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University Update - August 26, 2016

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Otterbein University

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Otterbein University Update
President Kathy A. Krendl
August 26, 2016

Welcome to a new academic year! I have enjoyed the opportunity to greet faculty, staff, and students at various campus events during the last two weeks. I hope everyone had a chance to spend some time relaxing over the summer months. We are looking forward to another great year at Otterbein.

In June I received a letter from an alumna who wanted to share her recent experience conducting research about her maternal grandfather and grandmother in preparation for a book she is writing. She lives in Tallahassee, Florida, and she planned a special trip back to central Ohio to search for information about her grandparents' time at Otterbein in the mid-1920s. She contacted our archivist, **Stephen Grinch**, who met with her and members of her family in late May. I wanted to share a portion of her letter.

"I write all this to tell you that you have a gem of a resource in **Stephen Grinch**, and a man of good heart. He is passionate about Otterbein history and represents your institution extremely well. It is my hope that this note will, in some small way, highlight his value to you and Otterbein and emphasize his good historical insight."

It's people like **Stephen Grinch** who make Otterbein a special place. Thank you, **Stephen**, for being a "gem of a resource," having a "good heart," and, most importantly, for your dedication to our beloved Otterbein.

Another Otterbein gem with a good heart is **Professor Beth Daugherty**. Over the summer, **Beth** and her husband, **Gary**, committed an estate gift to Otterbein of \$841,000, elevating their total giving to the *Where We STAND Matters* campaign to more than \$900,000. We are deeply indebted to **Beth** and **Gary** for their generosity and their willingness to STAND with Otterbein and help sustain its future.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PROGRESS UNDERWAY

We continue to make progress on the student expectations that were presented last spring related to issues of diversity and inclusion on campus. We are launching a new landing page on the website that will list the expectations and our responses to date. We anticipate the new site will include a more visible and user-friendly sense of the array of diversity, inclusion, and equity efforts on campus, including a calendar of events. Most notably, we are expanding diversity training for faculty and administrators. The "Great Expectations" Spring Faculty Conference, which was held on May 5, 2016, had a focus on diversity and inclusion. The Fall 2016 Faculty Conference also had a diversity and inclusion theme with Kimberly Brazwell facilitating an interactive workshop, "Engaging Dynamic Tension in the Classroom." In addition, Professor **Suzanne Ashworth** gave a presentation on gender inclusivity at Otterbein. And, on **October 11**, Otterbein will host an All-Administrators and Staff Conference on Diversity and Inclusion. Cabinet has agreed to close campus offices for the day so all employees can attend. Please **SAVE THE DATE** and more information will be coming later.

OTTERBEIN WELCOMES LARGEST CLASS SINCE 2010

As mentioned at the Welcome Back Breakfast and Celebration on Monday, August 15, enrollment is up 90 first-year students (representing a 14% increase) and 60 continuing students (representing a 7% increase) from 2015. The Class of 2020 represents the largest class since 2010 and the most diverse class in Otterbein's history with more males, increased diversity, and more out-of-state students. At the August 16th orientation alone we had 129 students (105 first-time and 24 transfer) representing 26 states and 3 countries including South Dubai, China, and Canada. Congratulations to the Enrollment Management team on their progress toward achieving the goals of the Strategic Enrollment Plan.

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

STEAM Innovation Center

The new STEAM Innovation Center is loaded with new technologies that include collaboration stations for engineering students, a 10' video wall, wayfinders, Gigabit Wi-Fi, proximity card access (instead of swipe), centrally managed digital displays, and touch panel room scheduling. These technologies were specifically selected for their ability to be scaled up across campus.

Ultra-high Speed Wireless

An ITS network team continues to improve the living and learning environment by bringing ultra-high speed wireless to campus. This 5th generation Wi-Fi significantly increases indoor and outdoor wireless coverage and performance. The following buildings are now fully operational with the Gigabit Wi-Fi: DeVore Hall, Campus Center, 25 W. Home's Residence Hall, Business Affairs, Human Resources, Home Street Commons, Dunlap King, Park Street Commons, and the STEAM Innovation Center. Courtright Memorial Library, Mayne Hall and Davis Hall are scheduled to be completed by the end of December. The ITS wireless rollout plan has been developed to provide this technology to the remaining academic and residence halls. This improvement in technology was endorsed by Student Government and is being funded by the Student Technology Fee.

Eduroam

Otterbein became an Eduroam campus in March of this year. Eduroam is a secure wireless roaming service that allows faculty, staff, and students free internet access at thousands of higher education institutions worldwide. Simply connect to "eduroam" from your mobile device using your Otterbein email address and network password, and you're ready to travel. When you arrive at another Eduroam institution, your mobile devices will automatically connect to their secure internet connection. Students and colleagues from other Eduroam institutions can also connect to Otterbein's network while visiting our campus. In addition to Otterbein, Denison, OSU, Columbus State, and Ohio University are also Ohio Eduroam schools. Visit www.eduroam.org to search for other locations.

