

OWU

After a nearly six-decade hiatus, OWU is marching again

GETTING **THE BAND** BACK TOGETHER

Jay Martin became the first men's soccer coach in NCAA history to win 700 games when the Battling Bishops defeated Oberlin on Sept. 22. His players surprised him with shirts commemorating his milestone, which fittingly occurred at Jay Martin Soccer Complex. Said Martin: "It's always nice to say that you've done something that no one else has done, but we've had great players here over the last 40 years, and that's how we've won 700 games — good players." Forward **Ben Sobotka '21** scored the game's only goal. "With all due respect to Oberlin, we should have scored more goals," Martin said. The men's team finished the season 13-4-2, including 6-1-2 in conference play.





Photos by Paul Vernon



Features

16 Abstract audible

Artist **Will Day '93** turned his skills into a business beyond the studio and was recently commissioned to capture quarterback Peyton Manning on canvas.

18 Marching on

After a nearly six-decade hiatus, the Marching Bishops have returned to OWU, bringing energy and a kickin' soundtrack to football, basketball, and campus events.

24 Q&A with Rock Jones

OWU's 16th president takes stock of his decade on the job and talks about the joys of his work (the people) and the last show he binged.

26 FIJI in Fiji

Alex Widman '17 is stationed halfway across the world on a remote island, where he's applying skills learned at OWU to building a library — with some help from back home.

Departments

- 02** LEADER'S LETTER
- 04** FROM THE JAYWALK
- 08** BISHOP BATTLES
- 09** OWU TIMESCAPES

- 10** COMFORT ZONES
- 12** GIFTS AND GRATITUDE
- 14** OWU CONNECTION
- 32** FACULTY NOTES

- 34** ALUMNI HAPPENINGS
- 35** CALENDAR
- 36** CLASS NOTES
- 48** THE FINAL WORD

ON THE COVER: **David Jindracek '22** wails on tenor saxophone during a halftime performance by the newly re-formed marching band Oct. 13. Photo by Paul Vernon.

OWU Board provides thoughtful leadership on University objectives

The Ohio Wesleyan Board of Trustees provides exemplary leadership and oversight of the mission and values of our University. Our board includes individuals who bring great experience in a variety of sectors. While most are alumni, the board also includes

for financial oversight, facilities planning, and work with the president.

If you were to ask our trustees what they enjoy most about board meetings, they would talk about their interactions with Ohio Wesleyan people – fellow trustees, faculty and administrators, and

marching band. The music was fabulous, and Mary Kate McNally, director of the Marching Bishops, energized the board with her introduction to the band, which was last seen at OWU in 1961.

The return of the marching band is one of the many new programs created as part of the 2020 initiative designed to enhance enrollment at a time of unprecedented challenge in American higher education. The 2020 initiative grew out of a faculty summit on the future of Ohio Wesleyan in May 2015 and a board retreat in February 2016. Since that time, the faculty have adopted 10 new majors, the University has added two new sports and marching band, and we have invested heavily in programs designed to increase retention.

Fourteen percent of this year's new students listed a new major as their area of interest. Twenty-four new students were recruited by wrestling and rowing, our new athletic programs, with another 24 new students participating in marching band (see story Page 18). This year's class is the strongest class, academically, in nearly a decade, with average SAT scores 35 points higher than last year. The 2020 investments are having significant impact.

I am grateful for the visionary leadership of our board, our faculty, and all who have provided generous philanthropic support to advance these initiatives, some of which are featured in this issue of the magazine. Thank you for your generous and passionate support for Ohio Wesleyan. ■



Colleen Nissl '72 (left), a member of the OWU Board of Trustees, was a moderator for the second biennial Women of Ohio Wesleyan forum on campus in October. (See story Page 4.)

parents of current or recent students and community leaders with a passion for higher education. Few universities benefit from a board with the stature, leadership, accomplishment, and deep commitment that is reflected in the OWU Board of Trustees.

The board's responsibility is both to oversee the current strategic focus of the University and to take the long view – to ask hard questions about strategic direction that have implications for 25 to 50 years from now. Board meetings include opportunities for thoughtful engagement with key strategic priorities as well as the ongoing responsibilities

most importantly, with students. OWU people are smart and interesting, and our trustees appreciate their interactions with one another and with the campus. They never forget that our mission as a residential liberal arts university focuses on the transformational educational experiences of our students.

Each board meeting includes a dinner for trustees to spend time with one another in a social setting. The dinner this fall, originally planned for the lawn at Pritchard House, was moved to the Milligan Hub in Stuyvesant Hall due to weather. During dinner the board received a visit from OWU's new

Rock Jones

President, Ohio Wesleyan University
Twitter: @owu_rockjones

Old house was filled with memories

I fondly read the article about the House of Black Culture (“A house reborn”) and what it meant to so many students. I was fortunate to have been raised just a few homes away. There is an even more engaging history about that location because quite a number of venerable OWU professors and their families also lived along that street. Such familiar neighbors’ names as Prof. Lewis Westgate (geology), Prof. Benjamin McElroy (religion), Prof. Harvey Hewitt (music), Prof. J. Allen Hynek (astronomy and physics), Prof. Ralph Sinnett (chemistry), Prof. Sidney Rowland (mathematics), as well as my father, Prof. Paul Hahn (German).

My best childhood friends were **Patricia Kelley Shishler ’55** and **Stephen Kelley ’54**. Their parents were OWU graduates Beverly and Ruth Kelley, who owned the home at 65 Oak Hill beginning in the 1930s. I can remember playing on the upstairs third-floor fully refurbished playroom, in winter sipping hot chocolate in front of the fireplace (with the same salvaged mantel), and munching ice cubes in the summer on the large front porch along with all the other neighborhood children.

I am quite pleased that the wonderful location at the “Top of Oak Hill” can again provide an environment of comfort for future students in which to study, reflect and recharge in today’s modern world. Hopefully the new home can produce many more profound memories.

Jack Hahn ’55

Lt.Col. USAF (Ret.)

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Search for Silver Star should start with Congress

About six weeks after I returned home from Vietnam, I received orders and a certificate signed by Gen. Creighton Abrams awarding a Soldiers Medal for an incident that occurred well before I left. No medal was enclosed. Many years later, through my congressman,

Rep. Dennis Moore, I was guided to the facility in Pennsylvania that issues medals. The medal comes with your name stamped on the obverse.

My belief is the Collord family (“Alumnus sleuth solves 100-year-old military mystery”) never asked for the medal (a Silver Star the family could not locate). They could certainly ask for one now through their congressman.

Ed Dexter ’69

Leawood, Kansas



Dr. Carl Pinkele

Remembering favorite professors

If not for Dr. Carl Pinkele and Dr. Michael Good (politics and government), I would have never graduated from OWU. Both were the kind of professors who cared about their students and engaged each of their students on a daily basis. There are those people along the way that make a difference in your life. Dr. Good was not only my professor, but ultimately a lifelong cherished friend. When Dr. Pinkele approached me in later years to sponsor a speaking series, I felt a deep sense of spirit to give back to a man who had given so much to me. I am deeply saddened to find out he is gone. He definitely changed my life for the better. Thank you, Dr. Pinkele, for the professor you were!

James Barger ’78

San Marino, California

www.owu.edu/alumni
Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Online Community

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Corrections: An incomplete Alumni Association Board of Directors roster was included in the Fall issue; a complete listing can be found on Page 36. **Zoe Rosenthal ’18** was misidentified in a photo, as was **Jim Collord ’50**. The names of J.D. Faulkner and Kim Eckart were misspelled. We regret the errors.

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your
opinions**

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Letters may
be edited for
length and
clarity.

Doan '03 appointed vice president, university advancement

OWU alumna **Natalie Milburn Doan, J.D., '03** was named vice president for university advancement Nov. 15, a role she has filled on an interim basis since June. She will oversee the University's alumni relations, advancement, and career services offices.

"Natalie emerged as the ideal candidate to lead our advancement efforts following a national search that resulted in a pool of absolutely stellar candidates," said President Rock Jones. "She is an outstanding team leader and strategic fundraiser who is deeply loyal and strongly committed to OWU's educational mission. Natalie has been involved with our \$200 million Connect Today, Create Tomorrow campaign since its inception and will – I am



confident – help to make it OWU's most successful fundraising campaign to date."

Doan joined Ohio Wesleyan in 2012 as a development officer for planned giving and became director of donor relations two years later. She holds a Bachelor of

Arts degree in politics and government and psychology from OWU in 2003 and a Juris Doctor degree from Capital University Law School. She has been a licensed Ohio attorney since 2006. "I have experienced firsthand the transformational power of an Ohio Wesleyan education, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve my alma mater during this pivotal time in OWU's history," said Doan.

"We're very fortunate to have Natalie as our new vice president for university advancement," said **Kevin J. McGinty '70**, a member of both the vice presidential search committee and Board of Trustees. "She will provide a dynamic, insightful, and strategic focus to the position." ■

Austin Manor sale allows for campus improvements

In September, Ohio Wesleyan purchased two strategically located properties using a portion of the proceeds from the August sale of Austin Manor. They include a residence at 145 W. William St. that separated the Smith and Welch halls student parking lots (the house was demolished in November and will be incorporated into student parking in the summer) and a home at 46 Hayes St., the only non-OWU structure in its immediate vicinity.

The University sold Austin Manor, which was constructed in 1923 to accommodate the growing number of women who enrolled at OWU after World War I, to Columbus-based RiverWest Partners, LLC., which will continue to operate it as a rental community and retain the name in the short term.

The building was named for **Cyrus B. Austin**, Class of 1879, a longtime University dean. Austin Manor was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1985 and renovated into luxury apartments in 1988. The Board of Trustees authorized the use of \$865,000 from the sale for repairs to Beeghly Library. ■



(From left) **Samantha Wallace Sharpe '09** moderated the panel "The Life-Work Balance Unicorn: Seeking Balance and Making Trade-offs," which featured physician **Katie White Arendt '98**, community volunteer and stay-at-home mom **Kelli McNairy Winston '93**, and **Jonna Gallo Wepler '93**, who recently left a long career in publishing to join an equity fund.

WOW forum focused on connection

Some of Ohio Wesleyan's most accomplished alumnae traveled from across the country to participate in the second biennial Women of Ohio Wesleyan (WOW) leadership forum Oct. 19 and 20 on campus.

Lisa Luckett P'16/'20 delivered a keynote address based on her new book, *The Light in 9/11: Shocked by Kindness, Healed by Love*, which traces her inspiring journey through grief, following the death of her husband

Teddy Luckett '84 in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Samantha Wallace Sharpe '09 and **Kara Trott '83**, a member of the OWU Board of Trustees, served as co-chairs, working closely with volunteer committee members to plan a meaningful event that tackled the value of advocating for oneself, the question of having it all, and challenges specific to women in the workplace. The date for the next WOW has been set for Nov. 6 and 7, 2020. ■



First-year students at Service Camp volunteered during the day and bonded over campfires in the evening at Camp Lazarus in Delaware.

Camp Oh-Wooo for all incoming students builds community

In an effort to provide early opportunities for connection and friendship, the six-day Camp Oh-Wooo orientation experience was universal for all incoming students for the 2018-19 school year.

First-year and transfer students arrived for move-in day Aug. 16, participated in Convocation with their families, then set out for camp the following morning. OWU offered four unique experiences. All four camps had a unifying curriculum with discussions and prompts for students to share with one another in small groups, focusing on building community through recognizing that others might be struggling with similar questions or challenges as they enter college.

“There were three main focuses to the camps: to create a sense of belonging early on, to strengthen students’ self-efficacy, and to ease their social integration to campus,” says Brad Pulcini, associate dean for student engagement, who helped conceptualize the camps.

Dana Behum, director of clubs and

fraternity & sorority life, coordinated the program, and each camp was led by a University staff member from the Office of Student Involvement or the Chaplain’s Office. Additionally, 69 juniors and seniors served as small group leaders and 20 faculty and staff members participated as mentors. Students chose from:

- **Challenge Camp** at Camp NuHop, about an hour north of campus; students participated in high and low rope courses and canoeing, competed between groups, and worked to support group members as they pushed themselves to meet their goals.

- **City Camp** participants remained near campus, allowing fall athletes who had early season practice to participate. Their experience included trips to COSI, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, the Short North district in Columbus, and the city of Delaware.

- **Service Camp** placed an emphasis on volunteering, as students stayed at Camp Lazarus in Delaware and served

30 different sites throughout Columbus, including Ronald McDonald House and the YMCA.

- **Wilderness Camp** groups traveled to Coopers Rock State Forest in West Virginia, where they participated in rock climbing, canoeing, caving, and hiking, along with evening campfires.

Pulcini says the response from campers was overwhelmingly positive, and the early bonding experience is expected to help improve student retention. “We’re one of the few doing this in this way. What makes us unique is there’s no cost to students and we make it a part of every student’s orientation experience,” Pulcini said.

A gift from the Elizabeth Ring Mather and William Gwinn Mather Fund will help support the cost of camp for three years. Planning is already well underway for the next incoming class, and due to the growth and scope of the program, a full-time staff position has been created to oversee the experience. ■



Pepsi choice brings soda revenue stream

The University signed a 10-year contract with Pepsi that will provide additional revenue. Vending machines are being added around campus, including in Branch Rickey Arena and Selby Stadium.



Promoting inclusivity in public spaces

Many restroom signs across campus were updated over the summer. “It makes a statement to the community and in particular the transgender community that we are intentionally inclusive of all people,” said President Rock Jones.

McCain OWU commencement lessons endure

The passing of longtime Sen. John McCain on Aug. 25, 2018, after a battle with brain cancer, prompted reflections and testimonials from around the world. Among those who delivered a eulogy for McCain was former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Kissinger recalled McCain as a “gift of destiny” and lauded the family’s history of service. He went on: “In a commencement speech at Ohio Wesleyan University, John summed up the essence of his engagement of a lifetime. ‘No one of us, if they have character, leaves behind a wasted life.’”

McCain delivered the commencement address at OWU in 1997 and 2010, in part thanks to his good friend **Evan Corns '59**, a member of

the OWU Board of Trustees.

Siham Gheewala '10 was among those seniors who took McCain’s 2010 message to heart, although she admits it took a while to sink in. After graduating from OWU, she completed her master’s degree in education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

“I actually think about that speech often. I’m a teacher now (of English at La Jolla Country Day School in San Diego) and the thing that strikes me as the most pressing problem in our systems is how uncomfortable we are with failure. It’s a value that goes deep because it’s instilled so early, so I really love that Sen. McCain had the courage to get up in front of us and talk about it.” ■



Sen. John McCain speaks at the 2010 Commencement. Listening are (from left): President Rock Jones, Provost David Robbins; Life Trustee Kathleen Rhinesmith '64, and registrar Shelly McMahon.

Speech highlights

1997: All of you will eventually face a choice, earlier in life than you may now presume, about whether or not you will become leaders in society or whether you will allow others to assume that responsibility while you attempt to reap the blessings of a prosperous country without meaningfully contributing to their preservation. I very much hope you will choose the first course. ... As Socrates contended, “The unexamined life is not worth living,” so I contend that the passive life is not worth forgoing the satisfaction of knowing that

you chose to employ all the blessings God bestowed on you to leaving the world a little better for your presence in it.

2010: We are all afraid of something, whether it’s failure, or dispossession, or mortality, and the sacrifice of time that becomes so precious to us. But we should not let the sensation of fear convince us we are too weak to have courage. Fear is the opportunity for courage, not proof of cowardice. No one is born a coward. We were meant to love. And we were meant to have the courage for it.

Annex reopens as business accelerator

The Delaware Entrepreneurial Center at Ohio Wesleyan University opened in the remodeled Stewart Annex on Oct. 4 with an open house. The business accelerator, at 70 S. Sandusky St., is a collaboration among the University, Delaware County, and city of Delaware, the first such kind of partnership in the country. Read more at owu.edu.



Pattern of misconduct prompts three-year Phi Delta Theta suspension

In partnership with Phi Delta Theta Fraternity General Headquarters and the Alumni Advisory Board of OWU's Ohio Beta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta, Ohio Wesleyan University suspended recognition of the Ohio Beta Chapter effective Oct. 22. Additionally, the General Headquarters has suspended the chapter's charter for three years. As a result, the "Phi Delt" chapter house was vacated and the occupants relocated to other campus housing facilities.

