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### University Update - May 26, 2016

Kathy Krendl  
*Otterbein University*

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**Otterbein University Update**  
**President Kathy A. Krendl**  
**May 26, 2016**

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I'm celebrating two firsts in Otterbein's history. First, on May 17, Westerville City Council appropriated \$200,000 in support of Otterbein's STEAM Innovation Center. Second, that same day Governor Kasich signed the State of Ohio Capital Bill, which included an award of \$500,000 to support construction of the STEAM Center. I will challenge our archivist, **Stephen Grinch**, to find another time Otterbein received significant investments of funds from two different public entities in one day, or for that matter, significant investments of funds directed to support the institution from two different public sources in one year.

As the vote was taken at City Council, individual members delivered impassioned testimonials of support. Their votes of confidence in our project, their respect for and confidence in Otterbein's future were inspiring. They congratulated Otterbein for the initiative as well as for our collaboration with Westerville. In short, May 17, was a VERY good day for Otterbein.

I am confident that we have many good days ahead at Otterbein. In fact, as you'll see from the news included in this update, those good days are happening in offices across the institution, all focused on strengthening Otterbein's future. Academic Affairs reports the Education Department passed its NCATE accreditation with flying colors. The Business Office is improving processes and services. Enrollment for fall looks extremely positive with gains in both entering first year and continuing students. Information and Technology Services is installing next-generation Wi-Fi throughout our indoor and outdoor wireless coverage (trust me, the students will notice this when they return even if you don't). Institutional Advancement is moving forward with the "Where We Stand Matters Campaign" and welcoming increasing numbers of alumni back to campus to join in. Student Affairs' Athletics Department brought in three Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) team championships during the spring season!

The STEAM Innovation Center and Otterbein had another good day when **Erin Bender** accepted our offer to join us as the founding Executive Director of the Center, effective July 1, 2016. Erin currently serves as the Director of Licensing, Physical Sciences, for the Office of Technology Commercialization at Ohio State University. She has held a variety of positions at Ohio State since April 2006. Erin holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science as well as a Juris Doctor from Capital University Law School.

As the founding Executive Director of the STEAM Innovation Center, Erin will be responsible for developing and maintaining local, state, and national relationships with educators, service providers, business partners, entrepreneurs, and funders to support the success of the Center. She will need all of our support as she joins us in July. I am grateful to all who participated in the search process especially those who were able to attend the open forum for each candidate during this busy time of year.

#### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Thank you to **Dr. Susan Constable**, Chair of the Education Department, her colleagues, and those who participated in the **NCATE accreditation** visit in April. **Dr. Constable** reported that we passed all the standards with no noted areas for improvement. In addition, the "area of improvement (AFI)" in Diversity from the last visit was removed, which is quite encouraging. According to **Dr. Constable**, "It's common for small liberal arts institutions of higher education like ours to have a standing "AFI" in that area. The fact that ours was lifted is due to efforts both within the Education Department and across

campus to raise awareness, increase diversity among students and faculty, and support and embrace diverse members of our community while at Otterbein. We know that, as a campus and a department, we must continue to grow in these areas, but the decision on our report is a positive step forward.”  
Congratulations and great work!

### **BUSINESS AFFAIRS**

As shared in previous University Updates, the Division of Business Affairs continues implementation of process improvements in the areas of accounts payable, budget management, and facilities services including vendor management, ACH/Director Deposit, budget development online in Banner, payroll encumbrances, and payroll budget load.

The changes are meant to create efficiencies and streamline processes. Specific information will be shared in a separate email from **Vice President for Business Affairs Rebecca Vazquez-Skillings** in the near future. In the meanwhile if you have questions or need additional information, please see the list of Business Affairs contacts below. The Division appreciates the campus community’s support during these various transitions and changes.

Department/Function	General Email Address
Controller/General business matters/Account set-up	businessoffice@otterbein.edu
Contracts	contracts@otterbein.edu
Insurance & Waivers	insurance@otterbein.edu
Accounts Payable	payables@otterbein.edu
Facilities Services	serviceoffice@otterbein.edu
Facilities Work Order Requests (SchoolDude)	<a href="http://www.otterbein.edu/intranet/service-dept.aspx">http://www.otterbein.edu/intranet/service-dept.aspx</a>

### **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**

Fall enrollment looks very positive. New freshmen confirmations 662 (+84, +16%) and continuing undergraduate enrollment for fall (1,552) is up 9% or 135.

The Admission VIP Summer Preview Days are scheduled for June 6, June 17, July 11, July 18, and August 5. Otterbein will also be participating again this summer in the Ohio Independent College Visit Days on June 27, 29 and 30. This is a collaborative effort by thirty-seven of Ohio’s fifty-one independent, not-for-profit universities to promote private higher education in the state of Ohio. Families are encouraged to visit up to six private colleges during the three days of the event.

### **INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

#### **Ultra-high speed wireless**

The ITS network team continues to improve the living and learning environment by bringing ultra-high speed wireless to campus. This fifth generation Wi-Fi, also known as “AC” or “Gigabit Wi-Fi”, significantly increases indoor and outdoor wireless coverage and performance. Over spring break, DeVore Hall was

the first building on campus to receive this new technology. The campus center will be complete in the next few weeks followed by 25 W. Home's residence hall and business office in May, Home Street Commons in June, and Dunlap King and Mayne by the start of fall term. The ITS wireless rollout plan has been developed to provide this technology to the remaining academic and residence halls. Our goal is to have 55% of the residence halls upgraded this summer. This improvement in technology was endorsed by student government and is being funded by the student technology fee.

### **Eduroam**

Otterbein is now an Eduroam campus. 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 our 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](http://www.eduroam.org) to search for other locations.

