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University Update August 2017

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Otterbein University *UPDATE*



From President Kathy A. Krendl

August 28, 2017

I was recently invited to attend a "Back to School" party, and as I added it to my calendar, it suddenly occurred to me that this is my very last back to school year as an educator since I began teaching high school English in 1973. Or if I count the number of years when I was a student, the years count back to 1955 when I started kindergarten. Now that's a lot of back to schools.

However, this year is memorable in my mind not only because it's my last but also because of all that we have achieved as a community. Certainly the successes we are seeing in the Where We STAND Matters campaign, including the faculty and staff involvement in that effort, and the launch of the Gifts of Kindness initiative are important reasons for celebrating, but what will remain in my memory forever as we begin this year is the letter included below from a parent of an entering freshman. It is the kind of letter that a college president dreams of receiving. It is unique because it celebrates the entire community and the way in which we as individuals play a significant role in embodying the core values of Otterbein. Our own individual acts of kindness are clear messages to those who are joining us that ours is a unique and caring community. This parent took the time to call out many individuals who made a special effort to welcome him and his daughter into the Otterbein community.



President Krendl, front row, fifth from the right

Dear Dr. Krendl:

I just returned last night from dropping off my freshman at Otterbein University. I have a busy job and never write letters like you are about to read, but our experience was absolutely incredible and I thought you might want to hear about it.

We flew in this past Saturday night and spent Sunday shopping for dorm and school supplies. Monday, my daughter moved into the dorm, and then we attended SOAR on Tuesday. I spent several hours on campus yesterday before flying out late in the afternoon.

Although my daughter and I had visited Otterbein in April, we didn't have a good feel for it. We have no family ties in Ohio and we assumed she would end up in the West or on the East Coast. Over the course of these past few days, I personally met and interacted with over two dozen faculty and administrators. To a person, they were professional, intelligent, competent, friendly, welcoming and curious about my daughter and me. Each encounter I had was positive. I won't go through them all, but want to provide you with some highlights:

Christina Kirk: *I spent a joyous 20 minutes with this remarkable person and educator. My freshman believes Christina was the number one reason for choosing Otterbein. When I told this to Christina, she, of course, deflected the compliment, stating it was the Otterbein culture and the Theatre Department foundation laid by her predecessor. I am overjoyed my daughter will be learning from such a wonderful person!*

Ben Schwarz: *He saw me eating alone in the "Nest" and asked if he could dine with me. He was energetic, informative, yet curious about why we chose Otterbein, etc. Very impressive young manager.*

Michelle Dippold: *Michelle led a professional and informative session on Study Abroad. She was extremely conscientious and caring. She suggested my student visit with her "for any reason;" it didn't have to be related to Study Abroad.*

Judy Guion-Utsler: *Judy was impressive (along with Kathy Ryan and Julie Saker) at one of the break-out sessions. She suggested that students come to see her just for a chat; it didn't have to do with religion. Later in the day, when I finally found my daughter at the Campus Resource Fair, she was already involved in an animated discussion with Judy about a program or cause that Judy was promoting. My freshman was thrilled with Judy, and so was I!*

(continued on page 2)

(President's Message continued)

Ryan Brechbill: *What a great talent. Friendly, conscientious and energetic. Like his peers, he is truly committed to the success of Otterbein students.*

Kathleen Darnell (Bookstore Supervisor): *Extremely helpful, informative and patient with all my questions!*

Jean Barnard: *She did an excellent job leading the Student/Parent panel. The next day, my daughter and I ran into her at the Campus Center. Jean was so friendly, welcoming and enthusiastic about my freshman's dorm. This gladdened my already happy daughter.*

Robert Gatti and Kathy Ryan: *Although they both spoke at separate sessions (and did a masterful job!) I ran into them together at the Campus Resource Fair. We only chatted briefly. They seem to me to be great ambassadors of Otterbein with their professionalism and openness.*

*One of my favorite encounters was meeting **Joan Rocks and Patti Wilson** on Monday morning, "move-in" day. I had driven from the hotel to Otterbein mid-morning to do a reconnaissance about where the dorm was, where to park, etc. Joan and Patti were walking by with potted plants. We struck up a conversation. They had just left your "welcome back" ceremony. They were so friendly and informative. Even though they have nothing to do with my daughter's major, they were curious. These were the first Otterbein faculty I had ever met. They made me feel so welcome and comfortable that I was bringing my freshman to a safe and great place. Their friendliness put a smile on my face at the beginning of what could have been a stressful day.*

My daughter has a great roommate, thoroughly enjoyed SOAR, and she told me yesterday when I left her that she felt "really good" about being at Otterbein. Given what I've seen of Otterbein, I'm certainly not surprised. However, as a father, these words were wonderful to hear!