"The decision to suspend Ohio Wesleyan's chapter was made after significant deliberation among international staff and officials, local alumni advisors, and University personnel pertaining to a pattern of serious misconduct within the chapter and a declining commitment to the values expected of members," said Dwayne Todd, vice president for student engagement and success.

The fraternity will be permitted to

restart the chapter in spring 2021 and reoccupy the house at 19 Williams Dr. in fall 2021, provided conditions are met during the interim period.

Todd said the University remains very supportive of the fraternity and sorority experience, which helps to develop strong leadership skills, build a generous philanthropic spirit, and create powerful alumni connections.

"It is because of this commitment to high-quality fraternity and sorority experiences that we feel we must uphold standards for our chapters that require alignment with the values and mission of their chartering organizations and of our University. We believe by doing so, we can sustain a strong fraternity and sorority system for years to come," said Todd.

An email message sharing the news with alumni was co-signed by **Andy Warnock '06**, Phi Delta Theta Ohio Beta Chapter advisor. ■



Rojas to head diversity efforts

In the newly created role of chief diversity officer, Juan Armando Rojas Joo will guide the implementation of Ohio Wesleyan's diversity, equity, and inclusion policy and serve as a resource for related topics, including educational, facilities, and human resources-related issues, such as employee recruitment and retention.

A member of the faculty since 2004, Rojas also is a professor of modern foreign languages and will continue to serve as the University's associate dean of diversity and inclusion.

"Ohio Wesleyan is fortunate to have Dr. Rojas as our first chief diversity officer," said President Rock Jones. "The University will be well-served by his deep passion for these issues and his commitment to supporting the further development of a campus culture that values every form of diversity and welcomes all people."

Said Rojas: "I plan to explore and strategize ways to improve organizational culture and existing policies with the goal of creating a more comprehensive academic environment for students, faculty, and staff from under-represented groups."

Rojas recently wrote a chapter in the forthcoming book *Valley of Hope: Campus Diversity Triumphs* titled "Advocating for a Diversity and Inclusion Commitment at Liberal Arts Colleges: Essential Conversations in the Role of the Chief Diversity Officer." In addition, he has been accepted into the 2018-2019 Senior Leadership Academy of the Council of Independent Colleges.

Learn more about diversity, equity, and inclusion at OWU at www.owu.edu/diversity. ■

October reunion and alumni game celebrate 60 years of OWU lacrosse

Before lacrosse alumni from the past 60 years met for a reunion dinner over Homecoming & Family Weekend, a game had to be played. Coach Mike Plantholt helped assemble the Red and Black teams from across the decades to ensure a range of fresh knees among the sides. They took to the Henry Street lacrosse practice field around noon on Saturday, Oct. 6, for a game that ended 5-3 or 5-4 (the final score was beside the point — alumni won).

More than 100 alumni and friends of the program attended the evening's reunion, along with current players. "Their attendance is a testament to the enduring affection for the program held by so many," said Plantholt.

The gathering was the result of more than a year's planning by Alumni Relations staff with the extensive help of **Pete Lee '65**, who tears up when he talks about OWU lacrosse. "It means the world to me," he says. "It's a huge part of my life."

Bill Ackerman '58 was one of two inaugural team members who made it to the reunion. He recalled the unorthodox search for the program's first coach: "First they asked who had coached before and nobody had done that. Then they asked who had played before, and no one had done that. Then who has seen a game, and Fred (Myers) raised his hand and that was it."

Lacrosse Legends

Andrew Stringer '73, who has stayed on the field as a college referee and as a high school coach for his son, was unable to attend the 60th reunion but reflected on his experiences of playing in OWU's "lacrosse legends" games.

"I remember playing eight games in three days in the Florida Classic one year and actually chewing Advil on the sidelines before each game. I remember



Pete Lee '65 scores on Patrick Kennedy '03 in the alumni vs. alumni game Oct. 6, on what Lee called a "beautiful feed" by John Narwicz '77. (Photo by John Karassick '68)



(From left) Charles "Chikk" Myers '73, son of inaugural coach Fred Myers; original team member Russell "Buzz" Wilson '59; the "first lady of OWU lacrosse" Sylvia Willoughby Myers '69; original team member Bill Ackerman '58; and Pete Lee were among the more than 100 former and current players and friends who returned for the reunion dinner.

(former coach Rich) Seiler in one game in Lake Placid when we were tied with barely a minute left calling a timeout (mostly so we could catch our breath) and asking me if I could beat my defender for the last play. Naturally, I said 'Sure....' I take the ball, the whistle blows, I make seven or eight moves on my guy and realize when I look at the goal that I have not even moved.

Needless to say, we did not win that game."

The next tournament is Jan. 18-21, 2019, in Weston, Florida. The Florida Lacrosse Classic features divisions for ages 40 and up. Pete Lee and **Steve Corrigan '74** are always looking for recruits. Contact them at owu.legends@gmail.com. ■

— Molly Vogel



2011



2018

Photo by Kit Weber '20

STICKING ROCK AND SOAKING ROCK

In President Rock Jones' 10 years at Ohio Wesleyan, he has presided over moments solemn and momentous — and he's also done some very silly stuff. Among student groups, Jones is known for being a good sport, happy to go along with just about anything to entertain students or support their cause. In 2011, he participated in the Kappa Alpha Theta fundraiser for cancer, Relay for Life, in which

students could pay \$1 for a strip of duct tape to affix him to a wall (alas, no records were kept on how many strips it took to stick Rock). To kick off the current school year, he joined the Campus Programming Board's water games event Aug. 23 on Thomson lawn featuring water balloons and a dunk tank, where students could take their best shot at sinking Rock. At least a few succeeded.

Darrell Albon ● 109 Merrick Hall

Darrell Albon's "fishbowl" office on the first floor of Merrick is, in many ways, a window to the world. He has a prime view of students coming to learn more about the international and real-world opportunities of The OWU Connection and enough international mementos and thank you's to stock two offices — which in fact, he has (The OWU Connection staff is also located on the second floor of Hamilton-Williams Campus Center). People enjoy sharing souvenirs of their

travels with Albon, the director of international and off-campus programs and administrative director of The OWU Connection, in many cases the man who played a part in getting them on the plane. He also helps international students with immigration and tax issues, and they give him trinkets from home. Alumni keep in touch and send gifts, and OWU's international partner organizations also swap knickknacks. All of which means: If it's sitting in Albon's office, there's a story behind it.

1 Jewel of the Nile

This tiny Tut was a gift from Abeer Abdelaal, visiting professor of Arabic and Spanish, from the University of Cairo.

2 OWU seal of approval

Albon is one of only two people on campus known to have the official University seal; the other is the registrar. He needs it to certify international documents.

3 King of New Orleans

The Mardi Gras scepter and crown were a gift from the students from the 2015-16 Travel-Learning Course "Reading and Writing about Place," which visited New Orleans with Lynette Carpenter, professor of English.

4 Shipping news

This 1945 *Fortune* magazine transportation issue is a gift Albon tracked down for an alumnus in the shipping industry. The cover art is by Ralston Crawford, who was born in Albon's hometown of St. Catharines, Ontario.

5 Can you hear me now?

Albon has kept his first cellphone from 1993, a gift from his father. "It worked the last time I checked it," he says.

6 Finding Nemo

This clown fish was a gift from his counterpart at James Cook University in Australia, a partner school where OWU students are able to study abroad.

7 Family photo Albon

Albon cleverly has pieces of paper taped to most items in his office to recall their provenance, but his family photos require none. **Tim '11** and **Cecelia '15** both chose OWU, while Theresa went to Wooster, and Maria headed northwest to the University of British Columbia.

8 Skol!

This pewter mug bearing Viking kings of Norway was a gift from Toralv Nordbø, whose sons **Mats '11** and **Tov '09** both attended OWU.

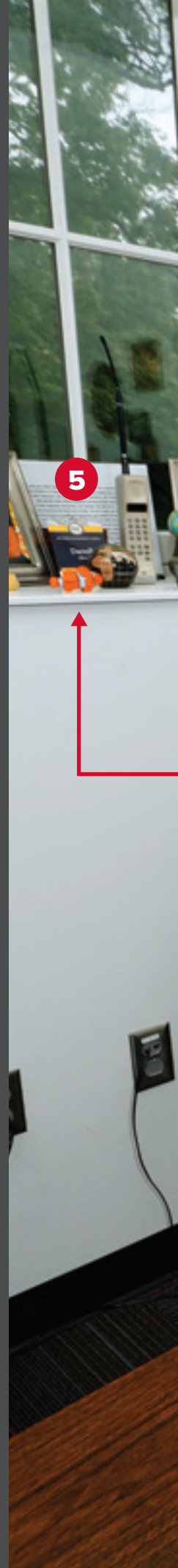
9 Computer-made critter

A tiny textured orange squirrel and its acorns were made using a 3D printer by Albon's daughter Theresa and her husband.

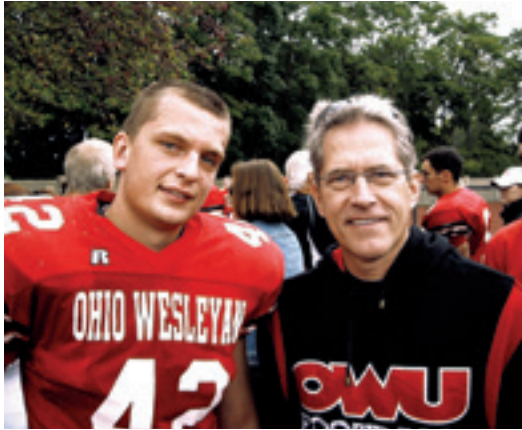
10 United states

Albon picked up this Organization of American States flag while on a trip to Washington, D.C., with international students (a trip supported by **Helen Crider Smith '56** and **Gordon Smith '54**). The visit to the headquarters of OAS was arranged with the help of **Erinn Nicely '95**, who worked at the State Department and was assigned to the OAS.

— Molly Vogel







Above: Matt Bixler with his late son, Sam

Right: Bixler stood in for his son as an honorary coach at the Oct. 13 football game versus Wabash.



Bixler memorial scholarship honors passion for learning and teaching

As his dad tells it, **Sam Bixler '10** was always a very curious kid who excelled at basketball, lacrosse, and football. But it wasn't until Ohio Wesleyan that things really "clicked."

"He really came into his own, he flourished," says **Matt Bixler '78**. "He was passionate about history, he really loved it, and he turned into a voracious reader."

Sam also found a home with the Battling Bishops football team. He played strong side linebacker and made all-conference one game. Mike Hollway, who coached for 25 seasons including Sam's, helped recruit Sam to follow in his parents' footsteps in coming to OWU.

Sam's mother, **Kim Potter Bixler '77**, of Glen Falls, New York, died Dec. 13, 2017, after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease. Her two sisters also attended OWU, as did Matt's sister and brother-in-law.

Sam was walking home one night in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in January 2018 when he was struck by a car. He passed away Feb. 14 as a result of his injuries. He was 29.

To honor Sam's love of history and encouragement of students, as well as his own family legacy at OWU, **Virginia Craighead '72** and **Michael Brooks '71**, friends of Sam's parents, established the Sam Bixler '10 Memorial Scholarship in April.

"He had a passion to share what was working for him, which was excelling academically, in sports, and in life. He wanted to pass that on to other kids, and he was doing that

when he died," says Matt. Sam was working on his master's degree in education policy and leadership studies from Boston University.

Sam and his sister, Meredith, both attended public school in Denver. Their high school was a magnet school for international students and refugees, with more than 30 countries represented among the student body. "Very early on he decided he wanted to teach young people," Matt says.

After graduating from OWU, Sam worked for Boys & Girls Club in Denver, then later at AmeriCorps in Lawrence, Massachusetts, then at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School (CRLS) in Cambridge, Massachusetts, as an advanced-placement history and social studies teacher in 2017.

"I found out at the celebration of life event held in his honor at the high school that he drew a lot of kids into his classes, kids that normally wouldn't try out for AP classes. They wanted to hear it from Sam. He had this way of being with kids," says his dad.

Matt recalls that a CRLS faculty leader said Sam was "beyond good — he was one of the greats." In an article in *Cambridge Day* about Sam, Julian Knight, an 11th-grader at CRLS, called him "an amazing teacher and extremely kind to everyone."

Says Matt: "We are all saddened by the loss of our dear Sam, but grateful for the amazing impact he had on others during his short life. This is a tribute to him as well as OWU." ■

Robbins endowment in Bahricks's honor announced at Psychology reunion

More than 100 former students and faculty members gathered on campus Oct. 5 to celebrate the Psychology Department's 100th anniversary at Ohio Wesleyan and to honor two of its legends, who had more than 100 years of combined experience.

Harry Bahricks joined the department in 1949 and retired in 2006, remaining an emeritus member of the faculty and co-authoring a 2013 book with psychology Professor Lynda Hall and former associate professor of psychology Melinda Baker summarizing more than 50 years of research on maintenance of knowledge.

Bahricks established the Memory Lab during his illustrious tenure, funded by a succession of grants over 40 years. Most recently, he received the Association for Psychological Science's Mentor Award, which recognizes psychology researchers and educators who have shaped the future direction of science by fostering the careers of students and colleagues.

One of those colleagues was David O. Robbins, who joined the department in 1973 and specialized in neuroscience; the neuroscience program was named in his honor in 2011. Robbins died Sept. 30, leaving an indelible mark on his department and OWU following his many roles within the administration (see obituary, Page 47).

In reflecting on her late colleague at the reunion, Professor Vicki DiLillo noted how much he'd been looking forward to the evening. "David is in no small part the reason we are all here tonight," DiLillo said. "I cannot overstate his contributions to the department and to the University."

Beyond that, DiLillo noted: "David had the gift of hospitality. He relished opening his home to his students and his colleagues. Most of us here tonight had the pleasure of attending at least one Psychology Department picnic in his backyard."

"While David's absence tonight is palpable, I am certain that he would have wanted us to embrace this opportunity to reflect on our history, to connect with one another, and to celebrate the members of this community."

To view a video history of the department, visit owu.edu/magazine



Harry Bahricks, pictured at the Psychology Department's 100th anniversary celebration Oct. 5, where President Rock Jones announced that Professor David Robbins (left), who died Sept. 30, had established an endowment in honor of his good friend and mentor. Dea DeWolff, wife of Robert Kail '71, who gave an introduction for his former professor, applauds.

In a testament to that community, in June, Robbins quietly established the Harry P. Bahricks Honors Tutorial Endowment with a gift to the Connect Today, Create Tomorrow campaign to honor his dear friend in perpetuity. The endowment will enhance the honors tutorial programs and educational experiences of honors students with support for their research, internships, or travel to conferences.

President Rock Jones announced Robbins' gift, which was a surprise to most.

"The focus on my award was overwhelming for me," said Bahricks. "David Robbins' gift in my name tells so much more about him than about me. His death is a wrenching loss for me. His impact on OWU and all who had the privilege of knowing him is unforgettable, as is his huge contribution to all colleagues and to OWU." ■

Giving to an endowment

Anyone can make a gift to the Harry P. Bahricks Honors Tutorial Endowment.

Robbins' family suggested those who wish to may make a gift in his memory to the David O. and Janice S. Robbins Summer Science Research Endowment.

Visit owu.edu/give and click "other" or call 740-368-3315.

(Below, clockwise from lower left) Nathan Amador Rowley, assistant professor of geology-geography; Laurie Anderson, professor of botany/microbiology, Tyler Sink '19, Makaila Weir '21, Delanie Baker '19, and Peyton Hardesty '20 on the La Sal Range in southeastern Utah.



On a mission to Moab: Travel-learning course contrasts environments

Photos by **Mark Schmitter '12**

Professor Laurie Anderson's "BOMI 344 — Plant Communities and Ecosystems" travel-learning course explored the interactions between plants and their environment. The upper-level course combined lectures and lab work, including a trip to Moab, Utah, during mid-semester break in October. Students were able to contrast the desert plant communities in the red-rock canyon lands, as well as the pinyon-juniper woodlands and subalpine forests there, with the environment in Ohio and observe how plant communities change and adapt along an elevational gradient. And the view wasn't half bad, either. (To learn more about these and other OWU Connection opportunities, visit owu.edu/connection.)





