

OHIO CHRISTIAN

OHIO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE | WINTER 2017



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WORLD GOSPEL MISSION**

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ADDRESS CHANGES

Send address changes and news by
email to alumni@ohiochristian.edu

Our Mission / Ohio Christian University prepares students to serve effectively in the church and society by providing a holistic, Christ-centered, biblically integrated education in the Wesleyan tradition.

Accreditation / Ohio Christian University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and the Association for Biblical Higher Education.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OHIO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT RESIGNS AND CELEBRATES 11 YEARS



Dr. Mark A. Smith
/ President

Ohio Christian University announces the resignation of Dr. Mark A. Smith who just finished his 11th year as president of the university. Dr. Smith has led the university from 400 students to more than 4,600 students and has emphasized serving the community.

During his time as President, the university achieved multiple successful accreditation visits, received initial accreditation in Nursing and Teacher Education, and established many new academic programs. The university began offering online classes under Dr. Smith and has added graduate programs such as a recognized top MBA program and ministry programs. The university is currently adding a Master of Education and preparing for its first Doctorate program.

Dr. Smith led the revitalization of the campus by overseeing new construction of residence halls, athletic facilities, classrooms, Maxwell Center (gymnasium), Science & Logistics Center, and Dean & Diana Hickman Student Center. Additionally, two buildings are under construction: Business Innovation Center and Performing Arts Center.

Some of Dr. Smith's greatest accomplishments were in the area of fundraising and community focus. Dr. Smith has brought many dollars to the Pickaway County community. He always led everyone to think first about investing in the community, and supporting area churches to serve the community.

Dr. Smith's love for the church has been evident as he has hosted many events on campus to support the ministries of the church. Ohio Christian has been true to the university's mission of serving both the church and society.

The President and his wife loved students as Dr. Smith attended as many events as possible to

support the students of the university. Mrs. Smith was a wonderful hostess with many events in their home for students. Her gift of hospitality, grace, and eye for excellence were always on display at home and on campus. Mrs. Smith oversaw the Christmas light display and decorations of the campus.

Dr. Smith said upon announcing his resignation to the board, "It has been my joy to serve as Ohio Christian University's President for the last 11 years. Debbie and I have given everything to serve Ohio Christian University in a way that is pleasing to the Lord. We understand that God has guided this place and our lives through a tremendous period of growth numerically, spiritually and in facilities. Our lives have been poured into students, and we will always remember fondly our time at OCU. We have loved serving OCU students. They mean the world to us."

He also added, "I would like to take this moment to thank the board for supporting my vision and growth of OCU. I would also like to thank the faculty, staff and students and this community for allowing our family to serve. We love you!"

Dr. Smith's resignation will be effective on June 30, 2016. For this last semester, he will work with Provost Dr. Hank Kelly, who has worked by his side for 17 years, to begin assuming day-to-day operations as Dr. Smith focuses on community and donor relations for the last dollars needed for the Performing Arts Center.

The Board of Trustees will announce a time in the future for celebrating how God has used Dr. Smith and his family. For more information, please contact the President's Office 740-477-7713.

Dr. Smith said, "Debbie and I want to thank you for allowing us to serve the past 11 years. We love all of you and pray that God will be with us all in the future. We will never forget OCU!"

A photograph of four students walking along a paved path on a college campus. From left to right: a young man in a grey polo shirt and dark pants, a young woman in a maroon cardigan and patterned scarf, a young man in a purple sweater and dark pants, and a young woman in a grey cardigan and pink pants. They are all smiling and looking towards the right. The background shows green lawns, trees, and a brick building under a clear sky.

IMPORTANCE OF A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By Dr. Hank Kelly / OCU Provost



A college or university education is more than just learning information. There is no neutral, non-formative education (i.e., there is no such thing as a “secular” education). Colleges and universities are forming students into something. The question is: what?

Education is formative in that not only does it impact the mind but also the heart. All the practices of a college or university form the imagination and hearts of its students—whether designed or not. If drinking and partying are accepted and even expected to “fit in,” then many students will succumb to their callings. It may be true that some students can withstand these temptations—but why risk it? Why subject yourself to this testing during the most formative years of your life?