### **Password Policy**

The new password policy was implemented this month at the recommendation of our auditors. The new policy is implementing an industry standard (strong password and change frequency of 6 months) in order to minimize risk to institutional information. ITS has added a self-service password management tool to allow password management using your mobile phone.

### **Windows 10**

All new computers will be deployed with Windows 10 instead of Windows 7. All student labs utilizing virtual desktops will have the flexibility of a Windows 10 or Windows 7 experience when they sign in.

### **Adobe**

Adobe has reached an agreement with the AICUO for all Ohio independent schools. The new agreement allows the use of Adobe Creative Cloud across campus and provides our faculty, staff, and students with the latest versions of several Adobe products. Being familiar with these popular software products will provide our students with the skills and experiences employers are seeking.

### **INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT**

On April 22-23, the Office of Alumni Relations welcomed more than 400 alumni and friends to campus for Alumni Weekend. Special highlights included the Alumni Awards Ceremony and celebration reunions for the Classes of 1966, 1961, 1956 and 1951. The weekend festivities also included the participation of numerous campus departments, SOAR team members, and alumni committees to showcase Otterbein's excellent programs and talent. View photos from the weekend on the alumni website.

Commencement ceremonies and related events were a wonderful culmination of a very productive academic year and the accomplishments of the Class of 2016. We are thankful for all the help and support from departments across campus as we welcomed alumni, parents, and guests to campus for our important events this spring.

As our STAND campaign continues we are proud to announce that we have recently topped the \$25M milestone! We want to thank and acknowledge all faculty and staff who renewed their giving to

Otterbein either through payroll deduction, sustainer or outright gifts this year. We will announce the percentage of faculty and staff giving closer to the end of the year (there is still time!). This spring featured the Annual Fund/Annual Giving initiative *LOVE Otterbein*, which tied into the spring faculty and staff campaign. The “I LOVE Otterbein” honor roll site is a great way to recognize colleagues or students across the campus.

Other efforts, many led by students, have been successful in promoting a culture of philanthropy across the campus. Students began to “lock in their love for Otterbein” with a donation on the “Lock in Your Love” website. Graduating seniors who gave a \$20.16 gift received a cardinal and gold philanthropy cord to wear at commencement. Several departments and athletic teams committed to “locking in their love” for Otterbein as part of this initiative.

A group of students in **Patti Wilson’s** Organizational and Management in Health and Sports Science class created a video to ask students to participate in the campaign. The donations were contributed to the Annual Fund and helped to increase the percentage of student giving. A recap of this initiative can be found at the “Lock in Your Love” website.

The Office of Marketing and Communications team worked across campus to help promote all spring activities as well as successes of our faculty and staff. A recent feature story to hit was in the Weekender section as cover in the *Columbus Dispatch*. Radio, Pandora and print ads have started to promote open houses for adult programs and The Graduate School as well as new classes being offered in Marysville this fall including MBA classes.

In addition to ongoing work and ending the fiscal/annual fund year strong, this summer the Institutional Advancement team is assessing what is needed to continue the momentum of the STAND campaign and advance the vision and priorities of the University.

### **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

As noted previously, Athletics brought in three Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) team championships during the spring season. Baseball and softball both won regular-season titles while men’s golf captured the OAC regular-season and tournament crowns, topping the rest of the league by a dominant 41 strokes. Men’s lacrosse, women’s tennis and women’s golf all narrowly missed OAC championships and settled for second-place finishes.

Softball went 29-7 for a new single-season wins record, baseball finished 32-11 and became the first group in program history to amass 30 victories prior to the postseason, and men’s golf turned in a seventh-place finish out of 41 schools at the NCAA Championships in Rochester, N.Y.

In addition to success on the playing surface, Otterbein also placed a league-best 56 student-athletes on the Academic All-OAC list for spring season. To be eligible, a student-athlete must maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 3.50, have reached varsity status and be at least sophomore academic standing.

### **LET’S CELEBRATE! SPECIAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS TO NOTE**

Congratulations to **Wendy Sherman Heckler**, Assistant Vice President and Dean for University Programs in Academic Affairs, who is the recipient of the Educational Office Professionals of Ohio (EOPO) 2016 Administrator of the Year award.

Congratulations to Athletic Training Program Director **Joan Rocks** in the Department of Health and Sport Sciences who was recently inducted into the Ohio Athletic Trainers Association Hall of Fame.

Former Otterbein University Sports Information Director (SID) **Ed Syguda** (currently senior communications specialist and chief photographer in Institutional Advancement) has been selected as one of 11 professionals to receive the 2016 CoSIDA Lifetime Achievement Award, announced recently by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

### **COMINGS AND GOINGS**

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

**Kylie Taylor**, Stable Assistant - Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science

**Travis Schomaeker**, Assistant Men's Basketball Coach - Office of Athletics

**Eric Zigo**, Carpenter- Facilities Services

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

**Jerrin Hill**, Study Abroad Coordinator - Center for Student Success

**Jessica Taylor**, Stable Assistant - Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science

**Donald Coburn**, Stable Assistant - Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science

**Richard Ji**, International Admission Counselor - Office of International Admission

**Danielle Docka-Filipek**, Assistant Professor - Department of Sociology, Criminology and Justice Studies

**Andrew Nichol**, Visiting Assistant Professor - Department of Mathematical Sciences

**Geoff Barstow**, Assistant Professor - Department of Religion and Philosophy

Please join me in congratulating **James Prysock** who was promoted to Director of the Office of Diversity in Student Affairs and **Elizabeth Kidwell** who was promoted to Risk Management Director in Business Affairs.

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

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.