Artist Day captures Manning's famous audible on canvas

Will Day '93 has always been drawn to the idea, as he puts it, of bringing different minds together. At Ohio Wesleyan, he pursued majors in international studies and French because he thought he wanted to be a diplomat.

Instead, he ended up in finance and working as an architectural consultant before a layoff in 2007 presented him with the opportunity to reinvent himself as an artist. "We all have to find a way to enter into what we love," Day says.

For Day, this meant painting with a plan. He met with his most entrepreneurial friends and created an art inventory program, a way to lease his art to local businesses around Boulder, Colorado. "It was going to companies and saying: 'Let me help fill your walls with some of my art that's contemporary, clean, and new.' "

It worked. Day was slowly able to build a business and full-time career to support his family, including his wife, Aimee, son, Spencer, 14, and daughter, Abigail, 12.

After meeting JP O'Brien, the CEO and managing partner of Black Lab Sports through their sons' lacrosse league in 2016 Day took up residence in a studio inside the sports tech incubator and business accelerator's offices, the embodiment of his desire to combine viewpoints.

In early 2018, his home base led to another connection, this time with Mac Freeman, the chief commercial officer of the Denver Broncos NFL team, and another opportunity to combine two disparate worlds: Day was commissioned to capture legendary quarterback Peyton Manning on canvas.

The No. 18 jersey, command control at the line of scrimmage, and shouts of "Omaha" are familiar hallmarks of the future Hall of Famer, who is best known for his time with the Indianapolis Colts but went out on top after winning Super Bowl 50 in 2016 with the Broncos.



Left: Will Day and Peyton Manning inside Mile High Stadium in Denver, site of Manning's last four seasons of his 18 in the NFL.

Opposite page: Day's commissioned 8-by-7-foot work Omaha captures the frenetic energy and intensity of Manning at the line of scrimmage. It takes its name from Manning's trademark audible call and now resides on the club level of Mile High Stadium.

Day met with Manning to discuss the project. "He said, 'When I'm at the line, that's the most tense, because that's when the real things happen....I want to be able to capture this moment of movement.' "

Day worked on the piece for three months, settling on a final size of 8 feet tall and 7 feet wide. "I wanted to capture something bigger than him, I wanted the vertical to be about Peyton's silhouette," Day says.

In an artist statement, Day wrote: "My

intention was to capture Peyton's legacy on the field by combining physical form with my abstract, layered, textural style... My goals with the finished piece are twofold: first, to invite Peyton's fans into his shoes so they can experience the timeless moment I chose to represent his career: clock ticking, adversaries approaching, crowd roaring, and pressure building. Finding clarity in the chaos is something we can all aspire to, whether in helmets and pads or in your chosen daily uniform."



Photos courtesy of Will Day

The piece was unveiled in August, and was featured in a documentary that aired on the Denver NBC affiliate. It now hangs on the club level of Mile High Stadium, where the team plays. As a Broncos fan, Day calls the experience a career highlight. “Ohio Wesleyan taught me to say, ‘What is your dream? Go get it – we’ll figure it out,’” he says.

“If a sports guy like Peyton Manning can really relate and understand my story, it was the most powerful thing.” ■

— Molly Vogel



Right: The Day family: Spencer, Abigail, Aimee, and Will.

After a 57-year hiatus,
and a full year of planning,
the Marching Bishops
have returned to OWU

THE BAND IS BACK IN TOWN

By Joe Meyer

“**O**h what?” shouts the band director.
“Oh-Woo!” answers the band.
“Oh what?”
“Oh-Wooo!”
“Oh what?”
“OH-WOOO!”

The marching band is taking the field again at Ohio Wesleyan and is ready to make some noise. After just five weeks of practice, the 31 men and women who make up the Marching Bishops performed a rousing halftime show during OWU’s season opener against Wooster on Sept. 15. The last



Cody Lunder '22 (far left) and **Hannah Cordes '19** (front, center) show spirit as members of the six-person flag-twirling color guard in the marching band.



Photo by **Mark Schmitter '12**



Photo by James D. DeCamp

time an OWU marching band strutted on the grass at Selby Stadium, John F. Kennedy was president, and it was 1961.

The band's halftime routine for the season is on the nose. In a show titled "Back in Town," the Marching Bishops pace through four songs – the theme from *Back to the Future*, "I Want You Back" by the Jackson 5, "I Won't Back Down" by Tom Petty, and "The Boys Are Back in Town" by Thin Lizzy. (Get it?)

For the 1 p.m. game against Wooster, on a sunny day with temperatures pushing into the upper 80s, close to half of the home-side crowd appears to be there for the band (no offense to the Battling Bishops, who go on to win 9-7). For the halftime show, the fans cheer, clap, and



Photo by Lisa DiGiacomo

listen attentively, then swap positive critiques.

But the band members are there to support the football team. Before the game, seated in the stands, they chant

Mary Kate McNally (left and above, center), director of marching and spirit bands, leads the band during a halftime performance on Sept. 15.

and cheer and crank up the crowd with music and general zaniness. The "William Tell Overture" is involved. Members alternate heckling opposition players with performing a selection of their "stand songs" like "Crazy Train" and stanzas from "Tell" to punctuate game action and timeouts.

As Wooster lines up to kick off, a drumroll emanates from the percussion section. All the band members join in with an anticipatory "Ohhhhhh ..." as the kicker approaches the ball, and a loud "WOOOO!"



Photo by James D. DeCamp



Above: Bob the Bishop inspects the troops during a down moment at the OWU v. Wooster game Sept. 15.

Left: OWU's marching band in the 1930s.

when the ball is struck. It is music to the crowd's ears.

The fanfare is the result of more than a year of planning and recruitment by Mary Kate McNally, who leads the band in mirrored sunglasses and with the personal passion of 1,000 pep bands. Coming on as Ohio Wesleyan's director of marching and spirit bands in August 2017, she's spent a year recruiting band members and prepping music, marching

routines, and rehearsal plans. More than this, she's working to reintegrate marching band into the campus and community culture, with appearances at Main Street Delaware's "First Friday" celebration, the tailgate at Homecoming & Family Weekend, and a surprise celebration of President Rock Jones' 10th anniversary at OWU.

McNally moves quickly and talks faster. "This is my dream job," she says. "I

got to make a band and people paid me to do it. It's pretty awesome – I'm not going to lie. I really did luck all the way out."

Most of the first year of her job was devoted to recruiting, visiting high schools, and attending music-educator association events to spread the word that marching band was returning to OWU. She also worked with the Office of Admission to identify incoming students with an interest, resulting in 24 first-year students in the band.

ON THE WAY TO 76 TROMBONES

Thirty-one is not a large number for a marching band. But it's a long way from zero.

"That's a good number to start with," McNally says of her group. "And they're really, really phenomenal students. Very focused, very driven. You don't have to tell them a whole lot."

McNally has worked with much smaller ensembles. The native of Monument, Colo., received her undergraduate degree in music education from Henderson State University in Arkansas in 2012. She moved back to Colorado to teach in public schools for three years before coming to Ohio to earn her master's in music conducting at Kent State in 2017. Teaching in Colorado, "I was in a very rural town in a very rural district," she says.

"My high school band at its largest when I was teaching there was 12. So anything over 20 was going to feel a bit like a vacation."

McNally anticipates the numbers will grow as news of the band's return spreads. The initiative to revive the Marching Bishops was launched in response to prospective student interest. The band is a club, operating within the University's Division of Student



Drumline instructor Jack Boulis claps the tempo for the band before they begin a drill exercise at practice in August. Photo by Lisa DiGiacomo

Engagement and Success. As a club, class credit isn't offered – and McNally says she's sought to establish the band with the time constraints of her students in mind. "We have over a dozen academic departments represented in the band, which means that schedules vary widely from one student to the next. It was really important to me this first year to keep the time commitment super, super reasonable for those students that participate."

The Marching Bishops practice three evenings a week, and performances are focused on home football games with appearances at other key events. The band was featured throughout Homecoming & Family Weekend and will march in the Delaware Christmas Parade in December.

After football season, the ensemble will switch gears to become the Bishop Basketball Band, a winter-season pep

band that will rehearse just a couple of times a week and perform at home basketball games. Students are free to participate in one band or both.

BANDING TOGETHER

Members of the band hail from all corners of the campus. All but a handful were leaders in their high school marching bands. More than a dozen academic majors are represented, but McNally aims to recruit widely. "(We have) literally everything from astrophysics to zoology. I feel like I want to be a Pokemon Master while I'm here, and try to 'catch 'em all.' We've got over 90 majors here, so ..."

Political science is represented by **Danielle Black '22**, a first-year clarinet player from the small Ohio River city of

Proctorville. Black plans a career in politics, as a politician or someone involved with campaigns. A concert band member since seventh grade, and marching band member since eighth, she says playing in OWU's band is helping her feel at home. "It's going really well. I like the family aspect the small group has, and it's amazing to be a founding member of it."

Aleea Ratcliff '22, a first-year saxophone player from Fairborn, Ohio, near Dayton, is double-majoring in zoology and environmental studies, with an English minor. She was a little worried the football team would be mad at the band, but she says that didn't happen. "We were just trying to have fun and get the team motivated. At most (high) schools, the relationship between the band and the team is not that great – but not here. Everyone is nice and we're all excited,"



Photo by Troy Mueller

The 'W' the marching band spelled out at halftime of the game against Wooster also stood for "win." The Battling Bishops prevailed 9-7.

Ratcliff says.

It's been fun for the group with different musical and marching style backgrounds to come together. "I think it's cool that we've changed some things (on campus). I think we'll grow next year, in terms of size."

Maddie Marusek '22 is a first-year clarinet player from Gahanna, Ohio, where she marched in her high school's 200-member band. But she says marching in OWU's modest band was a great early introduction to the tightknit community she's finding at Ohio Wesleyan. "I really like everyone. I feel like we were able to bond really quickly in band camp, and we all knew someone when school started," Marusek says.

"My roommates say I do everything with band people, and it's true – even trips to Walmart." ■

Joe Meyer is a freelance writer from Westerville, Ohio.

ONLINE

Alumni share memories of the original Marching Bishops at owu.edu/magazine

To view a video of the new Marching Bishops performing at the season opener – and the 1951 band at Homecoming, visit owu.edu/marchingband.

Band formations: There's an app for that

Planning each movement for each musician in a marching band takes time. It used to mean giant packets of paper for each band member, with a football field on each sheet and dots to represent the member's moves. Twenty moves in a song? That's 20 sheets for each member. And each song is a separate set. There are slightly more eco-friendly condensed diagram options, but any edit still requires reams of paper per redo.

But the newly reintroduced Marching Bishops have gone fully digital, thanks to an app called Pyware. Director Mary Kate McNally writes the drills using Pyware, and the band members use its 3D viewer to learn them on their mobile devices.

The app allows performers to view the overall formation or just one member's movements. It provides directions and animates the set. Each set has its own list of instructions, allowing the band member to watch what they do when and how. "Students who come from different traditions in



terms of drill reading can do what's best for them," she says.

Some like the view with the whole field, some just want to see their spots and steps. "And I don't care how they do it. I just care that they do it," McNally says.

Clarinet player **Danielle Black '22** appreciates the technology. "It's very nice to not have the papers blowing away when you march."

McNally says the software saves money and time. And the instructions are never left back in the students' dorms rooms. "They're not going to forget their drill, because they never forget their phones," she notes. ■



Photo by Paul Vernon

Q + A

WITH ROCK

This summer marked 10 years since **ROCK JONES** assumed the role of president of Ohio Wesleyan, making him the 10th president of OWU's 16 to reach that milestone. Just a few days after a surprise celebration to mark his decade in office, Rock sat down with *OWU Magazine* editor Molly Vogel to look back, look forward, and discuss the 24/7 job of being president of OWU — even if it's 10:30 p.m. in a grocery store.

OWU's first lady, Melissa Lollar Jones, worked with Rock's executive assistant Janet Lewis and members of the Student Involvement Office to pull off a surprise celebration Sept. 25 in Hamilton-Williams Campus Center. T-shirts echoing those made for his inauguration were handed out, along with Rock-sicle sticks (his face on a popsicle stick), and, of course, cupcakes.

OWU Magazine: Let's start with the surprise celebration. What'd you think?

Rock Jones: There were so many things about it that I enjoyed, most importantly the energy of the students and the support of the faculty and staff who were present. I enjoyed the "16" T-shirts echoing the ones that were created 10 years ago when I began. That was really fun for me.

OWU: You mention the energy of the students. Your schedule is so packed, how do you find the enthusiasm for each day?

Rock: Well, the students certainly provide the energy. It's also very important to do things necessary to maintain energy. I take time in the summer to replenish, then I'm careful to devote my time in the places that have the most long-term impact for the University and that also give me the energy and fuel that I need. So if there's an athletic event and I'm in town, I'll be there. If there's a theatre performance and I'm in town, I'll be there. If there's a campus lecture and I'm in town, I'll be there. The energy fades if I lose that contact with the students.

OWU: Can you pick a favorite part of your job?

Rock: The favorite parts of the job all involve people. I have the extraordinary pleasure and honor to interact with a lot of different people at a lot of different places in life. Obviously, the students are the focus. Watching them grow and evolve over four years and being at a setting where the president knows students well and can really interact with them is deeply rewarding. And it's rewarding now a decade in to be at alumni events and to hear from young women and men I knew as students talk now about life after OWU and how OWU prepared them. Melissa and I also get to interact with alumni who are involved in leadership in every sector of our society, who have great passion for OWU, and who want nothing more than for their alma mater to thrive. Then there are the faculty and staff who devote their lives every day to our mission, who are the heart and soul of OWU and whose dedication inspires me every day.

OWU: You just mentioned the incredible breadth of people you interact with, and anyone who has ever emailed you knows that you're very responsive. How are you able to keep up with that?

Rock: It takes time. Email can consume you. I have always wanted to be accessible, and I do make it a point to reply to every email I receive, but I have also learned that there are times when I have to put that on hold to ensure that the work that is going to have an impact for the next 25, 30 years is not put on the back burner. I do my best to not finish the day without being current on email.

OWU: I think everyone knows the tyranny of the inbox. What's something about your job that people would be surprised to learn?

Rock: The president's home here (Pritchard House), which is very comfortable and where we are happy and honored to live and where we host between 75 and 100 events each year — it's amazing the number of people who think we don't live there, who think that we just have official events there. Also, it's a very public life. I can be at Kroger at 10:30 at night and someone will stop to want to ask a question about OWU, and that's all right.

OWU: Is there a part of your job that you have to psych yourself up for?

Rock: In some ways, the biggest challenges can be the most interesting but they can also be the most consuming, so working through a particularly dense spreadsheet is not likely my favorite part of the job. It's a lot more fun to be raising money with donors than to be balancing a budget internally, although both are important.

OWU: How has your job changed in 10 years?

Rock: This is not so much about being president at Ohio Wesleyan as it is about being president of a good small liberal arts college. These are difficult times. There are headwinds in our sector that face all small colleges: Demographics are changing, preparation for college has changed, family resources have changed. There are fewer students with the preparation and the resources, even with the very generous financial aid we provide. There are more questions about the value of a liberal arts education than ever before. I think those questions are terribly misguided. We have to be much crisper in demonstrating the value of what we do and why it matters. To the extent the job has changed in 10 years, it has changed not in response to internal dynamics but to external ones.

PEBBLES

Have you ever binged a TV show?

Lark Rise to Candleford (BBC) and *This Is Us* (NBC)

What are your favorite podcasts?

Anything NPR: *Freakonomics*, *This American Life*, *How I Built This*



Do you have a hobby?

Cooking. I read novels in the summer; I enjoy historical fiction. Gardening, when I have time for it.

Last great book you read?

Mudbound by Hillary Jordan and *The Blood of Emmett Till* by Timothy Tyson

What is your favorite getaway destination?

Ocracoke Island, North Carolina

Do you have a favorite AVI meal?

Not yet, I tend to eat salads. This is a job where you have to be careful what you eat.



Do you have any guilty pleasures?

Chocolate and ice cream

OWU: Are those challenges something you feel the broader OWU community understands?

