

OWU

Ohio Wesleyan Magazine

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OWU

Ohio Wesleyan Magazine

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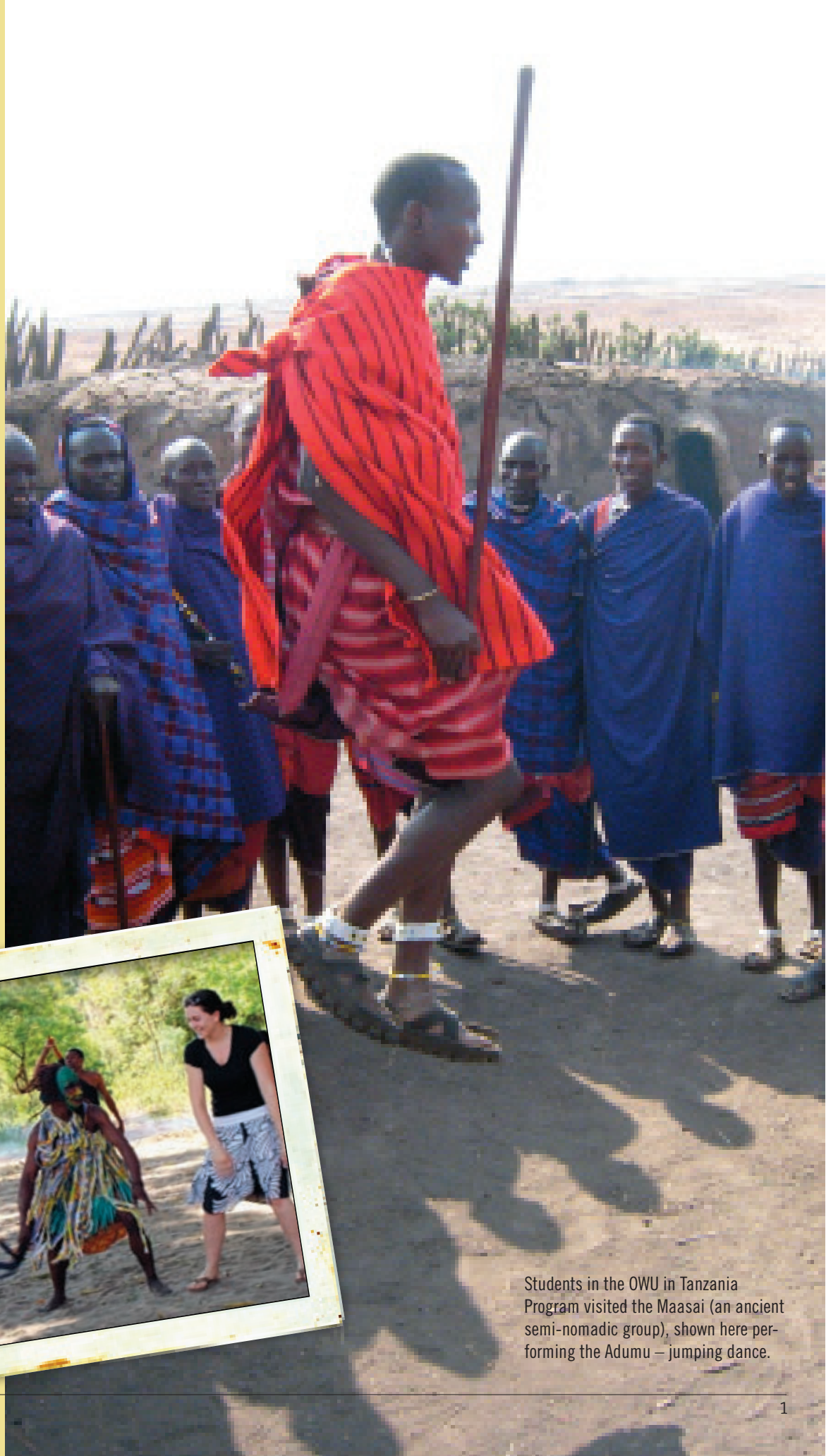
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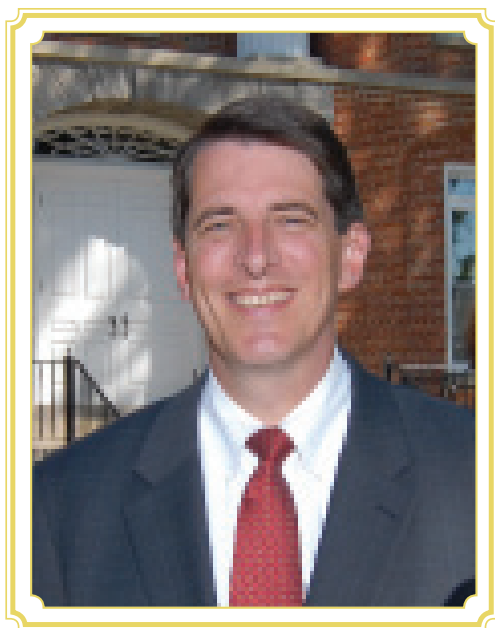
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Heather Werling '11
(shown on left) and
Noel Williams '10
(shown on right)
learn traditional
dancing in Dar es
Salaam in Tanzania.

Students in the OWU in Tanzania
Program visited the Maasai (an ancient
semi-nomadic group), shown here per-
forming the Adumu – jumping dance.

Imagine the world as an OWU classroom



President Rock Jones

Dear Alumni & Friends,

Early this semester I had the opportunity to hear a presentation by a group of students who spent the fall semester in Tanzania with Dr. Randy Quaye, Professor and Director of Black World Studies at Ohio Wesleyan University. The students shared the stories of their semester and the lessons they learned. Their semester included three classes, internships in various non-governmental organizations, and immersion in the Tanzanian culture. They spent a portion of the semester living in the homes of local families.

As I listened to their stories of classrooms, internships, and cultural immersion, I found myself wondering, in which of these settings did they learn the most? In which of these experiences were they most challenged, and perhaps most changed? I could not produce an answer. I suspect that the total learning was greater than the sum of the parts, and that the real value of this experience rested in the opportunity to study, work, and live in a culture very different from the ones they call home. As an enhancement to the curriculum of one of America's finest liberal arts universities, I cannot imagine better preparation for students who aspire to be leaders in the rapidly changing world of the 21st century.

In that context, I found myself wondering, what would it be like if every Ohio Wesleyan University student had the opportunity to spend time away from campus, in the company of a member of our faculty, for study and work in the midst of a different culture? Ohio Wesleyan University has a long history of declaring that the liberal arts serve as a platform for a larger understanding of life and a larger experience of the world. We understand that while our first responsibility to students is a rigorous education rooted in the liberal arts and set in the classroom, we serve our students best when we challenge them to extend their education beyond the walls of the classroom and the boundaries of the campus. Our students gain immeasurable benefits when they have the opportunity to test the theory of the classroom with practical experience in the world.

In this issue of the *OWU Magazine*, you will read about ways in which our students today benefit from this understanding of the importance of connecting theory and practice with an education that extends from the classroom to the world. It happens routinely at OWU, and our students and recent graduates often report that



their experiences beyond the campus were among the most memorable parts of their OWU education. I have listened to a theatre student describe her experience as an intern at the New Theatre in New York while participating in the OWU New York Arts Program. I have listened to a politics and government major describe his experience as an Arneson Institute intern in Washington, D.C. I have listened to a Latin American Studies major describe her amazing experience spending a semester in Argentina, where she did not know a single person before her arrival. I have listened to numerous science students describe the power of research on campus in the Summer Science Research Program and in settings on other campuses and in other laboratories. I have listened to dozens of students describe the eye-opening and life-changing experience of a spring break mission trip at a homeless shelter in Washington, D.C., a food bank in Chicago, or a Sisters of Mercy mission in Rome.

As you read in this issue, the stories of students who have extended their learning environment beyond the campus with internships, volunteer service, study travel, undergraduate

research and more, I encourage you to dream with me about ways in which we can provide even more robust opportunities for experiential learning as a core component of our liberal arts education. The world is our classroom, and this increasingly small world will be the office in which today's students live their professional lives and find meaning and fulfillment in their personal lives.

As you read these important stories, I thank you for your role in making them possible. Approximately ten percent of the cost of an OWU education is funded by gifts made each year to the Annual Fund. Your generous support of the Annual Fund, especially in this difficult economy, helps make possible

these life-changing experiences. This year, more than ever, I ask for your support as we seek to preserve the transformational nature of an OWU education. With gratitude for your support, I invite you to join me in celebrating the fine work of our faculty in assisting our students in identifying and structuring experiences that allow them to prepare to be global citizens and, along the way, to have the amazing experiences about which you will read in this issue.

Dr. Rock Jones
President



Rhett
Rybarcyk '09
visits orphans
in Arusha,
Tanzania.