You should know that my compliments to you and your team are based upon attending "accepted student" orientations at seven different universities this year. None of them made an impact on me like your university. Not one of them can hold a candle to the Otterbein culture: a culture of being student focused, welcoming and supportive. It seems as if your faculty and staff come to work each day with the expectation that they will improve the lives of Otterbein students.

Thank you for accepting my freshman into your wonderful university. I also feel my daughter made an excellent choice in attending Otterbein. As a father, I could not be more reassured and proud!

I plan to return to Otterbein for Family Weekend. I'd love to say hi, shake your hand and thank you in person.

Above and Beyond Award Honoree for July 2017

The Above and Beyond Award for July goes to **Scott Fitzgerald**, Director of Human Resources and Legal Affairs/Title IX Coordinator. Since joining Otterbein on February 14, 2014 as Director of Human Resources, Scott was asked to take on the role of Title IX Coordinator as well as overseeing legal affairs for the institution. Scott has proven to be a strong leader in building an effective team of professionals who work diligently to serve nearly 700 full-time and part-time faculty and staff in addition to hundreds of student workers each year. Additionally, Scott is recognized as an expert in the higher education community in Ohio and beyond for his Title IX knowledge. As a result, he has been invited to serve on panels at various state-wide conferences and events, which reflects positively on our university.

According to Scott's nominator, "Since Scott's arrival at Otterbein, he has willingly taken on more responsibilities and made significant improvements in the operations of the Human Resources Department. When he was interviewed for the position, Scott stated that he has an inherent calling for fairness and justice, which has proven to be true. Serving in a position that has to deliver difficult to hear news is not always easy. He honors his commitments, and always does what is best for Otterbein even though it may not be popular." When notified that he was selected for the Above and Beyond Award, Scott was hesitant to accept it noting that he is simply doing his job. As I indicated, he is being recognized for the manner in which he does his job. Scott displays a high level of professionalism by honoring his commitments and staying true to our core values. Please join me in congratulating Scott Fitzgerald on receiving the Above and Beyond Award.

**President Krendl is pleased to offer free coffee or hot tea at
The Roost for all employees throughout Fall Semester.
If you don't have a Model Community mug, please
contact Tammy Lowks in the President's Office, 302 Roush Hall.**

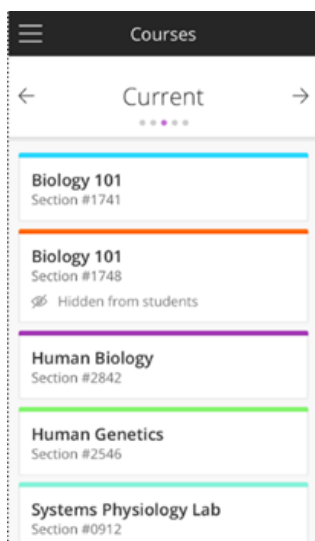
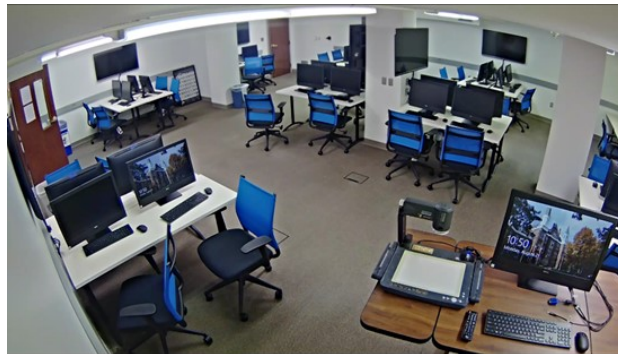


INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ITS)

The math and computer science lab in Towers Hall has received a major design overhaul that includes a new collaborative layout, tables and chairs, fresh paint, eight digital displays, and new Windows 10 computers with 24" high-resolution displays. A total of 38 new workstations were installed in the lab and connected work area.