Rock: I think they do. There has been some remarkable work by the faculty: the creation of the new majors, the Bachelor of Science degree, the advancement of The OWU Connection, and the new sports, the marching band, the programs to provide additional academic support and improve retention. All of those are responses to these challenges, and I think Ohio Wesleyan's faculty and administrative leadership have responded more briskly than many.

OWU: What do you wish people knew about OWU?

Rock: The students who come to Ohio Wesleyan, who work hard and do well, when they graduate they are competitive with the best students from any small college in the country, including those that are ranked the very highest. I don't think the outside world understands that. At Ohio Wesleyan, the attention that students receive exceeds peer institutions. The OWU Connection is an extraordinary set of opportunities for students to connect what they learn in class and on campus to prepare them for life beyond OWU, and our surveys show that this is not as well-known as I think it should be.

OWU: In that context, now entering your second decade in your role, are you starting to think about what you want your legacy to be?

Rock: I think the legacy of any president at an institution of our sort at this time, given the challenges I was just describing, would be to leave the institution where it is healthy and vibrant and where its mission continues to be fulfilled with a foundation that protects it well into the future. We have a campaign to complete that supports that legacy. We have an enrollment problem to solve that is critical to that legacy; I think we're moving on that. We have a residential life facility problem to solve in order to fulfill that legacy. Those are the big areas of focus for me over the next five years that I think contribute to that ultimate legacy of staying strong, vibrant, and vital as a residential, undergraduate liberal arts university and perpetuating the mission of an institution that educates moral leaders for a global society.

OWU: Do you allow yourself to think about what you'll do when you retire?

Rock: Yes. It will involve some combination of books, travel, grandchildren, and continued involvement in higher education — just not anytime soon! ■



A FIJI in FIJI

Through his work with the Peace Corps, Phi Gamma Delta **ALEX WIDMAN '17** is asking fellow alumni for book donations as he builds a lasting literary legacy on the small Pacific island of Yanuca

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BY A.L. DAVIES '19

When Alex Widman '17 entered his senior year at Ohio Wesleyan, he already knew that a life sitting at a desk wasn't for him. Instead, he wanted to get out, see the world beyond Ohio, and make a direct impact through his work.

So, like 78 OWU alumni before him, he joined the Peace Corps.

"He didn't care where he ended up getting stationed. He said he'd even go to Mongolia," Alex's father, Tim Widman, says. "He didn't know he'd end up on

an itty-bitty island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.”

Since November 2017, Alex has been stationed 7,300 miles away from his hometown of Bucyrus, Ohio (population: 12,000), on Yanuca, a less-than-five-square-mile island, home to approximately 300 Republic of Fiji citizens. He is the sole American on the speck of an island and the first Peace Corps volunteer to be stationed on Yanuca since the creation of the organization by President John F. Kennedy in 1961.

“One of my favorite aspects of the Peace Corps is the people-oriented approach in my job,” Alex says via email. “I work directly with the people in my community and at my school to develop projects that have a positive impact on everyone, while simultaneously showing them what I’m doing so that they can develop and manage projects after I am gone.”

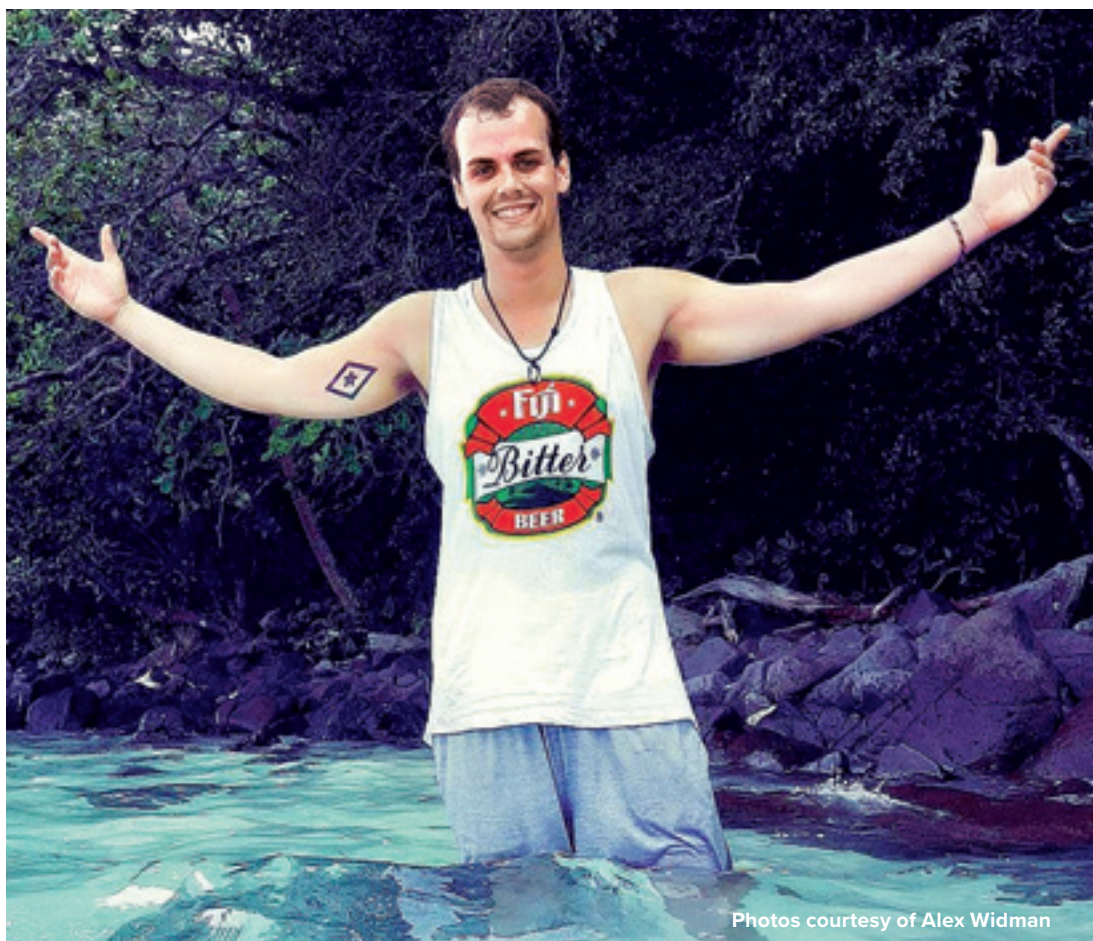
Alex has been assigned to focus on helping the young adults of Yanuca, continuing an interest in working with this age group that he developed while at OWU. After pinching a nerve playing football his freshman year, Alex decided to retire from the team and devote his time to community service, particularly in local elementary schools. He started volunteering with Big Brothers Big Sisters, despite never having tutored before, and stayed with the organization throughout his four years.

“I liked tutoring so much that I later found a work-study job through (OWU director of community service learning) Sally Leber at the Columbus Initiative, and worked at a Linden elementary school in Columbus with kindergartners to sixth-graders for three and a half years,” he says.

While most Peace Corps assignments in the area of youth empowerment work with anyone unwed between the ages of 18 and 35, only a handful of Yanuca residents fall into that category; the population is almost exclusively younger children and their older parents and grandparents.

Because of the age gap, Alex has had to be creative with his assignment. But kids are kids the world over, and Alex has been able to draw on his college experiences to

ALEX HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO FOCUS ON HELPING THE YOUNG ADULTS OF YANUCA, CONTINUING AN INTEREST IN WORKING WITH THIS AGE GROUP THAT HE DEVELOPED AT OWU.



Photos courtesy of Alex Widman

Alex Widman tests the waters off Yanuca. He is stationed on the small Fijian island through the Peace Corps.

spark ideas. His biggest projects focus on promoting literacy for elementary and middle-school students. Alex submitted a Class Note to *OWU Magazine* about his adventure early in 2018 in which he requested donations of children’s books, prompting two readers to reach out with donations. Family, friends, and his Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) brothers back home

have also pitched in.

Alex’s father manages the logistics of shipping books to Fiji from Bucyrus and says that, at last count, over 500 donated books — from popular favorites like the Hunger Games series to learn-to-read books for the younger set — have been sent to Yanuca. Tim has shipped a circa-1970s *World Book* encyclopedia set in batches (it costs about \$100 to send 20 pounds of books), along with 40 or so children’s books (Berenstain Bears, Arthur, and the like) from Alex’s aunt.

Alex is also writing a grant to build an annex onto Yanuca's only school. He plans to create a library and is in contact with Fiji's Library Services office in the capital city of Suva about providing tables, chairs, and shelves. "Library Services became interested in my project once they learned that I was receiving donated books from the United States," Alex says. "All of these donated books are in excellent shape, new or like-new. The kids love it."

Understanding and speaking English is crucial for the students of Fiji, who speak Fijian at home. A former colony of the British Empire, the island nation follows a British education model. Students are required to pass proficiency exams entirely in English before they can advance to the next grade. With the only high school a boat ride away on Suva, most students, as their parents did, will choose to leave school after eighth grade and later find work farming, fishing, or in the tourism industry on other Fijian islands after they turn 18. Alex hopes to show students that continuing their education can be just as beneficial as entering the workforce, and to demonstrate to other villagers that creating a library is an investment in Yanuca's future.

Alex has worked to ensure that members of the OWU community are investing in that future, too. He first reached out to his brothers in the Theta Deuteron chapter of FIJI last year, requesting they donate to Yanuca's library as a community service project. Chapter president **Duncan Copeland '20** and recording secretary **Ben Whitbourn '19** both wanted to help out, along with **Nick Braydich '20**, Theta Deuteron's philanthropy committee chairman. They combined the book drive with Phi Gamma Jamma, FIJI's spring philanthropy concert. Admission was



The picturesque island of Yanuca has no running water, spotty electricity, and is less than 5 square miles.

either \$5 or a children's book.

They also collected books at a table in Hamilton-Williams Campus Center and reached out to FIJI alumni and families to ask for book donations. Whitbourn says the concert and book drive ended up being one of the most successful events Theta Deuteron has ever had. The chapter collected six boxes of books, all within a K-12 reading level, to ship to Alex in Yanuca. Braydich says alumni brothers generously reimbursed the



chapter for the \$1,200 shipping costs. "Our fraternity thrives off the motto 'Not for college days alone.' This project allowed us to assist our brother in a worthy humanitarian cause that has the potential to impact generations to come," Copeland says.

Alex's drive has sparked interest outside his fraternity as well.

T. Alexandra Kermode '83 saw the Class Notes item and decided to donate a stash of books she used to read to her children. "I'd chosen those books and read them to my kids when they were growing up. I couldn't seem to part with them," she says. "But when I saw Alex's work, I thought, 'What a good cause.'"

Among the two boxes of books donated by Kermode were Judy Schachner's *Skippyjon Jones* — a favorite of her children — and works by naturalist



Jim Arnosky, her favorite. “I hope the children on Yanuca get the joy my kids and I got out of all those books,” she says.

Mindy Williams '00 was also inspired to donate about 50 books after she read about Alex. Her father, **William Bossert '61**, was a FIJI, and her grandfather, Roy Bossert, was an organic chemistry professor at OWU from 1937 to 1972. “I wanted to help this project, even if it’s halfway across the world,” she says.

The students of Yanuca had about 400 books donated from Australia and Great Britain before Alex began asking for donations, but they’re especially excited to receive books from the United States.

“(When the children got the books) it looked like Christmas morning. They were tearing open the boxes and couldn’t believe all the different stories,” Alex says. Among the children’s favorite books are Disney fairytales, Dr. Seuss books, and the Harry Potter series.

Alex cites an Interfaith Service Trip he took during spring break 2016 as the catalyst for his desire to serve. He, eight other students, and two faculty advisors spent the week volunteering in downtown Pittsburgh with Repair the World, a Jewish nonprofit. While Alex loved helping in neighborhood development and tutoring



The 7- and 8-year-olds of Yanuca Island School show off their new books.

“IT LOOKED LIKE CHRISTMAS MORNING. THEY WERE TEARING OPEN THE BOXES AND COULDN’T BELIEVE ALL THE DIFFERENT STORIES.”

ALEX WIDMAN '17

ABOUT BOOKS DONATED TO FIJIAN CHILDREN

at Pittsburgh elementary schools, he felt unfulfilled after the trip. He says that being in the community for only a week felt insulting to its residents given how much work still needed to be done. “This was the first time it occurred to me that the only way to make any sort of

worthwhile, lasting improvement is to work with people and empower them to take agency over their lives,” he says.

This idea carries into Alex’s Peace Corps work, and every project he undertakes starts with an idea from Yanuca’s residents. His father, Tim, says he encouraged Alex to listen to what people ask for and to recognize the community’s independence.

Alex says his transition to Fijian life wasn’t difficult. Peace Corps volunteers do two and a half months of required training at their assigned location, and Alex spent his attending local events like “Kava Circles,” community gatherings where locals sit around and drink kava, a mild alcohol made from the roots of a pepper plant. “Before long, everybody knew me, and I picked up much of the local language,” Alex says.

His new neighbors were eager to learn all about him. After he mentioned that he was in wrestling club at OWU, his new friends began challenging him to

matches. News spread to a nearby village, and Alex found himself being challenged by someone who outweighed him by 30 pounds. Alex won and says they're friends now. To stay active, every day except Friday and Saturday, Alex plays rugby with the young men in the village.

Yanuca doesn't have running water or roads. Alex showers in unheated collected rainwater, fishing out the occasional dead gecko. Electricity is spotty, depending on the cooperation of solar panels. He has no refrigeration and hangs his food from the rafters of his house to keep the rats away. He subsists on pumpkin, rice, oatmeal, chickpeas, and vegetables, along with fruits that grow on his island: papaya, pineapple, wild grapes, coconuts, and breadfruit. Serious medical assistance is more than an hour away. He clears fallen timber to help abate mosquitoes. Zika is



a concern. Alex told his father that all the kids have scars on their legs from picking at mosquito bites. "It is an eye-opening experience for him," Tim says.

Even with a little culture shock here

and there, he tries to focus on the work. "I approach my Peace Corps assignment as a job," he says. "When in doubt, do a little social research or just make it up as you go along. Don't be afraid to be wrong."

In addition to his book drive, Alex is also serving as project manager for a playground for the elementary school and a cyclone evacuation shelter for the island. Both of these projects are possible through grants Alex applied for, inspired by community suggestions. Materials and builders have been secured for both. His Peace Corps assignment continues until December 2019, although he has the option to remain for another year.

"I'm really proud of what he's done," Tim says. "A lot of Peace Corps volunteers are on the main island in office jobs, but he's on his own. He has to take initiative." ■

'Child of '60s' found purpose in Peace Corps

Virginia "Ginny" Pearsall Kirkwood joined the Peace Corps immediately after her graduation from Ohio Wesleyan in 1964, just three years after the volunteer organization was created. It's still her favorite topic.

Kirkwood spent two years in Turkey working in two orphanages. In Kırklareli, she worked to increase community involvement, including

organizing a coat drive for the mostly 3-to-7-year-old residents. "The kids never left the building from October to April because they didn't have coats," she says.

Kirkwood was the first in her family to get involved in the Peace Corps but was followed by her mother and father, who spent two years volunteering in Malaysia. Kirkwood's niece, Carrie Hessler-Radelet, was stationed in Western Samoa from 1981 to '83 and later became director of the Peace Corps under President Barack Obama.

From 1990 to 1993, Kirkwood herself served as director of the Peace Corps in Thailand, the second-largest country program at the time. She oversaw 600 volunteers and focused on AIDS prevention programs and sustainable engineering projects, and she remains on



*Ginny Pearsall Kirkwood (left) speaks at the 2016 Women of Ohio Wesleyan leadership forum held on campus with fellow panelist **Denise Sabo Brenner '00.***

the advisory board today.

"I've known thousands of Peace Corps volunteers, and I've never met anyone who wasn't glad they did it," she says. "The motto of the organization is 'the

toughest job you'll ever love.' People who go in find that it changed their life."

As a self-professed "child of the '60s," Kirkwood says she used to think doing good meant she had to travel far away. Despite her global volunteerism, she's learned that sometimes doing the most good means helping out right where you are. "You don't have to go very far to have a fulfilled life," she says. "There's lots of chances to help at home. When you can help someone, you should."

She and her husband, Charles, now live in Shawnee-on-Delaware, Pennsylvania. Her family owns a golfing and ski resort in the town, and this past August, her community held a conference for 250 former Peace Corps volunteers.