Password Policy

A new password policy was implemented in April 2016 at the recommendation of our auditors. This policy will impact our insurance costs in a positive way. In addition, the new policy is implementing an industry standard security practice (strong password and change frequency of 6 months) to minimize risk to institutional information. As the first password change approaches, a reminder email will be sent. The first email will be sent 30 days prior to your password expiration. Reminder emails will become more frequent as the expiration date approaches.

Personal Storage

Starting this fall, ITS will no longer provide incoming students with local file storage on OCHome. The preferred file storage system is Microsoft OneDrive (accessible through Office 365) or Google Drive. These cloud based systems provide 1TB of storage and permit remote file access from mobile devices.

Windows 10

All new computers are being deployed with Windows 10 and Office 2016. Over 250 new computers were deployed this summer to classrooms, labs, faculty, and staff.

Classroom Upgrades

All instructor podiums have been upgraded to support digital input (HDMI) from mobile devices such as laptops and tablets. The podium computers have also been upgraded to Windows 10 and Office 365. Outdated projectors in 20 classrooms were replaced with new projectors.

Adobe

Adobe Creative Cloud is being deployed to campus computers this semester. A pilot group of faculty and staff are testing the new software over the next few weeks. Once testing is complete, ITS will begin deploying this software to campus computers. An email communication will provide additional details.

ADVANCEMENT MOVING OTTERBEIN FORWARD

As of the close of FY 2016, the *Where We Stand Matters* comprehensive campaign total has reached an impressive \$26,100,000 in campaign commitments. More than 5,200 alumni, approximately 25% of our alumni base, have supported the campaign with either cash or a commitment. At present, we are excited to note that we are nearing \$29M as fiscal year 2017 gets fully underway.

We can report that FY 2016 was the best year—not only in the campaign—but **EVER** in terms of total commitments secured for the University. This is an important indication of our future success as both pledges and expectancies are realized in the future.

Development Highlights

- Gifts, including those to the Otterbein Annual Fund, from 4,500 donors, during FY 2016 (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016), provided Otterbein with \$1.4 million in support for the University. Stay tuned for the launch of our new Otterbein Fund this fall.
- FY 2016 saw the largest year of planned gifts to the University with more than \$3.3 million dedicated to securing the future of Otterbein.*
- Those who gave at The Joanne Van Sant Leadership Giving Society level (\$1,000 or more annually) ended the year with the largest membership since its inception in the fall of 2011, with 370 members.

*The Planned Giving office has created several key informational marketing pieces that can be shared with potential donors internally and externally. This includes a Wills Guide and a brochure that detail the various ways in which a donor can create a legacy gift through his or her estate. For a copy of these, please contact **Candace Brady** at (614) 823-1953.

Alumni Relations

In FY 2016, 251 newly-engaged alumni returned to Otterbein for events, meetings, and/or in-classroom experiences. Newly-engaged alumni are individuals who have not yet interacted with Alumni Relations since graduating from Otterbein. Additionally, 170 alumni shared their career expertise with students in

classrooms, on career panels or at networking events. In total, 4,334 alumni attended Otterbein events (events tracked by Alumni Relations) during FY 2016. We remain grateful for our growing partnership with faculty and staff in providing opportunities to engage our alumni and friends.

This summer 115 alumni and friends traveled with Otterbein to Nashville, London, Scotland, Canadian Rockies, Glacier National and Southwest Colorado. We are excited to share information regarding a new initiative and its calendar of events for the Lifelong Learning Community at Otterbein at www.otterbein.edu/lifelonglearningcommunity. This project has grown from an idea of Faculty Emerita **Dr. Alison Prindle** and collaborative partnerships with the areas of academics, library, music, theatre, arts, and the President's office.

Office of Marketing and Communications

With thoughtful review and valuable feedback from partners across campus, Marketing and Admission have been working hard on the second edition of the Otterbein "Stand Up. Stand Strong. Stand Out." Viewbook. This publication is a key piece in a strong suite of recruitment materials (print, electronic, online) that is helping the University realize enrollment gains.

We have strategically placed ads promoting undergraduate and graduate enrollment, as well as our Marysville programs, in regional media covering such regions as Union County, Dayton, Indianapolis and Cincinnati, as well as central Ohio.

We are planning the **STEAM Innovation Center** "wire" cutting event, which will take place October 1 at 11:30 a.m. as part of Homecoming Weekend festivities with tours available from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Shuttles will be available. The naming contest is still receiving submissions via the online form at www.otterbein.edu/steamcenter and on social media using #STEAMmix. You can follow the progress of the building construction in our Flickr photo gallery. University Business recently published an op-ed by President Krendl about the value of the art in STEM education (*Why STEM Needs Liberal Arts*). Other recent STEAM stories include a feature in *Cincy Magazine* (*Otterbein Puts Some STEAM into Its Education*) and an announcement of the hiring of **Erin Bender** as the Center's first executive director in *Columbus Business First* (*Otterbein STEAM Center Gets Legal, Science Mind in New Chief*).

