:** Susan Hoefflick '22, Robin Scott Hoefflick '92, Daniel Motter '20, Maureen Sims Motter '88, Kathy Overholt Hines '82, Adam Hines '22, Kylie McKenzie '19, Shellie Ross McKenzie '96. **Second Row:** Carley Salyer '21, Penny Harker Salyer '83, Brent Anslinger '98, Ron Anslinger '68, Ashley Kraynak Severance '94, Megan Severance '22, McKenzie

Severance '20, Ron Severance '92, Vice President of Student Affairs, Bob Gatti, Executive Director of Alumni Relations (at the time) Becky Fickel Smith '81. **Third Row:** Robert Phillips '85, Angela Doerres Phillips '88, Max Phillips '22, Bill Brooks '87, Kaitlyn Brooks '20, Kim Caldwell Hilderbrand '94 MAT '98, Daniel Hilderbrand '22.



# ALUMNI TRAVEL

More details at [www.otterbein.edu/alumni/travel](http://www.otterbein.edu/alumni/travel)

Questions? Call **Becky Hill May '78** at 614-823-1650 or 1-888-614-2600.



**25th Cardinal Migration • April 26-29, 2019**

## Springtime in Virginia

Springtime in Virginia is full of fabulous special events. We'll start in historic Richmond with a Colonial home and garden tour. Then it's on to legendary Colonial Williamsburg followed by the incredible Virginia International Tattoo in Norfolk.

Coach transportation to and from Otterbein's campus included, or meet us in Virginia. \$995 per person double occupancy, single and triple available.



## The Ultimate NEW ORLEANS EXPERIENCE Oct. 7-11, 2019

Fly with us into Louis Armstrong New Orleans International or join us there. Lodging in an historic hotel in the heart of the French Quarter and an antebellum mansion on a Southern plantation. Tour the Garden District and Bourbon Street, visit the National World War II museum and cruise the Mississippi and the Bayou.

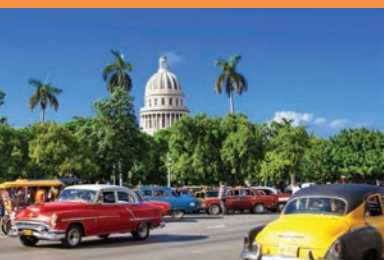
\$1,545 per person, double occupancy, plus airfare, single and triples also available. To save your seat for either of these two tours, contact **Warther Tours today at 330-556-4535**.



## Timeless Cuba October 22-30, 2019

Once again, Otterbein is partnering with an exceptional cruise line, Oceania Cruises, and travel vendor, GoNext, to offer Timeless Cuba, providing the ultimate in ambience, comfort and flavor for your travel experience. **Space is limited and on a first come, first serve basis.**

Visit [www.otterbein.edu/travel](http://www.otterbein.edu/travel) to see details on all these trips.





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(July 1 - Dec.31, 2018)



2018 marks the 70th anniversary of The Otterbein FUND. Since 1948, alumni, parents, and friends have been contributing to the growth and sharing in the traditions of Otterbein.

Generations of philanthropic support have allowed Otterbein to flourish – all while preserving the standards of excellence on which our institution was founded.

**THE  
OTTERBEIN  
FUND** EVERY GIFT MATTERS.  
EVERY YEAR MATTERS.

Please use the envelope provided in this magazine to make a gift or visit [www.otterbein.edu/makeagift](http://www.otterbein.edu/makeagift)

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*Holiday Greetings  
from Otterbein!*

Watch Otterbein's e-greeting at [otterbein.edu/holidaycard](http://otterbein.edu/holidaycard).  
Remember Otterbein with a year-end gift at [otterbein.edu/makeagift](http://otterbein.edu/makeagift).

Photo by Sharon Sink, serving the Otterbein Office of Financial Aid for 25 years.