As the current chair of the Pennsylvania Special Olympics, she has also helped set up Special Olympics organizations in countries like China, Thailand, and Pakistan. "I feel good about my career," Kirkwood says. "When you're doing something that helps other people, it makes you feel your life has more meaning. It helps you realize how many blessings we have." ■

Kira Bailey, assistant professor of psychology and neuroscience, along with Jun Jiang and Xiao Xiao, published “Midfrontal theta and posterior parietal alpha band oscillations support conflict resolution in a masked affective priming task” in *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*. She also gave two workshops on the neuroscience of memory at SourcePoint, a community center in Delaware, Ohio, for adults 55 and older.

Jeremy Baskes, director of the OWU Global Studies Institute and Latin American studies major and professor of history, published “The Economy of New Spain” in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Mexican History and Culture* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming). “The Economy of New Spain” was also published in the online *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History*. His article “La producción y el comercio del tinte de la grana cochinilla en Oaxaca, México de 1750 a 1821” accompanied an exhibit called “Rojo mexicano. La grana cochinilla en el arte” at the Mexico City Museum of Fine Arts in 2018.

Andrew Busch '07, assistant professor of health and human kinetics, presented at the sixth annual National Strength and Conditioning Association international conference in Madrid in September. He focused on the cumulative stresses a throwing shoulder must withstand and emphasized the importance of screening athletes to identify those at a higher risk for injury. He also discussed the best corrective strategies for improving shoulder function and thus reducing the risk of injuries.

Ji Young Choi, associate professor of politics and government, director of East Asian studies, and affiliate professor of international studies, published “The Rise of East Asian Economies, Globalization, and State



Kristina Bogdanov, associate professor of fine arts, delivers an *i3* lecture entitled “Are We Clay?” on Sept. 18. The popular lecture series features professors nominated by students giving three-minute talks on a variety of topics with “ideas, insight, and imagination.”

See all of this year's lectures at owu.edu/i3.

Policies” in *The Global Studies Journal* (Vol. 11, Issue 2) in 2018. He was interviewed on the radio program *Voice of America* on the prospect of the U.S.-North Korea Summit in June, and following the summit on *All Sides with Ann Fisher* on WOSU-FM. Additionally, he presented “North-South Dynamics and Inter-Korean Rapprochement” at a workshop hosted by the Bureau of Research and Intelligence, U.S. Department of State, in Washington on Aug. 23.

Mary Anne Lewis Cusato, assistant professor of French and Francophone studies, published “From Tahar Djaout’s ‘No’ to Mustapha Benfodil’s ‘Enough!’: Two Moments of Revolutionary Aesthetics in Contemporary Algerian Literature and Cultural Activism” in *Expressions maghrébines* (Vol. 17, No. 1). Cusato has also received two grants to support an upper-level

course in French on the topic of immigration. She received a Great Lakes Colleges Association grant to support collaboration between her own class and a class on African art taught by Nancy Demerdash-Fatemi at Albion College in Michigan. Together, students are tackling questions about the stakes of cultural representation and debunking myths about African culture. Cusato also was awarded a grant from the Digital Projects Initiative of the Five Colleges of Ohio to support the collection and recording of oral histories from French-speaking immigrants in central Ohio. These oral histories will be available to historians, sociologists, and others who wish to learn about immigration through the voices of those who have experienced it directly.

Rich Edwards, associate professor of music, along with Scott Edgar, Kimberly Councill, Edward Hoffman,

and Amy Spears, published “How Did I End Up Here? The Realities of Teaching Music Education at Small Colleges and Universities” in *Visions of Research in Music Education*.

Gerald Goldstein, professor of microbiology, along with **Sarah Bergman '18**, **Marielle Buss '20**, **Hanna Cordes '20**, **Mary Cranley '18**, **Nicolas Reed '18**, and **Malory Wolfe '19**, published “Coriander seed extract enhances the yield of T2 bacteriophage in *E. coli* by stimulating adenylate cyclase” in *Research & Reviews: A Journal of Biotechnology* (Vol. 8, Issue 2, 2018).

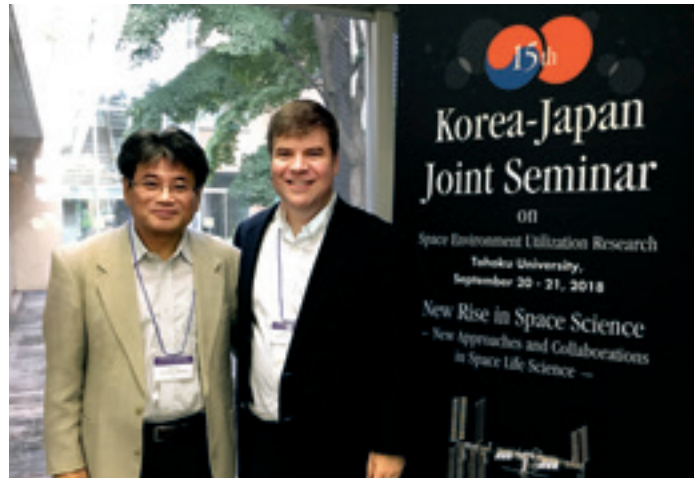
Juan Armando Rojas Joo, chief diversity officer and professor of Spanish, published two books in 2018: *Posmodernidad y multiformas en la obra de dos poetas mexicanos contemporáneos: Alberto Blanco y Coral Bracho* (Madrid: Editorial Pliegos), and *De caña de maíz y miel: 12 haikus de Ohio / On*

Cornstalks and Honey: 12 Ohio Haiku, edited by Paula Lambert and translated to English by Jennifer Rathbun (Full/Crescent Press, 2018). He also published the article "Advocating for a Diversity and Inclusion Commitment at Liberal Arts Colleges: Essential Conversations in the Role of the Chief Diversity Officer" in *Campus Diversity Triumphs* (Diversity in Higher Education, Vol. 20, Sherwood Thompson ed., Emerald Publishing Limited).

Sarah Kaka, assistant professor of education, published "Fixing the Educator Shortage at the District Level" in the *American School Board Journal* in August. Kaka also presented two sessions at the international American Educational Research Association's annual conference in New York City: "Preservice Teachers' Impact on Student Learning: A Mixed Methods Approach" and "Predictors of edTPA Score."

Sean Kay, professor of politics and government, was mentioned in the October *Politico* article "Bernie Sanders Is Quietly Remaking the Democrats' Foreign Policy in His Own Image." Kay, along with Dan Nexon of Georgetown University, coordinated informal foreign policy for Sanders' 2016 presidential campaign. They assembled a team of more than 50 top advisors to help develop international policy for the campaign and encouraged the hiring of a full-time policy staffer, Bill French of the National Security Network, a now-defunct progressive foreign policy nonprofit. In addition, Kay's book *Rockin' the Free World: How the Rock & Roll Revolution Changed America and the World* was released in paperback on Nov. 30 with a new afterword.

Paul Kostyu, associate professor of journalism and chair of the Journalism and Communications Department,



Professor Hideyuki Takahashi, Graduate School of Life Sciences, Tohoku University and **Chris Wolverton** at a conference in Sendai, Japan.

was elected as coordinator of Region 4 of the Society of Professional Journalists. This position involves working with professional and student journalists in Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia, and western Pennsylvania, and advising SPJ chapters in the region.

Lynda Hall, associate dean for academic performance and professor of psychology, presented a series of four talks on lifespan maintenance of knowledge at Lakeside Chautauqua in Ohio during the summer.

Stephanie Merkel, associate professor of comparative literature, received assistance on her research on Fyodor Dostoevsky's final novel, *The Brothers Karamazov*, and the topic of "Mentoring the Teacher: the Friendship of Fyodor Dostoevsky and Vladimir Solovyov and the Genesis of *The Brothers Karamazov*" from former students **Alexander Cook '16** and **Lucas Plazek '16**. The pair traced the summer 1878 journey of Dostoevsky and Solovyov from St. Petersburg to the Optina Pustyn monastery in Kozelsk, Russia, which Dostoevsky undertook to cope with the recent death of his 3-year-old son. In the end, the 25-year old philosopher helped the 58-year old author grapple with the "accursed

questions" of human existence in *The Brothers Karamazov*. Film footage from Cook and Plazek's journey will be included in a spring 2019 Comparative Literature event, "The Great Ohio Wesleyan Read: *The Brothers Karamazov*." In January 2019, the campus community and alumni will be invited to participate in a six-week online reading and discussion of the novel, which has been taught continuously at Ohio Wesleyan for eight decades, including as part of the core Great Books course from 1941 to 1991.

Amy McClure, the Rodefer Professor of Education and chair of the Education Department, was selected for membership on the Outstanding International Books award committee. Committee members review books submitted by international publishers and determine those that are of the highest literary and artistic merit. Her appointment is for 2018 to 2020. She was also selected to participate on a panel of literacy experts to revise the standards that guide preparation of prospective teachers in literacy instruction. The work was sponsored by the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

Kalenzi Emmanuel Twesigye, Aden S. & Mollie Wollam

Benedict Professor of Christian Studies, has published a two-volume academic textbook in religion and ethics entitled *Religion and Ethics Today: God's World and Human Responsibilities* (Cognella Academic Publishing, 2019). Both volumes cover critical and controversial issues in contemporary ethics and academic theology and cover a wide range of topics such as the environment and climate change. The books include discussion of Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato si" concerning human responsibility to protect the environment.

Rashana Perks Smith, assistant professor of theatre and dance, performed her piece "Bear Traps & Other Impressions" at the Wexner Center for the Arts as part of Columbus Dance Alliance's curated evening of local dance makers. Smith's piece reconstructs and updates an older work wherein she addresses first and lasting impressions as part of identity.

Chris Wolverton, professor of botany/microbiology (above), gave lectures at the 15th Korea-Japan Joint Seminar on Space Environment Utilization Research and at the annual meeting of the Japanese Society for Biological Sciences in Space, both at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan. He discussed the preliminary results from his space experiment on plants, which concluded in April 2018 and returned to Earth in May. In addition, in November, his Plant Gravity Perception Team received a 2018 NASA Ames Research Center Honor Award from more than 100 nominations for "exceptional performance in successful completion of a plant biology experiment on board the ISS (International Space Station) while working through major challenges during flight." Wolverton traveled to the center at Moffett Field, California, in November to accept the honor.

Homecoming & Family Weekend

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Bob the Bishop does his best Marty McFly impression (orange vest and all) by the Back to the Future DeLorean replica that was rented for the Battling Bishops tailgate.



Sarah Buggy '18 (left) chats with **Allison Greeley '18** at the tailgate.



Kelly Glassburn Augspurger '06, who was inducted into the OWU Athletics Hall of Fame over the weekend in tennis, with her daughter, Evie, and son, Ben.



Delta Delta Delta reunion (from left): **Marion "Sunny" Willis Fletcher '72**, **Chappie Wick '19**, **Kara Reams P'19** and her daughters **Hanna Reams** and **Meryl Reams '19**.



Mini-reunion "huddles" were a feature at the tailgate again. (From left) **Charles Hayes '70**, Alumni Association board member **Andrew Sloan '13**, **Dave Hume '60**, and **Phil Roos '60** gathered at the Phi Delta Theta table in the shade.



Jay Tilton '03 (center), was inducted into the OWU Hall of Fame in men's golf. His wife **Karishma** (left), and son **Neil** joined him, along with his parents **Jennie** and **Tim Tilton**.



New wrestling coach **Paul Reid** and his daughter, **Madilyn**, enjoyed the family-friendly tailgate.



Kappa Alpha Thetas at their huddle included (from left): **Hannah Wargo '19**, **Taylor Shinaberry '20**, **Kaitlyn Gilson '21**, **Grace McKiernan '21**, **Hallie McMurtrie '20**, **Ana Borish '19**, and (front) **Maia Virgei '21**.

More than 1,000 Bishops and their families returned to campus Oct. 5-7 for Homecoming & Family Weekend, during which the Battling Bishops defeated the Kenyon Lords 49-7. Find free photos available for download: owu.edu/2018hfw.



Bob the Bishop gets an inspection by a young fan at the football game.



Michael Creech P '19 helps his granddaughter **Gabriella** inspect her balloon animal options. His daughter, **Gabriella's** aunt, **Alexandria Creech** is a senior.



Jesse Jean '08 holds daughter **Evelyn**, and his wife, **Carly Jean '07**, holds their son, **Max**, at the tailgate.



(From left) **Will Alford '12**, **Steven Brown '10**, **Silas Jolliff '13**, and **John Batchelder '12** at the track & field and cross country reunion.



George Gauthier Award winner **Jackson Winters '61** waves at the crowd at Selby Stadium. **Dick Farhney '62** is also pictured.



Krishna Arjune '16 (left), **Rosa Escobar '17**, who works in the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, and **Bhuneshwar Arjune '16** enjoy the nice weather out on the JAYwalk.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

The following is a listing of OWU alumni events around the country. These events offer alumni, families, and friends opportunities to network with fellow Bishops and to reconnect with OWU close to home. To RSVP for an event, visit owu.edu/alumni or call (740) 368-3325.

DECEMBER 2018

December 4 – 13 | Various cities
Holiday parties
Details at owu.edu/2018holidays

FEBRUARY 2019

February 14 | **The Field Club**
Sarasota Red & Black Luncheon

February 15 | **Royal Poinciana Golf Club**
Naples President's Circle Weekend

February 16 | **Royal Poinciana Golf Club**
Naples Red & Black Luncheon

MARCH 2019

March 23 | On campus
FIJI Pig Dinner

March 26 | On campus
Monnett Club meeting featuring Lynda Hall, professor of psychology

APRIL 2019

April 27 | Various Locations
Lacrosse Viewing Parties

April 29 | **Scioto Country Club**
Monnett Club meeting featuring **Nikki Hildebrand Smith '01**

MAY 2019

May 17 – 19 | On campus
Reunion Weekend: Celebrating class years ending in '4 and '9

JULY 2019

July 13 | **Home of Tom and Susan Palmer**
Michigan Red & Black Luncheon

OCTOBER 2019

October 18-20 | On campus
Homecoming & Family Weekend

CLASSnotes

1950s

Richard Jackson '53 is the founder of One People, the Delaware, Ohio-based organization that co-hosted the Community Festival Celebrating Juneteenth in June. Juneteenth is a holiday predominantly celebrated in African-American communities in commemoration of the abolition of slavery in the U.S. The event was billed as a way to bring the entire community together in a show of unity.

James Clem Allison '56 hosted an exhibition of his paintings

at Mason House Gallery at the General Morgan Inn in Greenville, Tenn., in August.

1960s

George Conrades '61, a life trustee on the OWU Board of Trustees, retired from his position as chairman of Akamai Technologies Inc. in June after eight years in the role.

Alice Moore Batchelder '64, a judge in the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, was honored in May by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland as the 2018 recipient of the St. Thomas

More Award, which is given to a legal professional who has demonstrated outstanding personal integrity, professional excellence, and community service.

Larry Heinzerling '67 was presented with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis Who's Who. With 50 years of excellence in communications, Heinzerling retired in 2017 as an adjunct assistant professor for the Graduate School of Journalism and the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.

David Vowles '67 was inducted into the Greater Akron Baseball Hall of Fame in August. Vowles, a Vietnam War veteran, resumed his baseball career in 2007, 39 years after he graduated from Ohio Wesleyan, by joining the Kent Mudhens in the Roy Hobbs program. He continues to play on that team.

Robert Rupp '69, professor of history and political science at West Virginia Wesleyan College, participated in the college's panel discussion "The Constitution, Impeachment, and the 25th Amendment" in September. Rupp recently



Maola welcomes notes from students

Vincent Maola '56 of Swarthmore, Pa., recently reconnected with former professor of music Willis Olson at the retirement facility in Wooster, Ohio, where Olson resides. Olson celebrated his 96th birthday in September. Maola says: "Mr. Olson loves to walk the halls speaking Swedish because no one can understand him! He loves reading and listening to classical music. He sounds great on the phone and is thrilled to hear from his former students." Anyone who wishes to connect with Olson may do so via Maola at vincemaola@verizon.net. Maola was Olson's first clarinet student and reports that he continues to perform with four groups outside Philadelphia.