The second engineering classroom at The Point was outfitted with six collaboration 4K displays and four 3D printers. The Library's expanded second-floor computer space includes 12 new all-in-one computers with large touch-screen displays, wireless keyboards and mice.

A new high-tech laptop cart with 25 laptops was installed in Roush 212. The laptops dramatically increase the flexibility of the teaching space compared to the previous setup.



A new instructor app for Blackboard is now available. The app helps faculty manage courses, communicate with students, and complete administrative tasks efficiently. To install the app on your tablet or phone, simply open your app store and search for "Blackboard Instructor." During the upcoming December break, Blackboard will be moving from Otterbein's hosted environment to an SaaS environment, which will require BB Learn to be offline for two to three days. The exact date will be communicated in the near future. The SaaS migration is necessary for BB Learn to move to the latest release called Ultra. The date for the upgrade, as well as training sessions, will be announced soon.

The 5th generation gigabit wireless transformation for all residence halls has been completed. This transformation provides expanded capacity, performance, and coverage. Several academic and support buildings have also received this technology, including the Campus Center, Library, Roush Hall, The Point, and the Equine Center. During the coming months, ITS will expand this technology to the remaining academic buildings on campus.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Center for Student Involvement would like to thank the campus community for their support in welcoming our incoming students during the SOAR sessions and First Flight. We could not have done it without you.

Homecoming and Family Weekend are right around the corner. We encourage all members of the campus community to participate in the weekend's activities combining the 100th Homecoming and Family Weekend for a vibrant weekend of Cardinal celebrations. More information is online at www.otterbein.edu/homecoming. Otterbein's Homecoming is setting the stage for a huge, centennial celebration of history and pride. We want to honor the past 100 years with you. Join us in celebrating this historic and extraordinary milestone!

Sororities and Fraternities will begin the recruitment process immediately following Homecoming. We are always looking for faculty and staff to serve as advisors to student organizations. If you are interested in being "on-call" as student organizations seek out advisors, please contact us at csi@otterbein.edu.



Current membership lists and term ending dates for Senate committees, subcommittees, assemblies, senators, and more are in progress. These new lists will be posted on the Senate site once the elections are completed. Please send any updates to tlowks@otterbein.edu.

**www.otterbein.edu/senate
First Senate Meeting: September 13, 2017**

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Otterbein is pleased to partner with the Columbus Foundation with our **Kindness Matters at Otterbein** campaign this year. As announced at the Welcome Back event, a series of events will take place during the coming months as we continue to live out our values as a model community and join our friends and neighbors in the Westerville community to make Kindness contagious. A new dedicated website will be available shortly. **Gina Calcamuggio**, Senior Event and Messaging Strategist at Otterbein, is coordinating this effort and can be reached at ext. 1331.



As a new academic year begins, commitments to the **Where We STAND Matters Campaign** have surpassed \$40 million, en route to our \$50 million goal. Momentum for the campaign continues to increase as alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the University commit their support to be a part of this historic campaign. Exciting progress toward our funding initiatives related to The Five Cards and Experiential Learning, as well as the early stages of the Campus Center renovation and The Grove, are taking shape, both supporting the core Campaign mission of focusing on students first.

As briefly shared at Welcome Back – and worth reiterating - Otterbein had another record-breaking fundraising year in 2016-17. It was the largest year ever for planned and annual gifts, including gifts to The Otterbein Fund, with more than 4,300 donors and \$1.3 million dollars.

- Nearly half of those gifts were targeted for strategic priorities;
- One-third directly supported scholarships; and
- The remainder will enhance the student experience, academic excellence and the safety and beauty of our campus.

A record-breaking 54 percent of Otterbein faculty and staff supported the University with a gift this year, nearly DOUBLE the participation rate of many peer institutions across the state.