A National Award for OWU's Outstanding Community Service

Ohio Wesleyan was named to the 2008 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The University also received a "With Distinction" designation on the honor roll, which recognizes exemplary service efforts and service to America's communities.

"Ohio Wesleyan has been committed to community service and civic engagement since its founding," says OWU President Rock Jones. "More than 80 percent of our students participated in community service projects last year, including efforts that touched lives locally, nationally, and internationally. Our students are committed to creating a better world, and they showed that by participating in projects to tutor area students, build homes in New Orleans, provide medical care in Nicaragua, and more. This is a wonderful honor for them and for Ohio Wesleyan."

Launched in 2006, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service learning and civic engagement. OWU was recognized for multiple programs, including 10 spring break mission week programs, an active Big Brothers/Big Sisters program, one of the oldest Upward Bound programs in the nation, and the 20-year-old Columbus Initiative that pairs OWU student-mentors with students in the Columbus Public Schools.

A full list of schools honored with Presidential Awards and Honor Roll designations is available at www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll.

Second EPA Grant for Ohio Five

The Five Colleges of Ohio has been awarded a \$49,894 grant from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Office of Environmental Education. The grant spans two years, 2009-2010, and is geared toward developing new, more effective environmental management systems.

The Ohio Five's first EPA grant, which ended in 2006, was education-based. This initial grant was used to teach different campus departments about pollution prevention. The new grant is more action-oriented, but also is intended to result in an "educational outreach culminating in a workshop," says Jann Ichida, OWU's environmental health and safety administrative manager.

The new grant is largely funding the training of small teams of employees from each college. Ichida currently is the only confirmed member of OWU's team, but she hopes to pull representatives from several areas on campus including academics, physical management, and, possibly, a laboratory manager. The teams will receive training from the University of Findlay School of Environmental and Emergency Management and from the Laboratory Safety Institute of Massachusetts.

After training is completed, the schools will begin to audit each other. This includes having cross-teams of peers from the other colleges come in to determine whether a school's facilities meet EPA regulations and whether the school is following proper protocols for waste disposal, chemical storage, and other issues. The peer-evaluators also will provide ideas about how to make certain processes more efficient and/or eco-friendly. Each school will be audited twice in the two-year grant period.

Ichida says she looks forward to the peer auditing, as having fresh eyes and ideas can only help her to do her job of keeping hazardous waste "out of a landfill, out of the air and water, and off of the ground."

The members of the Ohio Five—Ohio Wesleyan University, The College of Wooster, Denison University, Kenyon College, and Oberlin College—hope to create environmental management systems and protocols that can be implemented at other schools in Ohio and across the nation. This grant allows the group to take another step in its quest to make a more sustainable and environmentally stable world.

-Kate Walker '09

Road Map to Excellence

Greek Life at Ohio Wesleyan is on the move—both literally and figuratively. "It's an exciting time to be at OWU," says Assistant Director of Student Involvement for Greek Life, Allison Bressler. "This is a new era."

Bressler is speaking of the Greek Life study currently being conducted at Ohio Wesleyan. The Board of Trustees called for a thorough review of Greek Life in May 2008. The result is a Greek Life study group. One end project of the study will be a relationship statement between the University, current fraternity and sorority members, and the respective alumni groups and national offices associated with each fraternity and sorority. The mission of the Greek Life study is clear: to create a road map for excellence within the fraternity and sorority community at Ohio Wesleyan.

"Fraternity and sorority life is an important part of OWU's history and has the potential to play an equally important role in the future of our University," says Vice President for Student Affairs, Craig Ullom. "The Greek Life Study group has identified two strategic components to enrich fraternity and sorority life: address the condition and management of the facilities used by Greeks and create a vision and expectations for individual chapters and the Greek community in general." Ullom explains that group members are developing a detailed facility improvement master plan.

Phase One of this plan will be presented to the Board of Trustees for their consideration in May. Members of the Greek Life study group are currently drafting a Statement of Vision and Expectations that will be considered by chapter leaders and alumni in the next couple of months. "It is our intention to have a final document completed by the end of this academic year so that it can be implemented in fall 2009," says Ullom.

One major part of the plan is a proposed \$10 million to renovate the fraternity houses. "We would first renovate the three empty houses and then use those houses as swing space as other houses are being renovated," says Bressler. "We're also discussing sorority houses, which are not residential. Some are locally owned and others are nationally owned."

And the changes to Greek Life aren't only physical. "So many great changes have sparked from this study," Bressler says. "We have a Fraternity President's Association of seven fraternity presidents working together. At the Greek Week committee meetings, every single chapter president is attending. We're building a Greek community here. Greek Life at Ohio Wesleyan isn't dying; it's improving."

.....

Documentaries Highlight Human Rights Issues

Professor Mary Howard rejects the dismissive notion that she is just simply a "bleeding heart." She says instead that the purpose for her life's work of studying, working with, and being an advocate for marginalized peoples, both within and outside of U.S. borders, is that it is "a part of the discipline of cultural anthropology and in line with my sense of fairness." More important than the purpose of Howard's accomplishments, are the accomplishments themselves, which include bringing human rights awareness to

the Ohio Wesleyan and greater central Ohio communities. This past December and January, Howard was involved in the screening of two documentaries, one of which she directed, that attempt to humanize two very different groups of people suffering from poverty and the stereotypes they've been assigned.

In early December, Howard—in conjunction with OWU's Departments of Sociology/Anthropology and Women's and Gender Studies, the International Studies Program, the Film Studies Program, and also the student chapter of Amnesty International—screened the documentary "Once in Afghanistan," at The Strand Theatre in downtown Delaware. The film highlights the experiences of an all female group of Peace Corps volunteers sent to inoculate the Afghan people in the midst of a smallpox epidemic that was ravaging the poverty stricken country in the late 1960s and early 70s. One of the Peace Corps volunteers featured in the documentary is Howard's sister, Rita Hackett, who, along with the director (also a volunteer) and the group's Peace Corps trainer, attended the screening and participated in a question and answer session afterward. This group of incredible women all held a common goal in creating this documentary; to give a perspective of the Afghan people that is unbiased by the fear that infects our post 9/11 culture. The words most frequently used in the film when describing the Afghan people: courteous, welcoming, hospitable.

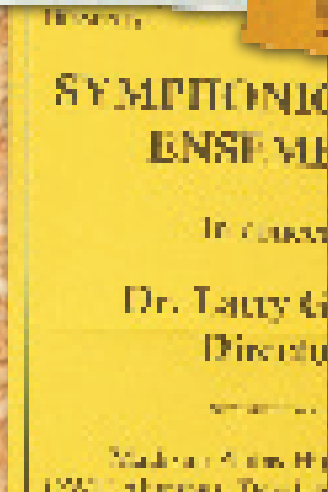
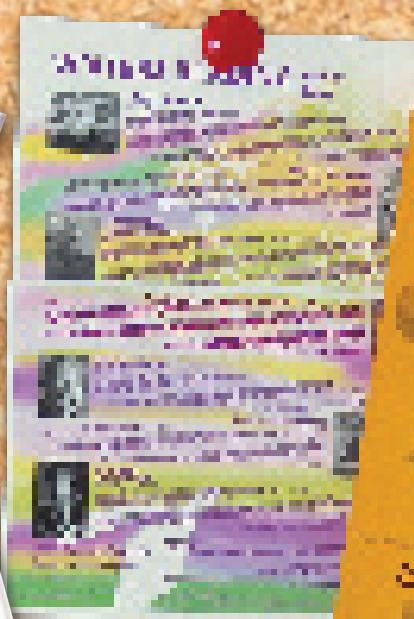
Howard's own response to the post 9/11 period was to help one of her anthropology students initiate a course called War, Peace and Conflict. Course readings focused on Afghan history, culture and political economy, which helped students see beyond the dehumanizing war rhetoric that pervaded the media at the time. "I've attempted to bring a different perspective on Afghanistan and her peoples to our campus," Howard says. "I've searched for scholarly work more in line with my own experience of the country." In 1970, Howard hitch-hiked from London to Herrat, an Afghan border town and spent several months

traveling with her sister and her Afghan vaccinator counterparts.

The other film Howard was involved in screening was her very own creation, which tells the story of a group of people much closer to home. "Swept Out" focuses on the homeless in Columbus and attempts to "change the Columbus' rhetoric of 'all is well,'" a notion very much supported, and possibly inspired by, the director of the Columbus Shelter Board (CSB). That award-winning agency has successfully built a multi-million dollar shelter enterprise supported by Columbus shelter entrepreneurs and foundations. Howard claims that many individuals have been helped by its tough love, behaviorist approach to managing people who are homeless. But she is also adamant that "one size does not fit all" and many others either fail the system or refuse, sometimes infantilizing care.