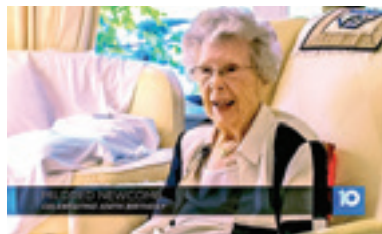


Illinois State Fair recognizes Nelson farm centennial

Marilyn Sturdivant Nelson '47 owns a farm that has been in the Nelson family for more than 100 years, an important distinction in the Midwest. At the invitation of the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Nelson and her daughter, Lorine Etheridge, attended a breakfast at the Illinois State Fair honoring centennial farm families. Gov. Bruce Rauner was among the speakers at the event. Nelson (wearing hat) and Etheridge are pictured with the state fair queen and the state director of agriculture.

Newcomb celebrates 104th birthday

Mildred Newcomb '41 celebrated her 104th birthday in July and was featured on WBNS-TV (Channel 10) in Columbus. When asked the secret to reaching 104, she replied: "Get to be 103." Newcomb was in her 50s when she pursued her doctorate and retired as head of the English Department at OWU.



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completed a manuscript on “The Primary that Made a President: Kennedy” and is the author of 1970 *Battleground in West Virginia*, a book published by West Virginia University Press.

1970s

Frederic Brouner '70, an attorney at DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C. in Madison, Wis., was named to the 2019 “Best Lawyers in America” list. Recognizing legal excellence, the list is based on a peer-review survey in which tens of thousands of leading attorneys cast votes on the legal abilities of other lawyers in their practice areas.

Charles Thatcher '71 retired at the end of a 43-year career in

legal education. A law professor emeritus living in Vermillion, S.D., he is the second-longest-serving faculty member in the 104-year history of the University of South Dakota School of Law. During his tenure, he received the law school’s annual teaching award three times, the university-wide award for excellence in teaching among tenured faculty, and the South Dakota State Bar law firm award for his contributions to legal education.

Clay Small '72 was honored with the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law Distinguished Alumni Award for Corporate Service in April. Small retired in 2012 as senior vice president and managing attorney at PepsiCo Inc.

Debra Thomas Mines '73 published *Stinky Shoes*, a read-aloud book for children, in 2017.

William Bouton III '75, a corporate lawyer at Hinckley Allen, was named corporate law “Lawyer of the Year” on the 2019 “Best Lawyers in America” list. Only one lawyer in each specialty in each region is honored as a “Lawyer of the Year” by the organization.

William Junk '76 was inducted into the Washington Court House, Ohio, City Schools Academic Hall of Fame. Junk was recognized for his scholarship, leadership, service, and athleticism, earning the 1972 Clarence A. Christman Award, as well as the 1972 National Football Foundation

Central Ohio Scholar Athlete Award. Junk is an attorney in Washington Court House.

Gary Patzke '76 published the mystery book *Murder by Munchausen* in 2017.

Katherine Mandusic Finley '77 was honored with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award from Marquis Who’s Who. Finley has worked as the executive director for the Organization of American Historians since 2010.

Douglas Kennedy '77, an attorney at Roetzel & Andress LPA in Cleveland, was named to the 2019 “Best Lawyers in America” list.

Fraternity brothers golf to support cancer research

OWU alumni and Delta Tau Delta fraternity brothers gathered in Nashville, Tenn., on Sept. 19 to play golf to raise funds for pediatric cancer research at Vanderbilt Hospital. From left: **Guy Herrmann '82**, **Daniel Bishop '82**, **Peter Burrell '81**, **Scott Glazer '84**, and **Howard Greenstone '83**.



Burrell wins professor of the year award

Peter Burrell '81, left, was selected as the 2018 Michael Dean Undergraduate Professor of the Year at the University of Cincinnati’s Carl H. Lindner College of Business. Burrell has taught law courses there part time since 1993 and full time since 2013. He also continues to practice law in Cincinnati at Pinales, Stachler, Young, Burrell & Crouse, where he has been named an Ohio Super Lawyer for the past 11 years.

Alumni win lacrosse championship

OWU grads from three different decades came together to win their second straight Vail Supermasters lacrosse championship. From left: **Jim Schwartz '89**, **Jim Loffredo '95**, and **Tony Losito '00** spent a week together in Vail, Colo., playing lacrosse with friends and family.



Morey-Wong wedding

Kathleen Morey Wong '80 and **Allen Wong** were married on March 17 in Dublin, Ohio. **Jan Wilkin Bambach '79**, **Dennis Bambach '76**, and **Jeanne Bauer '80** (not pictured) were among the wedding attendees.

Thomas Rosenberg '77 was named chair of the American Bar Association Forum on Construction Law. The forum is the largest organization of construction lawyers in the United States. Rosenberg leads the construction practice at Roetzel & Andress LPA, in Cleveland. He was also named to the 2019 "Best Lawyers in America" list.

Graham Miller '78, an abstract painter in Greenwich, Conn., hosted a month-long exhibit titled "Bold Dimensions" at the Geary Gallery in Darien, Conn., in September.

1980s

Thomas Carto '80 was named president and chief executive

officer of the Southern Kentucky Performing Arts Center in Bowling Green, Ky.

Jeffrey Long '82 was named director of athletics at the University of Kansas in July.

Byron Pitts '82 was named journalist in residence at High Point University in North Carolina.

Michael Oliver '83 joined Michael Blades and Associates as vice president and vertical transportation consultant.

Paul Burnside '85 performed an organ recital at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Marion, Ohio, in October as part of Marion Music Club's monthly program series and the

church's celebration of its 100th anniversary in its current building.

Thomas Cunningham '89 was named superintendent of Southern Local Schools in Salineville, Ohio, in June.

1990s

Stephen Hikida '90 was a finalist in the American Photography Open 2018. Hikida was recognized for his photo titled *Zander and the Polar Bear*, which was taken at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium and features his son watching polar bears swim by.

Keith Rucker Jr. '92 was named assistant football coach at Capital University in Columbus

in May. Rucker is a former professional football player, two-sport All-American, and national champion.

Christine Watchorn '94 was named to *Profiles in Diversity Journal's* 2018 list of "Women Worth Watching" in July. The list recognizes women of purpose and drive who represent diversity within their spheres of influence. Watchorn is a partner at the Ulmer law firm in Columbus.

Rick Ritzler '95 was appointed to the Columbus State Community College Board of Trustees. He is the chief talent officer at Information Control Co.

Daniel White '95 was named superintendent of Keystone



Jones-Amanna wedding

Anna Jones '15 and **Jackie Amanna '14** were married on Aug. 3 near Asheville, N.C. OWU friends joining in the celebration were (from left): bride Amanna, **Ashley Taylor '14**, OWU President **Rock Jones**, **Brianna Robinson '15**, **Jenna Reeger '14**, **Zach Paul '15**, **Kelly Rand '15**, **Becca Fisher '15**, **Kerrigan Boyd '15**, **Grace Thompson '16**, **William Hayes**, **Sara Jane Sheehan '15**, **Naomi Abrams Hawkes '14**, **Brenda Gable '15**, **Megan Pinto '14**, **Kelsey Ullom '14**, **Haley Figlestahler Barber '13**, **Craig Ullom**, and bride Jones.



McHale-Mittan wedding

Rory McHale '09 and **Ciara Mittan** were married on June 23 in Berkeley, Calif. Pictured from left (back row): **Ryan Sarni '03**, **Stacy Snow '11**, **John Moriarty '10**, **Tavish Miller '09**; (front row:) **Ross McHale '10**, **Conor McHale '06**, the groom and bride, **Vinod Saranathan '04**, and **Farrukh Mushtaq '07**. Not pictured: **Amanda Fisher '09**.



LaFrombois-Barhorst wedding

Nathan LaFrombois '16 and **Nicole Barhorst '16** were married on Aug. 4 in Milwaukee, with 20 OWU alumni in attendance. The wedding was officiated by OWU associate chaplain **Chad Johns '02**.

Local School District in Lorain, Ohio, in June. Previously, he was director of education at Midview Schools in Grafton, Ohio.

John Ryan Bradley '96 was named vice president, contact center operations, at Selective Insurance Company of America. Previously, he served as director, center of excellence, at Erie Insurance.

Nicole Eiler Henry '96 was named principal of Hebron Elementary School in Hebron, Ohio, in June.

Rachelle Johnsson Chiang '97 was appointed assistant clinical professor at the University of Texas at Austin, teaching in the public health program. She earned her DrPH in health policy and management from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2017, returning back to school to complete a doctorate after many years of working in public health policy and practice.

James Campbell '98 was named principal of Pickerington Alternative School in Pickerington, Ohio.

Kgutlisi Moloi '98 was a vocalist in "Gone Too Soon," a concert tribute to music legends that ran at the Lyric at Gold Reef City in Johannesburg, South Africa, in October.

Timothy Baker '99 was named senior vice president in the Equity Sales Trading Group at JonesTrading Institutional Services LLC in August. Bringing 14 years of experience to the role, Baker is responsible for trading and account coverage, with a particular focus on special-purpose acquisition companies and other special trading situations.

Scott Robertson '99 joined Idaho Independent Bank as vice president and commercial loan officer at the Boise branch. Robertson has 10 years of banking experience, primarily in commercial lending.



Hawthorne receives grant for drone-based marine ecosystem research

Timothy Hawthorne '03, assistant professor of geographic information systems (GIS) in the Department of Sociology at the University of Central Florida, received a \$1.25 million grant from the National Science Foundation to use drones to look at eelgrass health along North America's Pacific coast. He is collaborating with interdisciplinary partners at the Smithsonian Institution, Cornell University, and the University of California-Davis to research eelgrass, a coastal vegetation that is vital to overall coastal ecosystem health.

At the University of Central Florida, Hawthorne leads Citizen Science GIS, a research organization that creates visualizations of social and environmental inequalities through global partnerships. Citizen Science GIS will work with the Smithsonian Marine Global Earth Observatory (MarineGEO) researchers from the Tennenbaum Marine Observatories Network to use drones to provide high-resolution mapping and imagery of eelgrass communities along the Pacific coast. The team will train community partners to operate the drones when the team cannot be on site, bringing an innovative element of citizen science to the project. Through their efforts, the team hopes to understand what environmental factors play a role in the spread of wasting disease in eelgrass communities from an ecological and geospatial perspective. Hawthorne says he is excited to combine his social science expertise with that of world-renowned scientists to pursue solutions that no one discipline could solve alone.

2000s

David DeBord '00 was named senior legal counsel for TireHub, a new U.S. tire distribution company that began operations in July.

Lauren Hall '00 was named chief development officer at the National Brain Tumor Society, headquartered in Newton, Mass.

Rita McMillen-Healy '00 was named CPEA educator of the year for Canton City Schools in Canton, Ohio, where she teaches geology and environmental science.

Kemi Fuentes-George '01 was promoted to associate professor of political science at Middlebury College in Vermont. He was also granted tenure. Fuentes-George, who joined the faculty

at the college in 2011, is the author of *Between Preservation and Exploitation: Transnational Advocacy Networks and Conservation in Developing Countries* (MIT Press, 2016).

Edward Canterbury '02 was elected in July to the Executive Committee of Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A., in Fort Myers, Fla., where he is an attorney.

James Vanek '02 was named principal of Independence Middle School in Independence, Ohio, in July.

Jada Hamilton '04, assistant attending psychologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, was named to Delta Zeta sorority's "35 Under 35" list for 2018. The list highlights outstanding young professionals who have made a significant impact in their industry before the age of 35.

Brandon Bytnar '05, an attorney in Naples, Fla., was selected as a 2018 Florida Trend Legal Elite Up & Comer in August. Joining a prestigious roster of attorneys chosen for recognition by their peers, Bytnar was selected in a category for attorneys under the age of 40 who have exhibited leadership in the law and in their community.

Adam Shank '05 was named executive director of the Ohio Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs in July. Shank will lead the alliance's statewide organizing and capacity-building efforts. Boys & Girls Clubs serve more than 44,000 youth across Ohio, at 64 sites across 15 counties.

JoAnna Slobodnjak '05 joined Hospice of Southern Maine as a palliative medicine fellow in June. Slobodnjak is board certified in internal medicine and completed her residency at Wright State/Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. She received her M.D. from Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha, Neb.

Andy Keatts '06 was named Journalist of the Year by the San Diego County chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists for his work exposing misconduct at the San Diego Association of Governments. Keatts is a reporter and assistant editor at Voice of San Diego, a nonprofit news organization.

Caitlyn Nestleroth Johnson '08 was recognized as one of Delta Zeta sorority's "35 Under 35," a list highlighting outstanding young professionals who have made a significant impact in their industry before the age of 35. An attorney for the Office of the Ohio Attorney General, Johnson is recognized for her work with the Columbus

Bar Association and the Ohio State Bar Association. She was also recognized in *Columbus Business First* as one of "15 Central Ohio Young Lawyers to Know," and published networking tips for young lawyers in the *Columbus Bar Lawyers Quarterly Magazine*.

Joe Duffy '09, of Cleveland, is planning project manager at Union Miles Development Corp. and was granted certification as an economic development finance professional with the National Development Council.

2010s

Judson Hall '11 was named assistant coach and defensive coordinator for

the men's lacrosse team at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa.

Coleman Oberli '13 was named an assistant prosecutor in Ashland County, Ohio.

Jennifer Eltringham '14 was named instructor at Kraemer Family Library at the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs.

Jamie Richardson '14 was named cheerleading coach at Garden City Community College in June.

Calla Loadman '15 received her master of science in speech-language pathology from Loyola University Maryland in May and is currently completing a post-graduate clinical fellowship.

John "Robby" Rinehart '15 was promoted to Richmond Bank's assistant banking center manager at the Ontario Banking Center in Ontario, Ohio.

Brianna Robinson '15 joined the Boston Lyric Opera in August. She has a master of music in performance and literature degree with a certificate in arts leadership from Eastman School of Music.

Marissa Witkovsky-Eldred '15 is serving as assistant coordinator for the 2019 Church of the Brethren work camp season in Elgin, Ill.

Kristen Canda '17 was the artist in residence at the 2018 Lancaster (Ohio) Festival in July. Her 10 featured oil and acrylic



Moller-Jacobs/Grawe wedding

Rose Moller-Jacobs '13 and Anthony Harper Grawe '12 were married on Feb. 17 in Hilliard, Ohio. From left (back row): Shane Brandt '13, Charles "Zeke" Brechtel '13, Grant Kilduff '12, Adrian Morrison '12, Guanyi Yang '13, Allyson Hays '13, Matthew Kaste '12, Jonathan Rux '12, Frank Kushnar-Sanderson '13, Larry Osborne '11, Maren Oehl Schludecker '12, Brock Schludecker '12; (middle row:) Clare Duffy Brandt '13, Mark Ripper '14, Nathan Eckersley '12, Elyse Ward '13, Amber Kimberling '14, Katherine Juliani '13, Christopher Heckman '12, Logan Osborne '13, Paige Phillips Osborne '13, Priyanka Venkat '14, Iftekhhar Ahmed Showpnil '13; (front row:) Devin Heath '13, Danielle Muzina '13, the bride and groom, Sonja Petermann '14, and Hannah Appelbaum '14.



Alumni hike in Rocky Mountain National Park

Five alumni who participated in OWU's Wilderness Ministry program and went on wilderness treks together as students gathered in Colorado, along with three of their spouses, for a five-day backpacking and camping trip in Rocky Mountain National Park.

Pictured on Gabletop Mountain are (from left): **Cora Munroe '14**, William Hayes (group leader and director of Wilderness Ministry at OWU), **Naomi Abrams Hawkes '14**, **Thomas DeHaas '15**, **Alyson Michael '14**, and **Haley Figlestahler Barber '13**.

Friedman-Martin wedding

Alexandra Friedman '09 married Reid Martin on Sept. 23, 2017, in Oklahoma City. OWU classmates joining in the celebration were (from left): **Martim Thomaz '10**, **Raksha Adhikari '10**, **Maggie Coleman Maxi '09**, the bride, **Emilie Hanson '12**, **Olivia Talbott Colopy '09**, **Ryan Colopy '07**, **Erin Hanahan Gatz '10**, and **Kofi Quaye '10**.