Individual Giving

Alan Goff '75 and Coral Harris embraced Otterbein's idea of Building a Model Community and wanted to join in the spirit of experiential learning with community members, students, faculty, staff, and alumni, working together to educate and make a difference in the lives of all. Global warming, water scarcity, and disappearing arable land are some of the reasons behind the creation of The Innovative Sustainability Fund. The \$100,000 fund, established by Alan Goff '75 and Coral Harris earlier this year, will feature a solar powered well and an outdoor laboratory at The Point as well as programming and internships for students in the Sustainability Studies program at Otterbein. The couple also agreed to contribute \$25,000 to the Otterbein Fund over a five-year period for unrestricted support, allowing Otterbein to have resources for day-to-day needs and opportunities.

Additionally, Otterbein has received a generous \$500,000 estate gift to fund the expansion and visibility of the Five Cardinal Experiences, a gift that will be particularly transformational in terms of making Otterbein's values manifest. This gift will enable us to enhance our infrastructure for fully implementing the Five Cardinal Experiences, and it will provide much needed support for students to complete their cards. It will also allow us to recognize faculty who supervise and sponsor Five Cardinal Experiences – especially, but not limited to, cards in Undergraduate Research and Creative Work, as well as Internships and Professional Experiences. We will be working to create the structures and processes associated with the investment this fall.

Alumni Relations

The Office of Alumni Relations connected with a combined total of 4,140 alumni and friends at more than 122 events, meetings, and engagements during FY17. Student engagement with alumni increased significantly through career networking, mentoring, and classroom or panel interaction, with 451 students and 102 alumni participating. We are extremely grateful for the academic partnership with faculty and staff inviting alumni into the classroom. The Office of Alumni Relations is available to assist you in connecting with alumni in your academic area. Contact **Becky Smith** for more information.



The **100th Otterbein Homecoming and Family Weekend** will feature **100 Things to See, Do & Celebrate on Saturday, September 16**. The Golden Reunion celebration will be held for the first time during homecoming. The Class of 1967 will register Friday, September 15, starting at 9:00 a.m. in Roush Hall Fisher Gallery, proceed to Battelle Fine Arts Center for their class photo, and be hosted by Dr. Krendl for the President's Luncheon at The Point.

This class has specifically targeted their fundraising efforts towards the Campus Center since the current Center was opened during their freshman year. We appreciate your cooperation to provide the Class of 1967 with priority parking close to Battelle and Roush Hall on these two days.

Following are some special events during the Homecoming and Family Festivities. Your homecoming brochure will be in the mail the week of August 28. You can also visit www.otterbein.edu/homecoming.

- Homecoming Music Celebration recognizing Drs. Mort and Barbara Chapman Achter, Virginia Philippi Longmire '55 for their donations for improvements to Battelle Fine Arts Center; a tribute to former band director, Gary Tirey; choral selections performed by the student and alumni concert choir conducted by former department of music chairs Dr. Mort Achter, Dr. Craig Johnson and current choral direction, Dr. Gayle Walker; and many other music performances.
- 40th year of the Department of Nursing marching in the parade, 10:30 a.m. on Saturday.
- 100th year of the *Tan & Cardinal* school newspaper, display in the Courtright Memorial Library.
- Tree planting to commemorate Otterbein recognition as a Tree Campus USA, with 100 saplings being distributed.
- Card signing campaign and epic stadium-sized THANK YOU to our United States troops and veterans as Otterbein's Salute to Kindness. Otterbein is proud to be one of the lead partners in The Columbus Foundation's effort to inspire KINDNESS throughout greater Columbus area. Watch for ways you can share your Cardinal Kindness in the weeks to come.



Alumni Relations **will accept nominations for the 2018 Young Alumni Awards until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 15.** All information can be found at www.otterbein.edu/alumni/awards. The Young Alumni Awards will merge with the Spring Alumni Awards on the evening of Saturday, April 21, 2018, in Cowan Hall. A new segment of the ceremony will be recognizing "Rising Stars" who are graduates of the last decade (G.O.L.D.).