Alumnus **Jordan Donica '16** took Otterbein's social media by storm with his new role in *Phantom of the Opera* on Broadway as our most popular post on Facebook and Twitter. #TuesdayTakeover on Instagram has been running every two weeks in June and July, highlighting the summer life of a student on our busy campus. The full campaign started again on August 23, and will feature a different student each week. As students returned to campus, a revamped Otterbein Pinterest page was waiting for them with new campus life tips, decorating ideas and Cardinal spirit projects. Stay tuned for updates as the page takes shape.

UNIVERSITY BUDGET

Although the University's financial audit for FY 2016 is still underway, preliminary results indicate the University ended the budget year with less reliance on institutional reserves than projected, ending a challenging year more favorably than anticipated. These preliminary results are based on actual expenses to date and our best projections of final expenses.

You will recall that last fall, the University shared estimates of a significant use of reserves due largely to shortfalls in tuition and other student fee revenues and estimated over-expenditure of the educational benefit compared to budget. The University community successfully rallied to help control overall

expenditures. The greatest area of savings for the University was in salaries and wages, produced by slowing the hiring process, position elimination and reorganizations. Additionally, increased scrutiny of general expenses by department managers provided nearly \$550,000 in savings.

I extend sincere thanks to the entire community for your role in working to maintain the trust of our Board. As a community, we were able to maintain our FY 2016 commitments to student affordability, program quality and growth as suggested in our multiyear plan.

The Cabinet continues to work to transition each of the FY 2016 savings opportunities into base budget savings. During FY 2017, the University will continue many of the savings and revenue generation strategies identified through the work of various governance committees. Please expect to hear more about such initiatives as well as efforts to stay focused on our strategic plan. The goals to improve student success, strengthen academic excellence and establish a model community remain as important as the goal to improve financial health. Together, achievement of these goals will be possible.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Please join me in welcoming the following new members of the Otterbein community who have joined us in recent months:

Shannon Back, Visit and Events Coordinator - Office of Admission
Kacy Beauman, Stable Assistant - Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science
Erin Bender, Executive Director - STEAM Innovation Center
Alexandra Conrad, Manager of Ticketing - Department of Theatre and Dance
Carla Corroto, Associate Professor - Department of Sociology, Criminology and Justice Studies
Elizabeth Domanik, Administrative Assistant - Academic Support Center
Cherrelle Gardener, Assistant Director - Office of Diversity
Matti Groves, Stable Assistant - Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science
Michael Hudoba, Assistant Professor - Department of Engineering
Liberty Kaufman, Stable Assistant - Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science
Andrew Kovalski, Secretary/Receptionist - Department of Music
Karen McGreevey, Study Abroad Coordinator - Center for Student Success
David Monaco, Assistant Golf Coach - Athletic Department
Stephen Osborne, Instructor - Department of Business, Accounting and Economics
Pei Pei, Assistant Professor - Department of Mathematical Sciences
Michael Picetti, Assistant Football Coach - Athletics Department
Bailey Pontius, Assistant Golf Coach - Athletics Department
Stacey Rusterholz, Assistant Director - Center for Community Engagement
Suzanne Schier-Happell, Visiting Instructor - Department of Religion and Philosophy
Tess Schwarz, Administrative Assistant - Departments of Mathematical Sciences and English
Sarah Shumick, Senior Assistant Director of Graduate Recruitment - Adult and Transfer Office
Diane Skinner, Staff Accountant - Office of Business Affairs
Allison Smith, Assistant Athletic Trainer/Clinical Instructor - Athletics Department
Regina Smith, Cheerleading Advisor - Athletics Department
Kevin Webb, Assistant Football Coach - Athletics Department
Kristen Yanchak, Senior Assistant Director for Enrollment Communications – Enrollment Management

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

Conni Birri, Operations Manager - Department of Music
Leslie Cavin, Assistant Director - Center for Community Engagement
Evelyn Davis-Walker, Associate Professor, Department of Art
Patricia Hohlbein, Graduate Admission Counselor/Recruiter - Adult and Transfer Office
Jennifer Hunter, Administrative Assistant - Departments of Mathematical Sciences and English
Jennifer Nettles, Director of Advancement Research & Records- Institutional Advancement
Chyrsten Regelski, Assistant Athletic Trainer/Clinical Instructor - Athletics Department
Alicia Ribar, Family Nurse Practitioner Director- Department of Nursing
Penny Sens, Administrative Assistant - Academic Support Center
Robert Strawser, Stable Assistant - Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science
Jamie Whetstone, Grants Coordinator - Office of Sponsored Programs
Deb Williams, Graduate Admission and Data Management Coordinator - Enrollment Management

As always if you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me or a member of Cabinet.

Sincerely,



President Krendl

Otterbein University Vision

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

Otterbein University Mission

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