Fellow alumni support Sadiq in campaign for Ohio House

Adam Dettra '13 (left) and Sean Harris '97 (right) attended a fundraiser for **Shareeque Sadiq '17** (middle), who was a candidate for the Ohio House of Representatives in the 26th district, but lost in November.



Wholley-Roth Wedding

Meredith Wholley '13 married Taylor Roth on Oct. 28, 2017, in Nashville, Tenn. Pictured from left (front row): **Gabrielle Dinkin '14**, **Annie Swanson '13**, **Scott Rosenthal '13**, **Molly Curry '13**, **Emily Lunstroth '13**, **Mary Shinnick '13**, **Steph Martineau '14**, the bride, **Cate Bailey '14**, **Devin Steinberg '13**, **Meg Doherty '16**, **Kayla Henderson '13**, (back row): **Mark Schmitter '12**, **Liza Bennett '13**, three groomsmen, the groom, **Eileen Foley '15**, **Meagan Ferns '13**, **Kelsey Countryman Tennesen '12**, and **Calina Hilyard '13**.



Hoffman-Meyer wedding

Megan Hoffman '12 married Eric Meyer on Aug. 25 in Columbus after five years of dating. The couple was surrounded by friends, both from Ohio Wesleyan and the John Glenn College of Public Affairs at Ohio State University, where they met in grad school. Back row (from left): **Kyle Lemke '12**, **Tori Schlaudt '13**, **Chelsea Dipman '13**, **Amy Siemon '13**, **Tyler Mather '12**; (front row): **Taurey Overturf Lemke '12**, **Kate Raulin '12**, **Katie Hurley '12**, the bride, **Tim Carney '12**, and **Ann Merrell '12**.



Loved ones commemorate passing of OWU classmates

Classmates and families of four deceased classmates came together to commemorate the 30th anniversary of their passing. **Jeff Eddy '90**, **Bill Kroener '90**, and **Jay Riesz '90** lost their lives in a car accident after attending a Russian studies conference at Oberlin College in 1988. That same year, **Tom Schultz '90** lost his life in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Scotland. All four students were politics & government majors. Those who gathered came from seven states. Pictured from left (front row): **Bob Hering '90**, **Matthew Morris '92**, **Paul Klatt '93**, **Kirk Keller '91**; (back row): **Peter Beale**, **E. Marcus Case '89**, **Bill Brosius '90**, **Bob Abrams '90**, **Jim Stilwell '91**, **Roger Ward '90**, **Mike Colson '91**, and **Brien Donovan '90**. Not pictured: **David Poss '89**, **Kevin McDonnell '92**.

paintings were inspired by and produced specifically for the event, featuring moments from the 2017 festival.

Nate Axelrod '18 joined the men's basketball coaching staff at Oberlin College in August.

Paige Haenig '18 was accepted to the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in Urbana, Ill. Haenig received her bachelor's degree in zoology from OWU with minors in chemistry and psychology. She was also a varsity member of the field hockey team and a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Elizabeth Hardaway '18 was named a staff writer at *The Charlotte Sun* in Port Charlotte, Fla.

Births 2000s

Erika Little Thomason '02 and her husband Matthew welcomed boy and girl twins, Reid Angelo and Raelyn Grace, on April 16.

Ryan Sir Louis '06 and **Abbey Kelley Sir Louis '07** welcomed their first child, Eleanor Paige, on May 14.

In Memoriam 1930s

Clara Sesler Genter '38, of Cincinnati, Aug. 18, at the age of 101. She is survived by a son, **William Genter '71**, and a grandson, **Peter Yoshida '17**.

1940s

Richard Bohr '43, of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, Aug. 5, at the age of 97. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and the OWU Tower Society.

Harold Higgins '43, of Scottsdale, Ariz., June 11, at the age of 96. He was predeceased by his wife, **Miriam Jones Higgins '44**, and was a member of the OWU Tower Society.

Mary Jeanne Walter Stephens '43, of Allentown, Pa., July 11, at the age of 97. She was predeceased by her parents, **H.W. Walter 1916** and **Sarah McElhinny Walter 1916**, and a sister, **Phyllis Walter Jeffers '39**. She is survived by a grandson, **Flynn Skidmore '12**. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Elizabeth Fyfe Faragher '44, of Farmington, Conn., Aug. 18, at the age of 96. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

Suzanne Luethi Ross '44, of Columbus, June 9, at the age of 96. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Dorothy Eckert Dent '45, of Danville, Calif., Aug. 18, at the age of 95. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Phyllis Bruce Hackett '45, of Cleveland, Sept. 13, at the age of 95. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Harriet Smith Brush '46, of Roslindale, Mass., June 5, at the age of 94. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

Dorris Dillon Kovalick '46, of Odessa, Texas, June 11, at the age of 94.

Juanita Conkle Milleson '46, of Ironton, Ohio, June 2, at the age of 94.

Eleanor Newcomb Rice '46, of Candler, N.C., July 20, at the age of 93. She was predeceased by two brothers, **Charles Newcomb '32** and **Alan Newcomb '42**. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Frederick Brubaker '47, of Oxford, Pa., Sept. 26, at the age of 92. He was predeceased by his wife, **Marilyn Myers Brubaker '46**, and was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Betty Spaulding Hockin '48, of Salt Lake City, June 9, at the age of 92. She was predeceased by a sister,

Jeanette Spaulding White '42, and is survived by a sister, **Corene Spaulding Grube '44**.

Gordon Newell '48, of Acworth, Ga., Sept. 2, at the age of 95. He was predeceased by a sister, **Mary Newell Quackenbush '42**, and was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Hildreth Houston Spencer '48, of Adrian, Mich., July 30, at the age of 91. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority and the OWU Tower Society.

Jane Feters Anderson '49, of Stryker, Ohio, Sept. 28, at the age of 90. She was predeceased by her husband, **Raymond Roger Anderson '50**, and was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Carolyn Morris Conarroe '49, of Longmont, Colo., Aug. 24, at the age of 91. She was predeceased by her mother, **Catherine Fissel Morris 1912**, and a brother, **Edward Morris '45**. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

Sue Basquin McCurdy '49, of Portsmouth, Ohio, Aug. 4, at the age of 91. She was predeceased by her husband, **Robert McCurdy '47**, and two siblings, **Betsy Basquin Moran '44** and **Donald Basquin '43**. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Helen Schultz Reardon '49, of Rocky River, Ohio, formerly of Canfield, Ohio, July 7, at the age of 91. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Sybil Burger Richards '49, of Hawthorne, N.J., Oct. 1., at the age of 91.

1950s

Frank Beasley '50, of Pompano Beach, Fla., June 8, at the age of 91. He was predeceased by his parents, **Carl Beasley 1916** and **Aurelia Stevens Beasley 1917**, a sister, **Ann Beasley Reider '38**, and a brother, **Carl Beasley '40**. He is survived by a daughter, **Liza Beasley Ames**

'76. Frank was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

Sally Kreidler Griffith '50, of Celo, N.C., Aug. 8, at the age of 90. She was predeceased by a son, **Dennison Griffith '74**, and her husband, **Floyd Griffith '50**. She is survived by a daughter, **Anne Griffith Barrus '80**. Griffith was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

Julian Martin '50, of Austin, Texas, Aug. 6, at the age of 89. He is survived by his wife, **Lois Wesler Martin '51**. He was a member of Beta Sigma Tau fraternity and the OWU Tower Society.

Gust Kookootsedes '51, of The Woodlands, Texas, June 1, at the age of 88. He was predeceased by a brother, **Chris Christy '53**, and is survived by a sister, **Mary Kookootsedes Jannides '59**. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Richard Miller '51, of Milwaukee, Aug. 3 at the age of 91. He was predeceased by his wife, **Marilyn Minton Miller '50**, and was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Thomas Long '51, of St. Simons Island, Ga., June 8, at the age of 88. He was predeceased by his mother, **Dorothy Crates Long 1922**, his wife, **Helen Simester Long '52**, a sister, **Evelyn Long Mauck '48**, and two brothers, **William Long '51** and **Albert Long '51**. He is survived by three children, **Ross Long '78**, **Lucy Long '79**, and **James Long '81**, and a granddaughter, **Alicia Long '07**. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

Edward Schwinn '51, of Beaver, Ohio, June 7, at the age of 89. He was predeceased by his mother, **Beulah Hunsberger Schwinn 1918**, and a brother, **Robert Schwinn '53**. He is survived by a brother, **William Schwinn '59**. Edward was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Kathryn Blayney Upton '51, of Medford, Ore., Sept. 21, at the age of 89. She was a member

of the OWU Tower Society and Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

John Bauknecht '52, of Westwood, N.J., Aug. 21, at the age of 87. He was predeceased by a sister, **Virginia Bauknecht '46**, and he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

James Diehl '52, of Woodsfield, Ohio, June 5, at the age of 88. He was predeceased by his wife, **Joanna McGill Diehl '52**, and a sister, **Margaret Diehl Robinson '46**. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Marvin Ludwig '52, of Portage, Mich., May 16, at the age of 91. He was predeceased by his wife, **Ruth Bjorkman Ludwig '53**.

John White '52, of Chatauqua, N.Y., June 30, at the age of 88. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Leon Whitney '52, of Dayton, Ohio, June 2, at the age of 89. He is survived by his wife, **Betsy Baldwin Whitney '52**. Leon was a member of the OWU Tower Society and Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Nancy Evans Christensen '53, of Hudson, Ohio, May 22, at the age of 86. She was a member of the OWU Tower Society and Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Nancy Haig Marshall '53, of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, July 22. She is survived by her husband, **William Marshall '53**, and a daughter, **Jeanine Marshall '85**.

John Mason '53, of Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 3, at the age of 87. He was predeceased by his wife, **Anne Lepley Mason '55**, and his father, **Harold Mason '24**, and is survived by two brothers, **David Mason '57** and **James Mason '55**. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Deane Stokes '53, of Atlanta, May 31, at the age of 88. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.



Roommates dedicate bench in friend's honor

Four roommates reunited at OWU in June for the first time in more than 40 years to dedicate a bench in honor of their late classmate, **Ann "Annley" Campana Judge '73**, who was on American Airlines Flight 77 that was crashed into the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. After purchasing the bench in Judge's honor, the four classmates spent a special day together on campus in celebration of her life, visiting the Delta Delta Delta sorority house (of which Judge was president during her time at OWU), enjoying Bun's restaurant for lunch, and sharing OWU memories. Pictured from left: **Nancy Bender Kortright '74**, **Susan Henze Twomey '73**, **Mary Ellen Gray Hart '73**, and **Susie Green Beckler '73**.

Robert Cotner '54, of Georgetown, Texas, Aug. 10, at the age of 86. He is survived by his wife, **Alsa King Cotner '56**, and was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

Carolyn House Dulin '54, of Metamora, Mich., Aug. 19, at the age of 86.

Harry Ebeling '54, of Kettering, Ohio, July 14, at the age of 85. He was predeceased by his parents, **Philip Ebeling '28** and **Helen Guion Ebeling Stratton '30**, and his wife, **Martha Bowman Ebeling '54**. He was a member of the Tower Society and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

Col. James McMillen Owen '55 of Melbourne, Fla., July 1, at the age of 85. He was predeceased by his parents, **Gladys McMillen Owen '25** and **William Owen '24**, and a sister, **Peggy Owen Pithan '54**. He is survived by his wife Roberta, sister **Janet Owen Barnes '50**, and four children.

He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Gwendolyn Jackson Weigner '55, of Warwick, R.I., Sept. 10, at the age of 85.

Gloria Daly '56, of Hilton Head Island, S.C., June 17, at the age of 84. She was predeceased by her mother, **Virginia Ellies Hume '28**, and is survived by a brother, **David Hume '60**. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Barbara Mangun Raby '56, of Cascade, Mich., Sept. 8, at the age of 83. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Harold Sawyer '56, of Santa Rosa, Calif., Sept. 17, at the age of 84. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Jerold Cory '57, of Delaware, Ohio, June 27, at the age of 87. He is survived by his wife, **Elizabeth Iden Cory '55**, and a daughter, **Janice Cory Adams '80**.

M. Edward Gibson '57, of Alameda, Calif., June 1, at the age of 82. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Richard Gregory '57, of Powell, Ohio, June 26, at the age of 82. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

David Reed '57, of Macon, Ga., May 25, at the age of 83. He is survived by his wife, **Janith Root Peak '59**, and a daughter, **Nancy Reed '79**. David was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity and the OWU Tower Society.

Robert Swope '58, of Zanesville, Ohio, June 11, at the age of 81. He is survived by a daughter, **Erin Shope Votaw '93**, and was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Sandra Linn Schiefer '59, of Bucyrus, Ohio, Sept. 12, at the age of 82. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

Karla Koehn Westlake '59, of Westlake, Ohio, Aug. 6, at the age of 80. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

1960s

Howard Briggs '60, of Paradise Valley, Ariz., Sept. 5, at the age of 80. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Daniel Cochran '60, of Coshocton, Ohio, July 24, at the age of 80. He is survived by his wife, **Nancy Lightell Cochran '60**, and was a member of Chi Phi fraternity.

Phillip Jarvis '60, of Lewisburg, W.Va., Aug. 12, at the age of 91. He is survived by a brother, **Bruce Jarvis '64**, and was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

Richard Stouffer '60, of Ashtabula, Ohio, July 16, at the age of 79. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

Patricia Driscoll Ackerman '61, of Danville, Pa., July 28, at the age of 78. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

Rebecca Snyder Adlam '61, of Milwaukee, May 9, at the age of 78. She is survived by her husband and her four children and four grandchildren. She dearly loved her life at OWU and all the lifelong friends she made there and was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Ann Ruston Healey '61, of Fort Worth, Texas, Aug. 21, at the age of 78. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Anne Stacy Kelty '61, of Reno, Nev., June 13, at the age of 76. She is survived by a sister, **Dorothy Stacy Farley '58**, and was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Harold "Butch" Harvey '62, of Hillsboro, Ohio, Sept. 5, at the age of 77. He is survived by his wife, **Diana Crowgey Harvey '61**, and was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. A woodworker, visual artist, and musician, Harvey taught in public schools and community college for 50 years.

Sarah Stewart Welch '62, of Denver, July 1, at the age of 77, after a brief battle with cancer. At OWU, Welch was a zoology and education major, a member of the Dolphin Synchronized Swim team, and a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. She retired from a career as a physician's assistant in Denver, and is survived by three children and seven grandchildren. Inquiries and condolences can be directed to her to daughter, Kim Koilpillai, at 16974 Courville Dr, Northville, Mich., 48168.

Judith Price Zura '62, of Ellicott City, Md., June 18, at the age of 77. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

Sallie Dicke Cook '63, of Wooster, Ohio, Aug. 8, at the age of 76. She was predeceased by her mother, **Anna Uncapher Dicke '35**, and is survived by her husband, **Roger Cook '58**. She was a member of the OWU Tower Society and Delta Gamma sorority.

Deborah Volk Cook '63, of Denver, July 29, at the age of 77. She was predeceased by her parents, **Vaughn Volk '33** and **Elizabeth Monahan Volk '35**, and was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Louise Evans '63, of Chestnut Hill, Mass., Sept. 5.