The second year of the **Lifelong Learning Community at Otterbein** is starting strong with 90 members fifty-five years or older who are alumni, emeriti/retired staff, and community members. The program is a wonderful gift for someone who is an eager to learn and wants to be involved on a college campus, discuss meaningful topics, and meet new friends. The registration fee is \$50 for one member and \$25 for a second member who signs up at the same time. Benefits include the 2017-18 Common Book, access to campus speakers, music, theatre, art and special lectures. View the calendar at www.otterbein.edu/lifelonglearning.

Marketing and Communications

Otterbein's passenger vans will have a new look soon. Thanks to a generous donor, our two 12-passenger fleet vans will share Otterbein's pride and spirit on the road! Those traveling will be encouraged to share where they are going at #CardinalsOnTheGo. For those inquiring minds on the road, they can visit the hashtag and learn more about where our Cardinals are headed. In addition, vehicle magnet decals are coming soon. They will be available for personal cars when traveling and those representing Otterbein - ideal for coaches, admission counselors, gift officers and anyone conducting Otterbein business.

The website update project is underway. Members of the community are being interviewed and surveyed regarding future enhancements and needs for the new Otterbein website, which is due to launch Spring Semester. A new blog site will be announced where updates and status reports will be housed. For more information, contact project lead **Joel Reimer**. Digital wall monitor displays are now available at locations around campus to share news, event information, and weather. In addition to The Point, you will see the displays in Roush Hall, Library, Campus Center, and the Equine Center. **Will Elkins** is managing the content and providing training. My Ozone will take on a new look with similar content in the near future. Thanks to **Tim Walsh** for setting up the platform and working with Will Elkins. More information and training will be forthcoming.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Federal Work Study Job Fair

In an effort to connect first year students with Federal Work Study (FWS) job opportunities, on August 17, the Center for Career and Professional Development, the Center for Student Involvement, Human Resources/Payroll, and Student Financial Services jointly hosted Otterbein's first ever FWS job fair. More than 22 University departments participated, with more than 140 positions available. By the end of the afternoon, over 100 first-year students had found FWS positions on campus and had all of their hiring paperwork processed.

One participating hiring manager said, "I thought it was a great idea especially since returning students always seem to have the upper hand when it comes to jobs on campus. I'm sure that the incoming students and their parents appreciated the Job Fair as well!" Many thanks to everyone who made this a successful effort.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

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

Aissata Barry, Financial Aid Counselor/Loan Specialist – Student Financial Services

Brian Booher, Head Golf Coach – Athletics Department

Marshia Boone, Information Records Clerk – Enrollment Services

Jerald Breveck, Professor & Director Systems Engineering – Engineering Department

Elena Caruthers, Instructor – Engineering Department

Emily Hansen-Palmus, Riding Instructor – Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science

Anton Ivanov, Instructor – Business/Accounting/Economics

Robert Jones, Visiting Assistant Professor – Physics Department

Thomas Josefowicz, Assistant Athletic Trainer – Athletics

William Lange, Information Records Clerk – Enrollment

Bart Lewis, Maintenance Technician – Facilities Services

Amy Murray, Information Records Clerk – Enrollment

Bridget Newell, Assistant Professor – Department of Religion and Philosophy

Kathryn Reagan, Assistant Director, Auxiliary Maintenance – Facilities Services

Stacy Rosenberger, Testing & Alternate Media Coordinator – Academic Support Center

Jacob Smithson, HVAC Technician – Facilities Services

Jordi Vilanova, Marching Band Director – Department of Music

Thomas Warren Rohaly, Instructor – Theatre & Dance

Andrew Yoak, Assistant Professor – Biology & Earth Science

The following individuals have left their positions with Otterbein.

We wish them much success in their future endeavors:

Eva Fried, Assistant Professor – Nursing Department

Miguel Martinez-Saenz, VP Academic Affairs/Provost – Office of Academic Affairs

Julie McGrady, Administrative Assistant – Center for Student Involvement

Keith Phillips, Director of Development – Institutional Advancement

Linda Sanford, Information Records Clerk – Enrollment

Allison Smith, Assistant Athletic Trainer – Athletics

William Stoddard, Daytime Circulation Supervisor – Courtright Memorial Library



Thank you, again, for your hard work and dedication. As always, if you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me or a member of Cabinet.

Sincerely,

Kathy A. Krendl, President

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.

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.