"That's why today [in 2009] more than 800 Columbus citizens who lose their homes now live under railroad or highway overpasses, in cars, abandoned buildings, tent cities, or shanty towns, much like the Hoovervilles of the Great Depression," she adds. Howard went around to different "squatter settlements" (the homeless often live together to avoid being harassed or beaten) and interviewed people to get their story and figure out how they've ended up homeless and how they manage to survive outside. Howard says that "in our society, we mostly blame the victim," so in telling homeless people's stories to those who have never experienced such misfortune, she hopes that it will reintroduce a humanistic approach along with a behavioral management approach, which currently dominates the shelter business. Howard says, "Many of the empathetic providers in Columbus will tell you that a dead person can't learn anything about tough love. A large portion of the world's problems begins with poverty, and my contribution as a teacher is to help Ohio Wesleyan students understand this."

-Kate Walker '09



FROM LIFE AT OWU TO LIFE EX

There are very few things that could ever tear me away from Ohio Wesleyan University during my last four years here. I'm usually sad to leave—even temporarily—and always ready to come back, and I'm the first to say there's nowhere else I'd rather be. So it may come as a surprise that I chose to spend fall semester of my junior year interning and living in Philadelphia through the Philadelphia Center program. Looking back, it even surprises me.

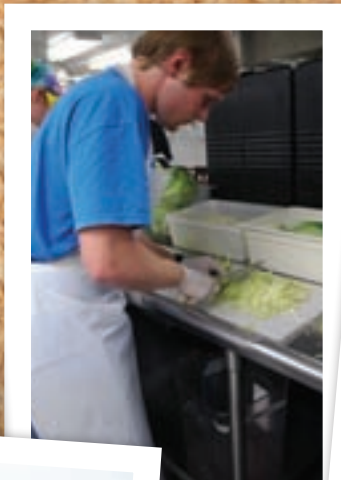
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I remember sitting with my two best friends in a meeting with Dr. Blake Michael, OWU's director of off-campus studies,

during my sophomore year. Looking at the two of them, I wondered if we were out of our minds to willingly agree to spend more than four months apart. Why would we trade the best friends we've ever had to spend time with strangers in some place we've never been?

It was those very doubts that I suppressed for the sake of sanity until the very moment I arrived in Philadelphia. I tried to pretend it didn't terrify me to "start all over" in a new city, just when Ohio Wesleyan had never felt more like home. As my closest friends shipped off to Ireland, London, Washington, D.C., Argentina, and





PERIENCES AROUND THE WORLD

Ohio Wesleyan University during my last four years here. I'm usually sad to leave...

other corners of the world, I could only close my eyes and jump, trusting that somehow my instincts were right: this would be worth it.

Of course, things that are worth it rarely come easy. I hit the ground running in Philadelphia, as the program required us to choose roommates, find independent city living, and apply for internships in the whirlwind of the first few weeks. In the midst of it, there were many moments that I thought of how much simpler it would have been to just stay at OWU. But settling for what's simplest is not what changed my life so remarkably.

What changed my life was daring myself to go it alone, without the safety net of my close friends and the OWU community. It was the chance to learn by visiting a local prison, not just reading about it in a sociology book. It was the chance to write a report for my boss, confident that OWU had prepared me for it. It was giving myself more than I could get on campus, even as I learned just how well my OWU education had prepared me.

When my friends and I were back together in spring of 2008, we were thrilled to be home at OWU. But we weren't the same people we were when we left.

Some had traveled the world, some had conquered the big city, and all of us had changed. We carried home a set of experiences we could never have had in Delaware, yet these experiences enriched our contributions to OWU when we got back. Was it worth it? More than worth it.

We look back on our wonderful experiences knowing firsthand that Ohio Wesleyan prepares us for the world, sends us out into it, and always welcomes us home. It doesn't get much better than that.

-Amanda Zechiel '09



Lara Kobelt '10 (left) and Dr. Laura Tuhela-Reuning in the lab.

LARA KOBELT '10, A DOUBLE MAJOR IN PRE-MEDICINE AND RELIGION, SPENT LAST SUMMER AS A VOLUNTEER WITH HOSPICE OF THE WESTERN RESERVE, THE SAME FACILITY SHE CAME TO KNOW AS A CHILD WHEN SHE VISITED HER TERMINALLY ILL GRANDFATHER THERE.

As she said in her application for a Lawrence E. Young, M.D. Award to support her summer experience, "My grandfather was the first [dying person] I had ever known ... and what made the whole experience bearable for me was the staff, many of whom were volunteers, at Hospice House."

Kobelt had volunteered in hospitals prior to her hospice work. "I wanted to see the differences in dealing with end-of-life issues," she

The Quality of Living:

A student's experience with terminally ill patients

By *Gretchen Hirsch*

says. “A lot of people have misconceptions about hospice care. Although people enter hospice treatment when they have a terminal diagnosis, hospice isn’t about the quality of dying. Hospice care focuses on the quality of living when time is short.”

A common misconception, she says, is that hospice patients are denied medical care. “That’s not true. They are given what they need for comfort, which may include medication, oxygen, or lots of other things. The difference is that patients aren’t carted around for tests and treatments that may be expensive, painful, and ineffective at that stage of their illness.”

Kobelt, who hopes to be an obstetrician, says her hospice experience “opened me up in a lot of ways. It helped me see that whether the situation is happy, like a birth, or sad, like a death, people have a right to expect a certain level and quality of care. People in any medical situation deserve to be treated

with dignity and respect.”

Combining her two majors and taking a variety of additional courses also has been enlightening for Kobelt. “I’m very interested in how and why people make healthcare decisions based on religion,” she says. “There are lots of decisions, such as organ donation and *in vitro* fertilization, that people consider in a religious context. And I think one of the best pre-med classes I’ve had actually wasn’t a pre-med course. It was Motherhood in a Transnational Context, which examined a whole variety of issues related to women. I’ve also taken some ethics courses that have made me think about a lot of human rights issues, such as drug pricing, that are related to medicine. I’m all about the liberal arts,” Kobelt says, smiling.

Laura Tuhela-Reuning, events coordinator for the Summer Science Research Program (SSRP), says, “Although Lara’s work was not part of SSRP, we felt it deserved wider exposure, so we included

her poster presentation in the Patricia Belt Conrades Summer Science Research Symposium. This year, three students—Lara, Laura Coonfield, and Jeffrey Tongsavath, were awarded Lawrence E. Young, M.D. Awards. These awards help students who are interested in medicine as they seek out influential experiences. I certainly think Lara’s experience qualifies as influential.”

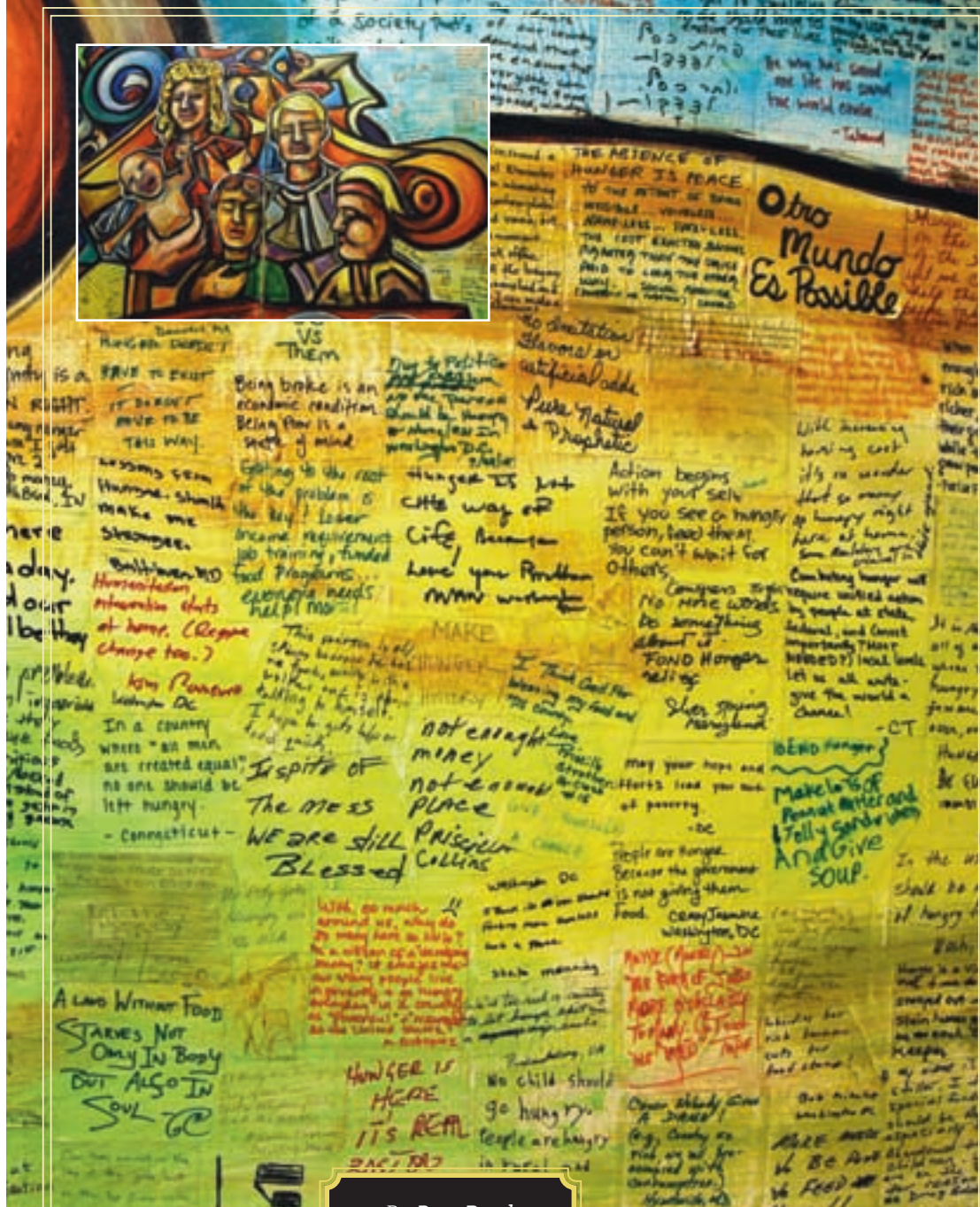
“One thing I learned,” Kobelt says, “is that accepting the eventuality of death makes you live more fully now and appreciate the time you have.”