John Ludington '63, of Key Largo, Fla., July 4, at the age of 76. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

John Starkey '63, of Portland, Ore., Aug. 1, at the age of 77. He was predeceased by a sister, **Sarah Starkey Gilliland '59**, and was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

Margaret McAllister Ward '64, of Westfield, N.J., June 25, at the age of 75. She is survived by her husband, **Kenneth Ward '64**, and two children, **William Ward '92** and **Jane Ward Tyner '94**. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Richard Newberry '65, of Seminole, Fla., June 23, at the age of 75. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

William Niblock Jr. '65, of Malvern, Pa., July 23, at the age of 75. He is survived by his wife, **Lynne Loveless Niblock '65**, and was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

James Loughran '66, of Salem, S.C., July 17, at the age of 73. He was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

Mary Strohm Clements '67, of Ellington, Conn., Sept. 1, at the age of 73. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority. **Mary Shepston Cloney '68**, of Herndon, Va., June 22, at the age of 72. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Charles Underwood '68, of Whitehall, Ohio, July 18, at the age of 72. He is survived by his wife, **Mary Traster Underwood '68**, and was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

Valerie White Stultz '69, of Delaware, Ohio, June 14, at the age of 71. She is survived by her husband, **Francis "Buck" Stultz '66**, and a daughter, **Marny Stultz Saldanha '99**, along with two other children, grandchildren, and extended family. The Rev. Dr. Stultz was a retired clergy member and district superintendent of the East Ohio Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in Delaware. Originally from Pepper Pike, Ohio, she received her bachelor's degree with a teaching certificate from OWU and the State University of New York. She earned her master of divinity and master of arts from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio and her doctor of ministry in pastoral leadership from Wesley Theological School. She also had a certification in spiritual direction from John Carroll University. Stultz also traveled to Haiti, Nigeria, Israel, Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Korea, Hungary, and Mozambique for educational and mission trips. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

1970s

Howard Wiener III '70, of Washington, D.C., July 9. He was predeceased by his mother, **Evelyn Dunne Wiener '45**, and is survived by his wife, **Sharon Anderholm Wiener '70**, and a sister, **Susan Wiener Roetcisoender '72**. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Michael Adams '72, of Delaware, Ohio, June 26, at the age of 67. He was predeceased by a brother, **Jeffrey Adams '74**, and is survived by his mother, **Kathryn West Heiskell '47**. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Richard Lindsey '72, of Hopedale, Mass., July 7, at the age 69. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

John Jernigan '74, of Chickasha, Okla., Sept. 30, at the age 68. He is survived by a brother, **Robert Jernigan '75**.

Donald Loyd '74, of Petoskey, Mich., June 13, at the age of 67. He was predeceased by his grandmother, **Anna Blackford Child 1912**, and his parents, **A. Elizabeth Child Loyd '39** and **John Loyd '41**, and a brother, **Christopher Loyd '71**. Donald was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

William "Dana" Hoffhines '79, of Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., on May 25. He was predeceased by his father **Ralph "Monty" Hoffhines '47** and brother **Jeffrey Hoffhines '76**, and survived by his mother **Louise Tilton Hoffhines O'Connor '47**, his brother **Eric Hoffhines '73**, and his two children and four grandchildren.

1980s

Christine Lindberg Molnar '80, of Myrtle Beach, S.C., July 28, at the age of 60. She is survived by her husband, **John Molnar '80**.

Albert Warner '80, of Columbus, June 23, at the age of 60.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Please email your news to classnotes@owu.edu. You can also submit your news to:

Attn: Class Notes Editor
OWU Magazine
Ohio Wesleyan University
Mowry Alumni Center
61 S. Sandusky St.
Delaware, OH 43015

Include your name and class year as well as a daytime phone number, should we need to reach you. Photos are welcome. Submissions may be edited for space.

The deadline for receiving Class Notes and Faculty Notes submissions for the Spring 2019 OWU Magazine is Feb. 1, 2019.

Jeffrey Steward '82, of Chambersburg, Pa., Sept. 1, at the age of 58. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

Leslie Gilbert '83, of Shaker Heights, Ohio, Aug. 21, at the age of 57. Gilbert attended Case Western Reserve University Medical School and practiced as a vascular specialist with the Cleveland Clinic system. She is survived by her husband, daughter and son-in-law, and her son.

Jackie Patterson '83, of Fairlawn, Ohio, June 15, at the age of 56.

Carol Rogers Driscoll '89, of Springfield, Mass., Sept. 23, at the age of 51. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

1990s

Lisa Davis Haren '90, of Akron, Ohio, Sept. 2, at the age of 50.

Paul Sclafani Jr. '90, of Sandy Hook, Conn., Sept. 22, at the age of 50. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

Brierly "BJ" Anderson Jr. '94, of Evanston, Ill., Aug. 10, at the age of 46. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

2000s

Dezaray Reed Fuller '08, of North Charleston, S.C., Aug. 7, at the age of 32.

2020s

Hollis Oliver Morrison, a member of the Class of 2021, died Oct. 2 at his home in Bidwell, Ohio. He was 19. Born Oct. 13, 1998, he was the son of the late Hollis Oliver Morrison III and Anita Darnell Morrison. His late grandmother, Tammy Calhoun, was his great inspiration and encouraged him to be the great man he was. Morrison graduated from River Valley High School with a 4.0 G.P.A. and was awarded the Horatio Alger Scholarship at Ohio Wesleyan. In his first year at OWU, he made the

dean's list. He was not currently enrolled in classes. According to his obituary: "Hollis was the humblest being and very outgoing, anyone that crossed his path saw Hollis with the biggest smile on his face. Hollis could make anyone laugh and was the funniest person you ever came across and was an influence on many people's lives." He is survived by his grandfather, Kenneth Calhoun, as well as his mother and brothers, Tru and Myles Morrison. He is also survived by his best friend, Scott Hughes, his closest friend since the first day of first grade, who is also a member of the Class of 2021. A campuswide candlelit vigil was held for Morrison on Oct. 26.

Faculty/Staff

Joseph Burke, who taught for two years at OWU, of Albany, N.Y., Aug. 3, at the age of 86.

Henry Decker, professor emeritus of botany, of Ostrander, Ohio, July 17, at the age of 88. He is survived by a daughter, **Susan Decker McLaughlin '89**.

Sympathy to

Lori Everett '77 for the death of her mother, Mary Anne Everett, on July 14 at the age of 87.

Thomas Raymond '84 and **James Raymond '90** for the death of their father, George Raymond, of Riverside, Conn., on May 31 at the age of 93.

Hillary Panas Pember '85 for the death of her father, Jerry Panas, on July 14 at the age of 89. He was the founder and chief executive officer of Jerold Panas, Linzy & Partners, a leading national fundraising consulting firm. Two years ago he visited campus to make a presentation to OWU's University Advancement team.

Katherine Edgar Mayes '96 for the death of her mother, Suzanne Barber Edgar, on July 30 at the age of 70.

Haycock established foundry and cast metal programs, elevated art

Everett "Ebb" Haycock, emeritus member of the fine arts faculty, died June 11 in Delaware, Ohio. He was 94. He was born July 4, 1923, in Newark, N.J., to Ora (Hill) and Walter Haycock.

Haycock came to Ohio Wesleyan as a fine arts instructor in 1949, becoming full professor in 1968 and retiring in 1985. He was the driving force behind the creation of OWU's foundry and cast metal program. The foundry is now located in Haycock Hall, a building named in his honor in 2002.

Haycock graduated from Kutztown State Teachers College in Pennsylvania and received a master of art degree from Columbia University. He served in the Navy as a staff artist during World War II and taught at Lehigh University prior to OWU.

His bronze sculpture *Oracle* near Beeghly Library is a campus landmark.

Haycock was preceded in death by his wife of 73 years, Ernestine "Teena" Haycock, and is survived by their three children: **Lorry Haycock Luikart '73** and her husband **Jack**



Ebb Haycock next to his Oracle sculpture on campus

Luikart '71, a member of the OWU Board of Trustees; as well as daughter **Cindy Haycock Liscow '76**, and Jeffrey Haycock, and by grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and other family and friends.

Memorial contributions may be made in his name to the Butler A. Jones House of Black Culture at owu.edu/give or by calling 740-368-3315.

Notice of public comment

Ohio Wesleyan University is seeking comments from the public about the college in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The college will host a visit on March 4-5, 2019, from a team of peer reviewers representing the Higher Learning Commission. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet HLC's Criteria for Accreditation. Ohio Wesleyan University has been accredited by HLC since 1913.

Comments must be in writing and must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs.

Submit comments to HLC at hlcommission.org/comment or mail them to the address below. All comments must be received by Feb. 4, 2019.

Public Comment on Ohio Wesleyan University
Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411

Livingston returned to academia for second career

Sally A. Livingston, a member of the Department of Comparative Literature, died in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 4 after a long struggle with brain cancer. She was 71.

She was born Feb. 24, 1947 in Montague, Mass. After the death of her mother, Adeline (Sojka) Geraghty, when Sally was just 7 years old, she lived with her aunt and uncle, Stella (Sojka) Skrzypek and Joseph V. Skrzypek, who became her adoptive parents.

Livingston attended Sarah Lawrence College and the University of Manitoba, where she earned bachelor's and master's degrees in Renaissance history, after which she entered the doctoral program at the University of Toronto.

She spent several years teaching history at Hampshire College in Amherst, Mass. She left academia to pursue a career in development and



fundraising, at the Seattle Opera and the American Farm School in Greece, then as executive director of the Sisters of Providence Foundation in Springfield, Mass. Entering the investment field, she was

a partner for several years at Woods and Livingston in Springfield before starting her own firm. She also served on the Massachusetts Commission on Judicial Conduct.

In 1997, she helped found

the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts to empower women and girls. In 2001, she returned to school and received her doctorate in comparative literature from Harvard University in 2008, where she later lectured on history and comparative literature.

In 2011, Livingston joined OWU, where she was promoted to associate professor in 2015. At the age of 70, she was awarded tenure in recognition of her work as an innovative teacher and a committed mentor to her students.

She was the cherished sister of Mary Ann (Mimi) Ginsberg and her husband, Dr. Stuart Ginsberg, of Arlington, Va., and devoted aunt to her beloved nieces and nephews.

Contributions in Livingston's memory may be made to the Sally Livingston Scholarship Fund at OWU or to the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts.

OWU's 12th president and first lady, Thomas and Nancy Wenzlau

Thomas E. Wenzlau '50, Ohio Wesleyan University's 12th president, died Aug. 1 in Colorado Springs, Colo. He was 91. His beloved wife of 68 years, **Nancy Allen Wenzlau '50**, preceded him in death June 9. She was 89.

Tom received his Bachelor of Arts degree from OWU with honors. He also was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, served as president of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, and lettered in football, basketball, and track. In 1972, he was inducted into the Battling Bishop Athletic Hall of Fame.

He received his master's and doctor's degrees from the University of Illinois.

Tom taught at Wesleyan University, Kenyon College, and Lawrence University, where he chaired the Economics Department.

He also spent a year as a Fulbright lecturer in Pakistan.

During his time as president of OWU from 1969 to 1984, the \$33.5 million XIVth Decade development program was begun and successfully completed. Major construction projects included the Chappellear Drama Center, the Branch Rickey Physical Education Center, the expansion and remodeling of Sanborn Hall, and the magnificent Rexford Keller Memorial Concert Organ in a remodeled Gray Chapel. In addition, major advances were made in campus computing capabilities.

Nancy majored in English and later taught the subject. She was a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority and was



involved in the Young Women's Christian Association, Le Bijou yearbook, varsity swimming, and Twin-W (varsity club for women).

During her 15 years as Ohio Wesleyan's first lady, she

made many friends through her generous hospitality, support, and involvement in a variety of projects, including efforts to improve the president's house and to preserve Monnett Hall memorabilia. She had an extensive family history at OWU, including mother and various aunts, uncles, and cousins.

The Wenzlaus are survived by their daughters, **Kathy Wenzlau Comer '76** and Janet Wenzlau Von Kraut; sons David and Scott Wenzlau; and four grandchildren.

Contributions in their memory may be made to the Nancy Allen Wenzlau '50 and Thomas E. Wenzlau '50 Scholarship Fund or any other need-based scholarship fund at OWU.

Robbins defined neuroscience at OWU

David O. Robbins, a longtime member of the Department of Psychology and the Ohio Wesleyan administration, died Sept. 30 in Delaware, Ohio, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 75. (See related story, Page 13.)

He was born in Bryn Mawr, Pa., on July 1, 1943 and grew up in Havertown, Pa., and Ocean City, N.J. He earned degrees from the University of Delaware and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in physiology at the Eye Research Foundation of Bethesda, Md., where he later became director of research.



For over 40 years, Robbins was a professor, then provost and interim president at OWU. He also served as chair of the Department of Psychology and director of the University's Summer Science Research Program, and was co-founder of the Neuroscience Program. He was named an honorary alumnus in 2008 and received several teaching honors, including the Sherwood Dodge Shankland Award and Hebert Welch Meritorious Teaching Award.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Morris and Anne Robbins, and brother, Allen Robbins. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Jan, their daughters, Drs. Cynthia Robbins and Karen Robbins; sons-in-law River Bailey and Andrew Knapp; and precious granddaughter, Lydia Robbins Knapp. He is also survived by his sister, Marianne, and her partner.

Contributions in his memory may be made to The David O. and Janice S. Robbins Summer Science Research Endowment at OWU.



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The Beale Street Six

By **Charles V. Brown '58** and **Verrick O. French '60**

The two of us have been good friends for 66 years and counting. We played together in a swing band led by Charlie in junior high and high school, and we pledged Delta Tau Delta at OWU two years apart. ¶ Charlie founded the Beale Street Six, a traditional jazz band, in the fall of 1954, at the start of his freshman year. Charlie's instrument is clarinet. By a remarkable turn of luck, his Delt pledge class included **Dick Hottel '58**, a fine jazz trumpeter, and **Willie Coles '58**, an equally fine jazz trombonist. The three formed the band's front line. They were

joined from the outset by banjo player **Manny Haynes '58**.

The personnel of the rhythm section changed a couple of times. Vick, the bassist, signed up in the fall of 1956. Drummer **Bill Weinig '60** also enlisted that year.

Wayne Shannon, from the Kenyon College Class of 1958, a great stride pianist, played with the band whenever he could hitch a ride from Gambier, Ohio, in which case we became the Beale Street Seven.

(Wayne couldn't make it to the photo shoot.)

The Beale Street Six in June 1958 (from left): Richard W. Hottel '58, D. Manning Haynes '58, Verrick O. French '60, William I. Weinig '60, Charles V. Brown '58, and William H. Coles '58. (Photo by Donald E. Hughes '58)

Traditional jazz, also called Dixieland, is the exuberant music of collective improvisation invented by young African-Americans in New Orleans in the first decades of the last century. Louis Armstrong, the brilliant trumpeter and composer, was an exemplar. Inspired by


performances and recordings of the New Orleans originals, a dozen variants and subgenres sprang up overnight. Among the best was the music of several bands in the Midwest and New York that featured the gifted cornetist Bix Beiderbecke. We thought of the Beale Street Six as part of a storied musical continuity.

Our theme song was *Beale Street Blues*. A small sample of our repertoire included *Royal Garden Blues*, *Muskrat Ramble*, *Tin Roof Blues*, *Basin Street Blues*, *Doctor Jazz*, *Electric Chair Blues*, and *Careless Love*.

For four years, the Beale Street Six played fraternity and sorority parties on campus. We also staged two concerts in Gray Chapel, and *The Transcript* featured the band in several articles. Demand grew. In our third and fourth years, we often played two weekend gigs, and we became an indelible feature of campus social life. As word spread, fraternities at other colleges in central Ohio booked us. We recall gigs at Kenyon, for example, that were neither sedate nor decorous but great fun!

Sixty years on, do any of us still play? Only a couple of us have kept our chops, but we've never forgotten our marvelous undergraduate jazz venture.

Were you in a band at OWU? Tell us about it at magazine@owu.edu.



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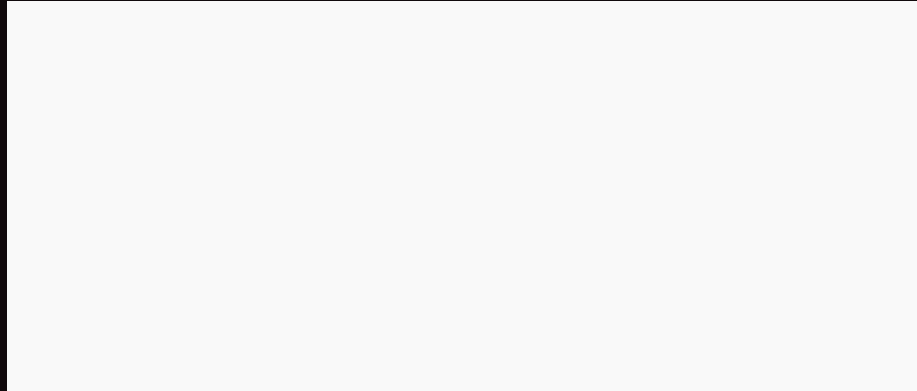
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*Ohio Wesleyan's new women's rowing team practices on Alum Creek Lake in early October. The full eight-woman team under Coach Andriel Doolittle participated in one event this fall and will return for the spring season in March. (Photo by **Mark Schmitter '12**)*



