2015

University Update - June 26, 2015

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I have been recuperating the last 12 days from foot surgery and have had several significant Otterbein moments I wanted to share. The first one arrived at my doorstep well before my surgery. A dear friend of Otterbein had recently experienced foot surgery and offered to loan me her scooter. I came home one evening and found it sitting by our side door. I assumed it would be useful once I was back on campus and set it aside. Little did I realize that the scooter would become my constant companion at home. I’m not sure how I would have managed without it, but her thoughtfulness in anticipating my need well before I understood it was a concrete reminder of the Otterbein tradition of serving others. That scooter has been by my bedside since I came home. Now as I scurry around the house gathering the materials to complete my end-of-the-year reports or scoot off to the kitchen for a cup of coffee, I am deeply grateful.

Second, I had a series of Otterbein moments the day of my surgery, all the way from the registration desk to the surgical theater. I learned as I signed my name at the front desk about the receptionist’s niece who had majored in Music and had LOVED her Otterbein experience. Next, as I filled out paperwork, I heard about all of the Otterbein nurses who worked at the surgery center, all well respected, caring individuals, who prided themselves on their Otterbein preparation. On to surgery, where the team prepared to administer the anesthetic to put me to sleep and started reciting the names of Otterbein nurse anesthetists they knew and praising the wonderful program we have developed. Mind you, I was wearing an Otterbein tee-shirt when I checked in, but that was the only clue they had that I was connected to Otterbein. As I fell asleep, I felt pretty secure, knowing that I was surrounded by health care professionals who knew and respected my Otterbein colleagues and who valued their professionalism.

My most recent Otterbein moment came when I received a text from a 2014 graduate who had been a student in one of Richard’s classes. She said she was coming back for a visit and wanted to get together. Because I couldn’t leave the house, we suggested that she come by for dinner. When she arrived, she immediately announced that she was thrilled to receive the invitation because visiting Clements House had been on her Otterbein Bucket List from her first day on campus. It was, in fact, the only remaining item on her list. She took a selfie with Richard and me in front of Mrs. Clements’ fireplace to document the visit and thus completed her list. Over dinner she recounted her classes (especially the INST sections, including Richard’s dyad), the faculty she loved, her experiences in Student Affairs, and her knowledge that from the first time she stepped foot on the Otterbein campus, she knew she was where she wanted to be.

These were all inspiring moments for me and have fueled my return to the office to begin my seventh year as president of Otterbein University. I have spent much time over the last six years telling people compelling stories about Otterbein -- what we stand for and what we offer our students. But to be the recipient of concrete, unsolicited testimonials out in the world was a wonderful affirmation of our work. I know hearing those stories and experiencing those Otterbein moments helped speed up my recovery. I hope to be back at my desk next week, full of new inspiration, ready to share more Otterbein stories, and prepared to welcome the entering class of 2019!

Hope summer is proceeding well for everyone. See you soon.
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Graduate School
Beginning in Fall 2016 the Graduate School will be offering Alumni Scholarships to Otterbein graduates who are accepted into Graduate Education, Math, Business and Allied Health programs. The scholarship effectively reduces graduate tuition to $200/per credit hour for the first twelve months of enrollment.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Notification of Change in Hours: Cashier and Accounts Receivable
The cashier and accounts receivable functions for the University are located at 25 W. Home Street. As we continue to streamline processing, we have decided to close the cashier’s window at 4:00 p.m. daily. Deposits may be placed in the drop box located in the hallway outside Suite C until 5:00 p.m. and will be processed the next morning. Payments may continue to be submitted online at any time during the day. The new schedule is 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

New International Recruitment Team
Welcome to Alyssa Libby who is our new Senior Assistant Director for International Recruitment. Alyssa joins us from The Ohio State University. She can be found in the Adult/Transfer office in Towers Hall. Welcome to Jenny Seymour who is moving from CIEGE to be part of the International team and will also be located in Towers Hall. Welcome to Grace Poling who returns to Otterbein part-time after working for Ohio Wesleyan for many years. Grace is located in Hong Kong and will be helping recruit students in Asia.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND STUDENT AFFAIRS – TITLE IX TRAINING

Thanks to all the students, faculty and staff who have participated in Title IX programs and discussions to learn about sexual misconduct and provide suggestions to help build an effective campus program. A special thanks to the many partners who created programs and designed resources to help Otterbein move forward in our journey to build a healthy sexual culture.

Current initiatives include:
- The Campus Clarity on-line sexual misconduct course has been completed by most faculty and staff. A student version of this program has been distributed to new students, to be completed by mid-August.
- New student orientation staff is revising sexual misconduct/harassment education for new students through its "Otterbein Unplugged" program, a series of skits that address important information for new students.
- Women's and Gender Resource Center is expanding Team Consent, a student taught education program that addresses sexual culture, sexual violence, and sexual consent.
- A comprehensive review of the Title IX program will be conducted in July. This will be conducted annually.
- Look for a campus-wide open meeting in the fall to explain the Title IX process and gather feedback to improve programs.
Please contact Title IX Coordinator, Scott Fitzgerald, Director of Human Resources, at 823-1130 or Julie Saker, Associate Dean of Students/Director of Student Conduct and Wellness, at 823-1250 if you have suggestions or question regarding Title IX at Otterbein.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Alumni Relations
The 19th Annual June Bug Jamboree was held in Waynesville, Ohio at the home of Bill '48 and Helen '47 LeMay on Saturday, June 20, despite being weathered by the remnants of Tropical Storm Bill, with more than 80 alumni and friends attending. Bill is an Emeritus Board of Trustee member.