Gretchen Hirsch is a Writer and Interim Co-director of Marketing and Communication at Ohio Wesleyan.

JESIKA KEENER'S '09 FIRST OWU MISSION TRIP CATAPULTED HER RIGHT INTO A FACE OFF BETWEEN POVERTY AND POWER.

Their days began at the crack of dawn, with breakfast in the employee kitchen of Washington, D.C.'s Community for Creative Non-Violence (CCNV), the largest homeless 1,300-bed shelter in the country. For OWU senior Jesika Keener, one of the dozen Ohio Wesleyan students and staff members participating in last May's "Crossroads of the Powerful and Powerless," this was her first summer mission trip. And as she admits, the experience has forever changed her life.

For the fifth consecutive year, OWU's Chaplain Jon Powers and this year, OWU psychology professor Kim Dolgin, led the students to Washington, D.C., and headfirst into a most interesting and frustrating paradox. How could it be that co-existing in the same city, literally steps away from each other, are so many of the nation's wealthiest and most powerful legislators and lobbyists amid the thousands of tragically poor, homeless souls so in need of attention? This question, along with the burning desire to learn more about homeless people and the policy makers in Washington, spurred Keener, a psychology major and dance minor from Perry, Ohio, and her trip



By Pam Besel

Caught at the Crossroads

OWU students on their way to meet “the powerful ones.”

(middle) Preparing food in the shelter's soup kitchen.

(right) OWU Chaplain Jon Powers and Jesika Keener.



teammates on to Washington to live, work, laugh, and cry together, and gain an understanding of how and why things happen as they do in the nation's capital.

“There are so many myths, like for instance, that homeless people don't have jobs, and are uneducated,” says Keener, as she describes how she and the other students worked hard each day at the shelter under the watchful eyes and guidance of 80-year-old James Burton, the head custodian and permanent shelter resident, as they cleaned and painted lockers, swept floors, and carried out bags of garbage. “And then, we'd see many of our co-workers, the shelter residents, get cleaned up, put on suits, and go out to their “real” jobs.” Some were former university professors, business owners, war veterans, artists and musicians, and others were grandmothers and their grandchildren or in many cases, all by themselves, sick, unemployed, and uninsured. Down on their luck.

“They are human beings, just like you and me,” says Keener, pointing out the shelter's contractual agreement with residents that they will ‘work hard, fulfill their weekly responsibilities, and not drink [alcohol] or take drugs.’

“The goal is to get these people motivated, clean and sober, and up and out,” says Chaplain Powers, who named and spearheaded the Washington program, one of several initiatives funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. more than six years ago.

“This [experience] is the cornerstone of our Lilly program that encourages OWU students, professors, staff members, and alumni to reflect on how and why we make vocational choices in our lives.” With its focus on leadership development and opportunities for students to apply classroom discussions and theories to real life scenarios—frustrating as they may be—the Crossroads program is, according to the Chaplain, the crown jewel.

When the OWU troupe wasn't working within the shelter, or preparing food in the soup kitchen, they moved out into the city, taking vans filled with soup, sandwiches, oranges, and coffee to the people living on the streets of Washington. There never seemed to be quite enough food for those who braved the most unkind and brutal elements.

“But we also wanted to meet with those people on Capitol Hill—the “powerful” ones—to discuss our concerns about the shelter, and try to better communicate the plight and predicaments of the homeless people we had met,” says Keener. Her group talked with the assistant to Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown and visited with the ambassadors to the Jamaican and Philippine embassies (home countries of two of the OWU students) to learn more about their worlds.

“We learned that it is not that they don't care about or don't want to help [the homeless], but there are often many other things on their minds, and they tend not to

be able to personalize situations and think about the people involved.” As the OWU group “circled” each night, tired but eager to talk, they discussed the day's activities and revelations, through laughter and tears.

“Who *are* the powerful and powerless people [of Washington, D.C.], and how can we be sure?” asks the Chaplain of Jesika and the others. They talked about the legislators and their frustrations, often about not being able to implement their wish list of programs and policies.

Fondly recalling a deaf artist living in the shelter, Keener says that she communicated with him via sign language, and he proudly showed his artwork and studio to the students. As a token of thanks, Keener gave him a friendship pin.

“The night before we left Washington, he gave me a small gift,” says a misty-eyed Keener. “A homeless man gave *me* a gift.”

Every day in Washington was different, and Keener learned to expect the unexpected. “Before my trip, I remember always feeling embarrassed when I passed homeless people on the street; but now, I can look them in the eyes and smile, because I understand.”

Pam Besel is Director of Internal Communications, Editor of the Ohio Wesleyan Magazine, and Interim Co-Director of Marketing and Communication.

OWU STUDENTS GAIN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE BY IMMERSING THEMSELVES IN THE ARTS AND THE CULTURE OF NEW YORK CITY



Small photo: Seniors Oksana Pelts (left) and Jenny Herron share their New York experiences with OWU Professor Cindy Cetlin.

Large photo: Pelts: "If students have the means to take advantage of this opportunity, they should!"

THEY IMMERSE THEMSELVES IN THE CULTURE, THE ARTS, THE BIG APPLE. Each year, more than a dozen Ohio Wesleyan students trek to New York City for a semester in hopes of gaining valuable practical experience in the fine arts that will help shape their careers. For two OWU seniors who just completed a semester in the New York Arts Program, the experience was as much about exploring their art as it was about discovering themselves.

"Students in the program have an exposure to actual careers ... to the practical side of earning a living in the

arts," says Cynthia Cetlin, professor of fine arts at Ohio Wesleyan and the on-campus representative for the New York Arts Program. "Here at Ohio Wesleyan, it's about studying a subject, but through the program, they get to apply that knowledge and look at careers in their fields of interest. When they return to the classroom, they come back really inspired by what they have seen and done."

Jenny Herron, an OWU senior studying theater and English, says her internship experience as a production assistant with an off-Broadway theater company, The New Group, "completely exceeded my

expectations." Her job included tasks big and small, she says, from setting up food for the cast and cleaning up after rehearsal to helping manage problems during production and even helping an injured actor off stage.

"I always felt like I was really important to being there," says Herron, a native of Cleveland. "I thought I would be this auxiliary person and not necessary. But the stage manager, who was my boss, said that wasn't my job, and I was important and that they relied on me and that was really true. I always felt like I had to be there and I was part of making the show happen. I learned so much and met so many people and made

York!!!

By *Andrea Misko Strle '99*



great contacts.”

Cetlin says students tell her the New York Arts Program provided them an extremely valuable experience while earning a full semester of academic credit. “Sometimes they will find out the career they thought they wanted wasn’t really what they wanted, and they will get a better sense of what they want to do,” she says. “Sometimes they develop a great connection with a sponsor and end up getting employed by that sponsor after graduation.”

For Herron, the experience reaffirmed her desires to pursue theater as both actor and technician. She plans to return to New

York City after graduation to pursue theater and participate in the service organization, AmeriCorps.

“The experience in New York made me sure that I did want to work there,” she says. “It made me confident that I could do it and thrive there. It made me sure that working in theater is something that I wanted to do. It made me sure that it’s worth trying, and gave me ideas of what I want to do. I feel like everybody should take advantage of this program. I think that if you are planning to move to New York or go into arts this is something you shouldn’t let pass you by.”

Oksana Pelts, a senior art history major, completed two internships in New York during the fall semester, including one with the Brooklyn Museum, the second-largest art museum in the city, and another with the Whitney Museum of American Art. At the Brooklyn Museum she worked with the curators and assisted in the planning of shows. At the Whitney, she worked in publications.

“They were both equally educational,” says Pelts, 22, of Cleveland, who moved from the Ukraine eight years ago. “I enjoyed them both because they were so different. I think I got more than I expected. The Whitney is more contemporary and the Brooklyn was more ancient arts. I was very busy working five days a week from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. It was enjoyable and a lot of fun. They treat their interns as if they are hired and on their level. They don’t have them getting coffee, they have them doing real work, having real experiences.”

Pelts hopes to be a curator at a museum and the New York experience, she says, “helped me a lot in figuring out what I needed to do.” Pelts even put her knowledge to practical use while in New York by curating an art show at the brownstone where all the arts program interns live. Her plan is to return to New York in a couple years and pursue work in a gallery.

“Being an art history major, you can read books, but being in the middle of everything in New York, it just gives you access to everything,” Pelts says. “The faculty was great and encouraged us to step outside of our interests and explore other things in the city.”

Founded in 1967, the New York Arts Program has seen more than 3,000 students participate from dozens of colleges throughout the country, including Ohio Wesleyan. The program is fully recognized by the Great Lakes Colleges Association.

“If you have the means to take advantage of this opportunity, do it,” Pelts says. “Even for a studio art major, they might think that their time might be better spent making their own art, but they would be so much more influenced, and their art could take a different direction. It’s important to be close to that in the early stages of your career.”

Learn more about the New York Arts Program at www.nyartsprogram.org

Andrea Misko Strle '99 is Class Notes Editor of the Ohio Wesleyan Magazine and a freelance journalist in Columbus, Ohio.



Herron (right) and a friend enjoy the New York culture.



Senior Amanda Thompson with OWU politics and government professor, Carl Pinkele.



By *Ericka Kurtz*

passion for politics

A STUDENT WHO MAKES HER COLLEGE DECISION BASED, AT LEAST IN PART, ON BEING IN A SWING STATE DURING A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IS SERIOUS ABOUT POLITICS.

A student who held a political rally for a presidential candidate and participated in Tennessee's Youth Legislature before she graduated from high school may have a future in politics. And a student who participated in the Wesleyan in

Washington program resulting in a summer job with a Congresswoman's campaign staff.....well, shall we say we'll expect to see her name on a ticket someday?

Perhaps.

The future of senior politics and government major Amanda Thompson is bright—and wide open. When she graduates in May, she'll head off to law school armed with a powerful combination: an Ohio Wesleyan education and experience on Capitol Hill.

"I knew that I wanted to go somewhere with a strong politics and government program," says Thompson. She applied to Washington University, American University,

and OWU. "I did think it would be beneficial to be in Ohio during the 2008 election," she smiles. "Especially being so close to Columbus, I knew I would be able to see the candidates speak." The very deliberate decision paid off for Thompson. "I was on stage with McCain at Wright State University when he announced Palin as his running-mate," she recalls. "It was exhilarating to be part of that experience."

Choosing Ohio Wesleyan has meant more to Thompson than being close to the political action. "OWU helped me figure out what I am really interested in; education policy. Here, I have been

“I also heard Condoleezza Rice speak. Then I saw her almost get attacked by Code Pink (an anti-war group), who were promptly taken down by Secret Service.”



Amanda Zechiel '09, former President George W. Bush, Amanda Thompson '09, and Nanor Mahdessian, Thompson's roommate in Washington.

able to tailor my passion into an area of interest. I have benefitted from Dr. [Sam] Katz's Education and the Law class, and Dr. [Bill] Louthan's Constitutional Law course is tough. I am doing work on a law school level."

Ultimately, Thompson had to experience Washington, D.C. for herself. "If you're interested in music or theater, you go to New York City," she says. "If your passion is politics, you go to D.C."

Off to Washington Amanda went, to an internship in the office of Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn. "I gave tours of the Capitol, and my office was strict about memorizing the facts. I also opened mail every day and sorted it according to issue. And I answered phones. We had a lot of calls, especially when the Congresswoman was on the floor."

Thompson in no way minded the "smaller" tasks because they led to larger opportunities. "My advice to anyone in D.C. is to be open and be available. Do whatever you're asked to do. You have to be assertive. At receptions you have to take the initiative and introduce yourself rather than stand in a corner and wait for someone to approach you."

Opportunities in Washington were varied, sometimes fun, and always interesting for Thompson. "I was able to attend healthcare briefings, and I observed the Energy and Commerce committee meetings when they were debating the S-chip. That was feisty!" Thompson heard the Dali Lama, Richard Gere, and the

President of France speak. "I also heard Condoleezza Rice speak. Then I saw her almost get attacked by Code Pink (an anti-war group), who were promptly taken down by Secret Service." Other memorable moments include meeting John Madden, giving a tour to American Idol finalist Melinda Doolittle, and meeting President Bush.

"It is fun to be in D.C.," says Professor of Politics and Government Carl Pinkele, who also directs the Arneson Institute of Practical Politics. "Students get to see how representative democracy works. It's something that can't be replicated in the classroom. Scientists must have labs and political scientists must have internships."

Pinkele says Wesleyan in Washington is different from similar programs at other schools because OWU students work at least five days a week, if not six or seven days a week. "The academic stuff is during evening hours," he says. And OWU students differentiate themselves in a few other areas. "Ohio Wesleyan students have outperformed our 'betters' in the capacity to write, speak, and articulate."

Ohio Wesleyan has a strong reputation in Washington, and Pinkele notes that the program relies extensively on OWU alumni and friends living in the D.C. area. "I tell our students it's not just their reputation at stake when they're in D.C.," he says. "They're responsible for OWU's reputation as well as all of their successors being able to have internships at the same place. Wesleyan in Washington is not for

everyone, but if you can be successful there, it gives you an incredible leg-up."

Thompson already has realized the benefits of her Wesleyan in Washington experience. After her internship, she worked during the summer in Congresswoman Blackburn's office as a campaign scheduler. "The Congresswoman wrote a letter of recommendation for me for law school," says Thompson. "She is well known in the South, and I applied to law schools in the South. To have her recommendation is huge."

So as Thompson plans her future—law school, and the possibilities of working in an education policy firm, running for office, and balancing everything with a family and children—she knows she's ready. "My Wesleyan in Washington experience was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life," says Thompson. "It was life-changing. It took everything I learned in the classroom and made it real. You can read about a veto override, but to see a veto override vote in action is invaluable. Going off campus or traveling abroad will definitely give you a different perspective on life and who you are."

Ericka Kurtz is Assistant Editor of the Ohio Wesleyan Magazine and Assistant Director of Marketing and Communication at Ohio Wesleyan.

Hemos Aprendido Mucho

OWU Students

Immerse

Themselves

in Spanish

Language

and Culture

By Linda Miller O'Horo '79



en Salamanca!

(We Learned a Lot in Salamanca!)



OWU students jumping at Picos de Europa (Peaks of Europe in Northern Spain)

Twenty-one years ago, Conrad Kent, professor of modern foreign languages, founded a collaborative program with the University of Salamanca that enabled Ohio Wesleyan University students to immerse themselves in Spanish language and culture. Since then, about 300 students have participated in the Salamanca Program—including 14 who spent fall semester studying at “one of the primary centers for Hispanic language and literature study in the world,” Kent says. The prestigious University of Salamanca, located in the province of Castilla-Leon’ (approximately 73 miles northwest of Madrid), has been renowned for its research and teaching for 800 years.

For two years, Juan Armando Rojas, assistant professor of modern foreign languages has been the director of OWU’s Study Abroad Program in Salamanca. He believes college students need to explore the world. “It’s not just being in a classroom. It is a significant time for them to explore new horizons.

I have seen many students, who have not traveled much, open up to the world because of this unique experience. This allows them to take over in class at OWU—they become leaders!” Rojas believes the students mature as they learn to rely on their Spanish oral, written, and reading skills for all academic classes and in their homes with host families.

Four days a week, each student attended five hours of classes, which consisted only of the OWU student group. Tenured professors at the University of Salamanca taught the courses: Spanish Grammar, The History of Spanish Art, Topics in Latin-American Narrative, The Golden Age in Literature and Culture, Contemporary Spanish Literature, Contemporary Spanish History, and Spanish Film.

continued on page 18

“The most unusual cultural change was the daily siesta, which lasted from 2:30 p.m. until about 5 p.m. each day,” says Matt Jackson '09, a double major in Spanish and applied music. “Our classes ended each day by siesta, and virtually all businesses (except some major restaurants) shut down during that time. Businesses are also shut down on Sundays. There’s a slower pace. And it is not uncommon to see families with small children and grandparents out late at night enjoying the city,” he adds.