Otterbein will be welcoming the alumni of the 70s decade to enjoy the Summer Breeze Weekend. A committee of 70s alumni have been working for 16 months to reconnect them with their classmates, the campus and with Westerville. View the schedule at www.otterbein.edu/summerbreeze. More than 100 alumni and friends will experience the classroom workshops, campus tours, doughnut walk, Fourth Friday Festival, summer theatre, campus food and lots of memories.

Mark your calendars for Otterbein's homecoming, September 25-26, 2015. The Young Alumni Awards Ceremony will be on Friday, September 25, 6:00 pm in Roush Gallery. The Academic Spotlight will focus on the Department of Biology and Earth Science. The theme is The Cardinal Family: Connections that Stand the Test of Time.

Where We Stand Matters Campaign Highlights
We are closing in on $20 million, with current commitments at $19,477,216, of which $19,071,604 is in cash. Our Building a Model Community priority has reached $10,493,528 with Access and Affordability climbing at $4,956,277 and the Campus Renewal priority currently standing at $3,991,918. We are excited to announce our fiscal year 2015 cash total has reached $4,499,146, with our Annual Fund number at $960,134 exceeding its goal of $950,000!

More Good News
Thanks to the perseverance and hard work of Juliana Sinclair, Director of Stewardship and Events, Otterbein received notification from the Ohio Attorney General that two scholarship funds which were previously unable for use would be released from restrictions. The release of these funds means that more than $80,000 has been added to the scholarship pool and will be available beginning this academic year (2015-2016). This is in addition to nearly $17,000 that was released in March.

Growth of the Joanne Van Sant Society
Joanne Van Sant, better known as “Dean Van”, served Otterbein for more than 50 years. Through her leadership, she had a positive impact on countless students, faculty, staff, and community leaders. To honor her, Otterbein University established the Joanne Van Sant Leadership Giving Society (JVS) in 2012. This giving society recognizes donors whose annual giving is at or exceeds $1,000. Members of the society are made up of alumni, faculty/staff, parents and friends of Otterbein. The gift can be designated to any area of the campus, from the Annual Fund to academic areas to the library, and all gifts count toward the Where We STAND Matters campaign totals.

This year, JVS will see record breaking membership with 320 current members as of June 19. This is an increase of 22% from membership in its inaugural year. Members of JVS receive special recognition,
communications and invitations to donor appreciation events, lectures and receptions. **Kate Billy, Director of Donor Relations in University Advancement**, works closely with the members.

**Marketing and Communications**

Two new advertising campaigns are currently running for Otterbein programs. First, in Union County we are promoting Marysville classes for adults starting this August including certificate course work toward a Leadership Certificate and classes in communications. These are taught at the new Innovation Center located in the Marysville Early College High School (MECH). At MECH students can parlay their college credits earned through Columbus State and Otterbein toward enrollment at Otterbein into seven pathway programs or any other major of their choice. The second advertising campaign involves commercials that are now running on Central Ohio radio stations as well as targeted Pandora stations/digital ads for the Adult Learner Programs offered at Otterbein. The ads are promoting summer open houses and fall registration.

The Early Summer edition of *Towers* magazine featuring Otterbein's model community connections, is in the mail. Copies will soon be delivered to your departments. If you would like additional copies to share in your workspace or to pass along to family and friends, please call ext. 1600. It will uploaded to the web site as well.

Visit [www.otterbein.edu/STAND](http://www.otterbein.edu/STAND) soon to see new stories, photos and videos about the campaign, "Where We Stand Matters." A new video series will offered with President Krendl interviewing Drs. Thomas Kerr and C. Brent DeVore on legacy, traditions and the standing foundation that Otterbein was built upon. If you have a story to share as to why you stand with Otterbein, please call ext. 1331.

**STUDENT AFFAIRS**

**Counseling Center**

Our counseling center wrapped up this academic year on a note of high service usage by students. Compared to 2013-14 academic year, during 2014-15 there were increases in the number of students being treated for mental health concerns and in the number of therapy hours provided. The dramatic surge in the number of students seeking counseling in the fall – a trend observed nationwide – continued, but to a slightly lesser degree this spring. We also offered “urgent” assessments on a daily basis, which were used only minimally. Overall, nine percent of the student body sought counseling.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

Please join me in welcoming the following new employees:

- **Toby Burdette**, Equipment Coordinator, Knowlton Center for Equine Science
- **Will Elkins**, Communication and Social Media Manager, Institutional Advancement
- **Tiffany Lipstreu**, Library Director, Academic Affairs
- **Craig Hadley**, Summer School Faculty (part-time), Mathematical Sciences
- **Xiaoxiang Ji**, Coordinator for International Partnerships (part-time), Academic Affairs
- **Amy Lux**, Administrative Assistant, Student Affairs
- **Laura Berger**, Summer School Faculty (part-time), Health and Sport Sciences
We bid a fond farewell to Robyn Bowers, Assistant Director of Multicultural Recruitment, in Admission as she leaves Otterbein to accept a new position at Kenyon College. Robyn’s last day is June 26, 2015. We wish her much success in her future endeavors.

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

Sincerely,

President Krendl

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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.