Ross Brubaker '10, a double major in Spanish and pre-professional zoology, thinks the OWU-Salamanca program is stronger than some other study abroad programs because “ours is geared toward spending more time with local people. We spent a lot of time with our tutors and socialized with them, as well. We were

really integrated into their culture.”

Brubaker adds that the OWU students could see “how the rest of the world sees us.” Jackson agrees, saying, “It was weird to watch the presidential election from there. When Obama won, they were cheering and celebrating. It was covered on all of the channels—as if we were in the U.S.!”

“I’ve always known that I wanted to work in Latin American or Spanish countries,” says Amanda Gomez '10, a double major in international business and Spanish. “Now that possibility seems more positive—more of a reality.”

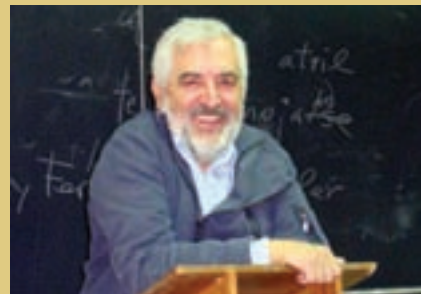
“Since returning from Salamanca, I am more comfortable with the Spanish language. I feel more confident speaking in class,” says Julia Ellis '10, a triple major in Spanish, sociology, and psychology.

Students toured the surrounding historical and picturesque mountain area

by bus on most weekends. And two, week-long excursions took the group to the north early in the fall and to the south during Thanksgiving week, when parents are invited to join the tour.

Efforts are ongoing to foster the special relationship between OWU and the University of Salamanca; some Salamanca professors have traveled to Delaware for presentations and symposiums. Rojas says “There are approximately 40-million Spanish-speaking people in the U.S., making this country one of the largest such populations worldwide. The Salamanca Program is a very strong part of the OWU experience, and it is allowing our students to become an important part of that group.”

Linda Miller O’Horo '79 is Assistant Director of Media and Community Relations at Ohio Wesleyan.



CHAZ NARWICZ'S AUSTRALIAN EXPERIENCE

For Ohio Wesleyan junior lacrosse player Chaz Narwicz, a semester abroad in Australia was an amazing learning experience, but it also was a lifelong dream come true. The beach lover had always longed to experience the warm weather, laidback lifestyle, and surfing of the Land Down Under. But what the economics management major returned to the OWU campus with was a better understanding of and appreciation for Australian history, politics, and world view.

Narwicz attended Bond University in Australia's Gold Coast taking a semester of classes this past fall, including organizational behavior, Australian history, Australian identity and the international perspective, and photography. It was an educational experience coordinated by Ohio Wesleyan and sponsored by Philadelphia's Arcadia University.

"It was really interesting learning more about their history and politics," Narwicz, says of Australia. "They are very supportive of America. Their news is our news. What happens in America is their front page. I definitely gained an appreciation for the good relationship that they have with the U.S."

In addition to learning about the country, Narwicz said the experience taught him a lot about himself. "Being away from everybody was hard, and I know how to



Chaz Narwicz (right) and friend take a break from studies at Australia's Bond University.

live on my own, but I definitely learned I am more independent than I thought I was. I also learned that there is a lot more world outside of America. I had never been outside our country before. Being in Australia made me want to experience new things outside of America."

While abroad, two experiences stood out for Narwicz, including a trip to the Outback where he met aborigines, Australia's indigenous people, as well as a trip to New Zealand off the eastern coast of the Australian continent. "Those were two of my favorite places," he says. "The scenery in both places I can't even describe. It was a

very spiritual experience... unbelievable."

In between his studying, beach-going, and sightseeing, Narwicz also managed to get in a few lacrosse throws with some fellow lovers of the sport who also were studying at Bond University from other colleges in the States. The overall abroad experience is something he recommends all Ohio Wesleyan students consider.

"It was the best thing ever ..." Narwicz said, "the best four months of my life."

Andrea Misko Strle '99 is Class Notes Editor of the Ohio Wesleyan Magazine and a freelance journalist in Columbus, Ohio.



Fore

WHAT STARTED AS A FOUR-YEAR OWU GOLF PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN JACK WINTERS '61 AND THE LATE ROD MYERS '61, BLOSSOMED INTO A LIFELONG FRIENDSHIP AND ULTIMATE DETERMINATION TO ENSURE THE QUALITY AND LONGEVITY OF BISHOP GOLFERS.

Jack Winters smiles when he thinks about his college roommate and good friend Rod Myers. They met as freshmen at Ohio Wesleyan, both pledging the same fraternity, Phi Delta Theta, and both sharing an avid interest in golf. They were invited by OWU golf and swimming coach Dick Gordin to play on the golf team and remained golf partners for four years

“It was the beginning of a wonderful friendship,” says Winters, reminiscing about the interesting twists and turns in both of their lives after graduating

-ward Thinking



(L to R) Nancy Winters, Nancy Harriff Myers '61, Rod Myers '61, and Jack Winters '61.

from Ohio Wesleyan. He went on to dental school at The Ohio State University and prepared for his profession in Findlay, Ohio, practicing as a pediatric dentist, with a special interest in sports dentistry. Winters is preparing to publish research on whether good quality mouthguards can prevent concussions in football and other sports. His personal time often has been devoted to officiating, first at high school and later at college football games, an interest that was sparked after Winters took one of Bob Strimer's, Hon. '81 (former OWU athletic director, coach, and administrator) courses on football officiating.

"It's been in my blood ever since," he says. Friend Rod took a different route.

"Rod pursued his master's degree in health and physical education with special interests in agronomy and golf course management at the University of Maryland, and eventually became head varsity golf

coach at The Ohio State University, followed by his post as head men's golf coach at Duke University," says Winters. But their families remained close over the years, becoming even closer when Rod was diagnosed with leukemia five years ago.

"Rod often mentioned his interest in visiting Africa, and once he was cleared by his doctor to travel, off we went," says Winters, noting that "it was the trip of a lifetime, including, of course, playing golf together in Kenya." But life was cut short for Myers, as he lost the battle with his disease in March 2007.

"Rod taught me everything I know about golf," says Winters. "He was the consummate golf professional who knew the swing, rules, and how to treat his players with respect. He dressed and acted like the professional golfer he was." And as Rod's close friend and golf supporter, Winters is on a mission to help ensure that Ohio Wesleyan continues to offer

a quality varsity program in Division III golf.

"That's my plan," says Winters who is working with members of OWU's development office to create the Rod Myers and Richard Gordin Golf Endowment. "I had wonderful professors as a student at OWU and developed a great foundation for my success in life, along with an opportunity to be part of a strong golf program." Continuing those great traditions is important.

"Jack's continued support for Ohio Wesleyan and especially our athletics programs is impressive," says Mark Shipp's '70, Vice President for University Relations. "He is on campus often, attending events and providing counsel and support to students, faculty, coaches, and staff. His gifts to Selby Field (see our story in the Fall 2008 edition of the *OWU Magazine*) and his vision in establishing the Rod Myers and Richard Gordin Golf Endowment are great examples of Jack's committed alumni leadership."

—Pam Besel

For more information about the Rod Myers and Richard Gordin Golf Endowment, contact Darrel Gibson '87, Director of Major Gifts, at dbgibson@owu.edu.

OWU Connections Volunteers

If you are interested in serving as a OWU contact for your city/region or in planning alumni events in your city/region, contact the volunteer coordinator in your area.

The Young Alumni Connections in each city/region focus on connecting with alumni who graduated within the last 10 years and planning events.

If your city/region isn't listed and you would like to volunteer, contact the Alumni Relations Office at (740) 368-3325 or alumni@owu.edu.

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 E John Gordon '76, john@gdp.com
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Key Code:

N - Networking
 E - Area Events
 YA - Young Alumni Connection
 AB - Alumni Association Board of Directors

Investing in What Matters Most

THE OWU ANNUAL FUND

David Ebenhoh '10 loves animals and covets the ambitious goal of helping our wildlife friends be better protected and safe within their environments. As an environmental studies and economics double major (who also enjoys writing and involvement in his fraternity, Alpha Sigma Phi, in his spare time), David grew up in Richfield, Ohio, in a household including five dogs and cats.

"I came to OWU quite aware of its strong science programs, but discovered an interest in economics along the way," he says. Along with 117 other students currently honored as OWU Annual Fund Scholars, David also discovered the great generosity and student-centered care of Ohio Wesleyan alumni who give to the

Annual Fund—and eager-to-learn students like him.

"It's a great cause that you, our alumni and friends, are supporting," he says. "I hope that one day I will be in your shoes and give something back to others."

For more than eight decades, since the start of OWU's Annual Fund by Herman "Rusty" Shipps '13, the Fund has directly supported teaching, learning, and discovery at Ohio Wesleyan through gifts helping students to afford their college educations. Largely unrestricted, OWU Annual Fund gifts also are used to equip classrooms and labs with the latest technology, enhance library resources, and support professional opportunities and honorary awards for



OWU professors. These are investments that David and so many other students following in his footsteps will relish and remember long after they leave Ohio Wesleyan.

For further information about the Annual Fund, please call (740) 368-3311, or visit our Web site at <http://annualfund.owu.edu>.

IT'S HERE!

myOWU

AN ON-LINE PORTAL FOR
ALUMNI TO CONNECT YOUR
OWU PAST AND PRESENT WHILE
CREATING THE VISION FOR
YOUR myOWU FUTURE.

Allows Liz Long '06 to reminisce online with dorm mates from Hayes Hall. Connects Craig Luke '85 with alumni gatherings in his city. Brings Jack McKinnie '54 the latest Battling Bishops news.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The following is a listing of OWU alumni events around the country, including the Rock 'Hopes and Dreams' Tour events. These offer alumni, families, and friends the opportunity to meet our 16th President and share their most visionary thoughts to help chart OWU's future! Tour happenings can be followed by visiting rocktour.owu.edu. To RSVP for an event, please visit <http://alumni.owu.edu> or call (740) 368-3325.

MARCH

March 19 – Thursday – Delaware, OH

Young Alumni Speed Networking Workshop and Career Panel
Ohio Wesleyan campus, 6 – 7 p.m.,
Bayley Room, Beeghly Library

March 20-22 – Friday-Sunday –

Delaware, Ohio FIJI Pig Dinner Weekend,
Ohio Wesleyan campus

APRIL

April 04 – Saturday – Delaware, OH

Women's Soccer Alumni Game

April 07 – Tuesday – Houston, TX

Rock Tour Event at the Houston Racquet Club

April 08 – Wednesday – Dallas/Ft.

Worth, TX Rock Tour Event at the Park City Club

April 22 – Wednesday – Delaware, OH

Columbus Monnett Club Spring Dinner at Ohio Wesleyan. Hear and applaud student singers from the cast of *Carousel* at 6 p.m. Tour the newly refurbished Monnett Room in Mowry Alumni Center at 6:30 p.m. Enjoy dinner with Rock and Melissa Lollar Jones. Reservations required. Benes Room, Hamilton-Williams Campus Center

April 24-25 – Friday-Saturday –

Delaware, OH Phi Delta Theta, Phi Union Weekend (various events)

April 25 – Saturday – Cleveland, OH

Cleveland Monnett Club at Cleveland Skating Club

April 26 – Sunday – Delaware, OH

Central Ohio Golden Bishops, Spring luncheon and theatre performance of *Carousel*.

April 28 – Tuesday – Columbus, OH

Bishop Alumni Service Night at Mid-Ohio Foodbank

April 30 – Thursday – Columbus, OH

Rusty McClure '72 will share the story of his New York Times best seller, *Crosley: Two Brothers and a Business Empire that Transformed the Nation*, with alumni at the Muirfield Village Golf Club

MAY

May 15 – 17 – Friday – Sunday

Alumni Weekend '09

JULY

July 9 – Thursday – Burlington, VT

Rock Tour Event at The Essex Inn

July 22 – Wednesday – Memphis, TN

Rock Tour Event at the home of Elizabeth Kanne Miller '92.

** If you are interested in coordinating an event in your city, contact the Alumni Relations Office at (740) 368-3325 or e-mail alumni@owu.edu

Ohio Wesleyan University sadly learned of the passings of **Peter D. Kleist '40** of Fort Myers, Florida and **Leonard D. Slutz '34** of Cincinnati, Ohio. Both were Life Trustees of Ohio Wesleyan and their dedication to our community will be greatly missed. Peter is survived by his wife, **Eleanore Pottman Kleist '40**. This information was received immediately prior to the printing of this edition of the Ohio Wesleyan *Magazine*. Please look for more information and recognition of their generous involvement and philanthropic support of Ohio Wesleyan University in the summer edition scheduled to be mailed in June, 2009.

ATTENTION BISHOP ALUMNI!
ROTC/ANGEL FLIGHT CELEBRATION



WHAT: ROTC/Angel Flight Reunion

WHEN: Sunday, May 17 at 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Reunion Pavilion (between Beeghly and Corns)

Join us as we celebrate the service of alumni servicemen and women. We will also honor special guest and former ROTC coordinator, Retired Colonel Al Weidenbusch.

We invite you to send stories and photos of your cadet times for compilation in a scrapbook. Please send information to:

ROTC/Angel Flight Reunion
 Ohio Wesleyan University
 Office of Alumni Relations
 61 South Sandusky Street
 Delaware, Ohio 43015

Items will not be returned. The deadline for submission is Friday, April 24.

For details, or to register, please contact the Alumni Relations office at (740) 368-3325 or reunion@owu.edu

You may also register online at [myOWU](http://myOWU.com), www.owualumni.com



FOR THE
 SEVENTH ANNUAL
 ALUMNI "W" ASSOCIATION

**GOLF
 OUTING**

FRIDAY
 SEPTEMBER 18
 2009

NOT ONLY IS IT A
 GREAT DAY TO SPEND
 WITH FELLOW ALUMNI,
 ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT



Online registration is available at
<http://alumni.owu.edu/events.html>

Light Up Mainstage!

...and Honor a Great Professor!

As OWU honors **Professor Robert Crosby '39** this year, the University has launched a fundraising initiative, "Light Up Mainstage!" to keep Chappellear Drama Center illuminated for years to come. **It's time to bring 21st-century technology to the Department of Theatre and Dance** by purchasing a \$750,000 lighting system—an essential upgrade needed to improve the current 30-year-old lighting system. We are reaching out to you, our alumni, parents, and friends of OWU's theatre and dance department to help **Light Up Mainstage!**



You may make your gift via our secure donation Web site at <http://alumni.owu.edu/giving>, contact the OWU University Relations Office at (740) 368-3104, or e-mail klcrosma@owu.edu.

ATTENTION: OWU ALUMNI

You Want the Best for Your Grandchildren.

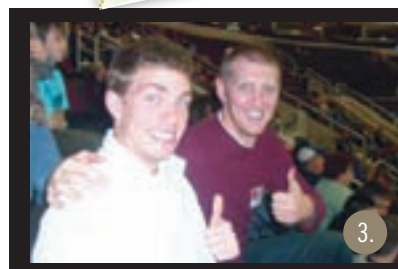
So do we.

Ohio Wesleyan honors the accomplishments and loyalty of our alumni with a generous Legacy Grant. **Each grandchild or step-grandchild of OWU alumni is eligible for \$60,000 in Legacy Grant support.** That's \$15,000 per year for each of the four years your grandchild spends at Ohio Wesleyan.

Just as it did for you, OWU offers your grandchild a premier liberal arts pre-professional education and limitless opportunities to learn off campus as well as in the classroom.

We hope you'll continue the family tradition of excellence by encouraging your high school-age grandchildren to consider Ohio Wesleyan. Tell them your stories. Urge them to come to campus. And visit http://alumni.owu.edu/apart_studentref.html to submit a student referral. It's never too early to think about Ohio Wesleyan.

OWU. *Pass it on.*



1. January 23

OWU Track

(L-R): Sarah Spring, David Spring '99, Heather Ward '94, Rebecca Hayward '94, and Kate VanDerzee '96 gathered at the first OWU indoor track meet on the newly renovated track on January 23, 2009.

2. January 9

Columbus Young Alumni

(R-L): Nicholas Barnes '04 and Dan Sharpe '06 worked as a team to ensure food was properly sorted and sanitized at the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

3. November 8

Cleveland Young Alumni

(L-R): Peter MacLeod '08 and Randy Everett '05 at the Lake Erie Monsters Young Alumni event in Cleveland.

4. Cleveland Young Alumni

(L-R): Randy Everett '05, Meggie Feran '06, Linda Radigan '02, Peter MacLeod '08, and Dan Melcher '06 at the Zocalo Restaurant in Cleveland.

5. December 8

Chicago Young Alumni

(L-R): Marya Christina Intal '06 and Raymond Strain '06 represented OWU at the Young Alumni Social in Chicago.



6.

ATTENTION: OWU ALUMNI

Do You Have
a Child in
High School?

Then we have
60,000 reasons
to consider Ohio
Wesleyan.

Did you know that each child or stepchild of Ohio Wesleyan alumni is eligible for \$60,000 in Legacy Grant support from Ohio Wesleyan? That's \$15,000 per year for each of the four years of the OWU experience.

That experience includes the finest liberal arts/pre-professional education and endless opportunities to study not only in the classroom, but also in the world.

Continue your family tradition by encouraging your children to think about Ohio Wesleyan. Tell them your stories. Bring them to campus. Visit http://alumni.owu.edu/apart_studentref.html to submit a student referral. It's never too early to think about Ohio Wesleyan.

OWU. *Pass it on.*

1842



1.



7.

6. February 4

Columbus Young Alumni

(L-R) Front Row: Jason Downey '02, Liz Long '06, Amanda Cullison '05, Katie Feran '03, Meggie Feran '06, Katie Lohnes '05, Matt Schmitter '05. (L-R) Back Row: Chris Moore '04, Joe Rosato '06, Emily Thornton Busch '03, Erika Little '02, and Jesus Ovalle '06 enjoy a wine-tasting event at Camelot Cellars.

7. January 10

Washington, D.C. Alumni Dinner

(L-R): Joey Yost '08, Kim Rybold '05, Veenusha Satchurn '04, and Mariea Estrada '02 gathered at Fado's Irish Pub in Washington, D.C. to talk about future young alumni events; ideas from wine tasting to the Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk.

8. February 17

Dinner with 12 Strangers

(L-R) Laura Bayer '09, Kaisha Oliver '10, Ryan Jordan '09, Emily Steger '09, Erika Hankins '11, Mike DiBiasio '10, Chris Seegraves, and Kate Lohnes '05 posed for a quick photo after the first "Dinner with 12 Strangers" series in the Mowry Alumni Center Monnett Room.



8.

In Concert with
ROCK

TOUR EVENTS:



Washington, D.C.

1. **Debbi Smithey Durham '74**, Judy Holloway, President Rock Jones, **Lucy Campbell Leuchtenburg '72**, **Sharon Smithey Coale '72** in Washington, D.C.

Columbus, OH

2. **Ann Ellsworth Guins '75**, **Ruthie Goddel '09**, **Kathi Sisterhen Warnock '76**, and **Doug Warnock '75**.

Baltimore, MD

3. **Jay Cherry '44**, John Roach, **Diana Poos Roach '72**, **Rich Seiler '72**, **Bob D'Antonio '74** and **Mike Spencer '73** at the Baltimore Rock Tour event, hosted by **Larry '57** and **Charlotte Patterson Hill '57**.

Washington, D.C.

4. Shirley and **Jim Hibbitts '57** and **Stan Doore '54** (George Stanley, Jr.) at the greater Washington, D.C. "Rock Tour" event.





Summit, NJ

1. Melinda Carney (parent of Tim '12), **Linda Morris Barnes '79**, **Jane Hackford Riley '76**, **Debbie Jones Lupton '76**, and **John Mencke '79** share thoughts about OWU's future.



Ft. Lauderdale, FL

2. Jane and **Dave Griffiths '51** (left) and **Wally '51** and **Jo Ann Bradley Thompson '53** (right) share their robust family legacies with Melissa and Rock Jones.



Denver, CO

3. **Joy Rukundo Twesigye '98** and **Bill West '52** share OWU memories with Rock during the Denver tour event.



New York, NY

4. Greater New York City Battling Bishops listen to President Rock Jones share his vision for Ohio Wesleyan.



R E T U R N . . . R E N E W . . . R E U N I T E !

May 15-17, 2009

FRIDAY

Golden Key Luncheon
Meek Aquatics and Recreation Center
Groundbreaking
Tower Society Reception
Multicultural & International
Alumni Reception
Blues & BBQ*
*SEE PG 32 FOR MORE DETAILS.

SATURDAY

Golden Key Diploma Ceremony
Alumni Recognition Ceremony
Parade of Classes
All-Alumni Luncheon
Greek Open Houses
Reunion Class Dinners
All-Alumni Social Under the Stars

SUNDAY

Catholic Mass & Reception
All-Alumni Convocation

SPECIAL EVENT

ROTC/ANGEL FLIGHT REUNION*

*SEE PG 25 FOR DETAILS.

ALUMNI WEEKEND

TO VIEW THE FULL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND TO REGISTER ONLINE,
GO TO [HTTP://WEEKEND.OWU.EDU](http://WEEKEND.OWU.EDU). THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 8, 2009.

Rebuilding Lives in New Orleans [TODAY]

By *Ericka Kurtz*



Last year, Zack Rosenberg '95 and his friend Liz McCartney went to New Orleans to help with the reconstruction there. She had time before starting a new job, and he was on vacation from his job as a Washington, D.C. attorney. Volunteering seemed like the right thing to do.

But when the couple arrived in New Orleans, they were shocked. "We were amazed at how little progress had been made since the hurricane," Rosenberg recalls. "We saw people who were just like us, and if they were lucky, they were living in a FEMA trailer—if they were lucky. There was a problem that needed to be solved."

Rosenberg and McCartney took action. The couple uprooted their own lives in D.C. to help others re-establish roots in New Orleans by founding the St. Bernard Project. The project assists residents of St. Bernard Parish, considered by many to be the area hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina. Rosenberg speaks of the transition with the ease of a person describing his weekend's activities with co-workers at the water cooler on Monday morning. Yes, I tried that new restaurant you recommended, we planted some perennials in the backyard, and, oh, I started a non-profit organization to help victims of Hurricane Katrina rebuild their lives. No big deal.

And to Rosenberg, it's not a big deal. Starting the St. Bernard Project was just something he had to do. "The residents of St. Bernard are homeowners, they just can't get to their homes," says Rosenberg. "They have jobs. They are war veterans. They are police officers. They're just like you and me. And that's what struck me the most. Something like this could happen to anyone. With opportunity comes responsibility. How could I not do something to help?"

"We saw people who were just like us, and if they were lucky, they were living in a FEMA trailer—if they were lucky."

One particularly heartbreaking story is about a man Rosenberg says could be anyone's grandpa. "I met an 82-year-old man who was a veteran and who had been a union member for more than 50 years," he says. "Every day he would get into his little Ford Ranger to drive to FEMA and ask for a trailer. He did this for six weeks. One day when we were with him, he just started sobbing. It's very difficult to see someone who is like your own grandfather cry out of despair."

Though there is still much work to be done, Rosenberg, McCartney, and the St. Bernard Project are making huge strides in the right direction. Rosenberg is candid about why he thinks they've been successful. "The traditional disaster recovery model focuses on process rather than progress," he says. The St. Bernard Project makes progress in part by using the volunteer model. "We can build a safe and comfortable home in 12 weeks for \$12,000. Our overhead is very low at six percent. We used to build

one house at a time, but now we are building 30 houses at a time." To date, the St. Bernard Project has constructed 15 homes in St. Bernard Parish, all of which are occupied.

The hard work of the St. Bernard Project has earned much attention. Rosenberg and McCartney were just named New Orleanians of the Year, and McCartney was voted Hero of the Year by CNN viewers. Their efforts also have been noticed by CNN's Anderson Cooper and talk show host Oprah Winfrey. Rosenberg attended the Golden Globes ceremony where he was able to meet celebrities. However, he doesn't let glamour get in the way of the task at hand. "The attention is great as long as it helps us achieve our goals," he says. "I've been asked if I think there is Katrina fatigue, and I think the answer is 'absolutely not.' There is a lack of information."

Professor of Politics and Government Carl Pinkele isn't surprised that Rosenberg co-founded the St. Bernard Project. "Zack is a dogged pursuer of making things right for people," says Pinkele. "He has tremendous energy and a profound sense of personal and professional responsibility. He also has a very nice combination of creative intellect and just enough pizzazz to make it interesting. Zack embodies Robert Kennedy's saying, 'Find life as it is and try to change it for the better.' He is what an Ohio Wesleyan graduate should be."

Ericka Kurtz is Assistant Director of Marketing and Communication and Assistant Editor of the Ohio Wesleyan Magazine.

**HONOR THE
PAST.**

**LIVE IN THE
PRESENT.**

**SECURE THE
FUTURE.**



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We invite you to be a part of OWU's future by joining the Tower Society. Call **(740) 368-3078** or e-mail **giftplanning@owu.edu** to learn more about how you can qualify for membership.

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something to
talk about!***

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Thanks to your generosity, the Annual Fund is able to provide scholarships and financial aid for talented, bright, and deserving students; professional opportunities for our exceptional faculty; and the latest technology for classrooms.

Our shared mission is to continue the stewardship of our resources during these uncertain economic times. As we watch our students and their families face financial challenges and as the need for financial support increases, we heartily thank you for considering Ohio Wesleyan in your philanthropic plans.

If you have made a gift during the 2008-2009 fiscal year, thank you. If you have not had the opportunity to make a gift this year and receive a call from one of our dedicated phonathon callers, please take the time to talk with them. Consider making a commitment to the Annual Fund by answering the call or by returning the enclosed envelope. ***We've got something to talk about.***

alumni.owu.edu/giving



May 15-17, 2009

RETURN...RENEW...REUNITE!



A L U M N I W E E K E N D

SEE PAGE 29 FOR DETAILS