A Christian college or university forms people who desire the kingdom of God and thus undertake their vocation as an expression of that desire. At Ohio Christian University, this is accomplished with faculty who are all strong and committed Christians, the Christian worldview is integrated in every course, and each student learns Bible and theology. This formation is also accomplished through non-academic means such as attending chapel including revival weeks; being involved in small group ministries; interacting with Christian faculty and staff outside of class; complying with standards consistent with Christian behavior; and participating in Community Action Day, Church Service Day, and Christian Service where students use their hands in the world to improve it.

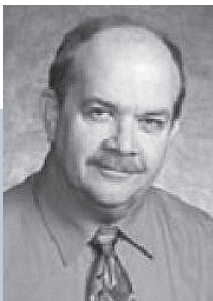
Universities and colleges are forming their students into something. If you want to be formed into a Christian, attend a Christian university or college.

OCU BUSINESS STUDENTS VISIT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE



New York / Students from Business & Government

A group of Ohio Christian University (OCU) Business and Government students visited Wall Street, Bloomberg Headquarters, the United Nations, and Mizuho Securities this fall. Students attended a Financial Crisis Tour where they learned firsthand what happens inside the New York Stock Exchange. The tour was led by Wall Street veterans who explained the difference between collateralized debt obligations (CDO) and credit default swaps (CDS), investment strategies which they said contributed to the economic collapse in 2008. Students also saw the New York Stock Exchange, Federal Hall, The House of Morgan, and other famed architecture.



Dale Lear / Associate
Professor of Business

“As a professor and one of the leaders of the Wall Street Experience, I can say that it is amazing to see our students grow as they are exposed to business in the big city. Our students are privileged to get to meet people who work in New York for organizations like Bloomberg, Wall Street, the United Nations, and many others. They are struck with the realization that these workers are people ‘just like us’ who have boldly taken the steps necessary to go to work for these well-known and respected companies. OCU students have what it takes to fill these same positions. After our New York visits, our students return home able to consider a much bigger world in which they may want to work.”

Bloomberg Financial provided OCU students with a tour of their headquarters, resources to seek employment with Bloomberg, and a company briefing. In addition, students visited Mizuho Security’s bond trading floor and heard from a bond trader.



Above, from left / Dr. Monty Lobb, Dean of OCU School of Business and Government; Nicole Salvo-Davis; Erin Thacker; Becky Mancini; Tony Capuano; Sandy Stakley; Andy Stakley; and Professor Dale Lear.

SMALL BUSINESS ROUND TABLE

Ohio Christian University's School of Business & Government® hosted the sixth annual Small Business Round Table on November 14, 2016. The Round Table brought together over eighty OCU students and six business people, most of whom are small business owners. The topic was starting and managing a small business.

During the event, students were able to engage in discussion with the various business people, and ask practical and applicable questions. The business owners emphasized the importance of character, hard work, time management, finding your passion, and discipline as significant aspects of owning your own business. Many students are currently working on business plans for OCU's annual ten-thousand-dollar Business Plan Competition, which will be held this spring. Therefore, this event was particularly helpful and informative for students in the creation of their business plans.

OCU's School of Business & Government places a high importance on practical learning, which is why individuals who have been successful in their fields are constantly brought to campus to speak with students.

"The small business round tables offer an irreplaceable insight to entrepreneurship, various aspects of business, and mentor opportunities. Every single one has been a valuable asset to my education. I immensely appreciate the OCU School of Business and Government for giving us first hand learning experience from real business owners who share real experience because it doesn't get any better than that."
– Brittany Black, Senior OCU Business Management Major

Business people present at this year's event were **Nicole Salvo-Davis & Erin Thacker**, owners of Native Cold Pressed; **Becky Mancini**, owner of Maggie & Me Fashions; **Tony Capuano**, franchisee owner of 5 Snap Fitness Locations; and **Andy & Sandy Stakley**, owners of Stakley Automotive.

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Dr. Mark Smith, OCU President

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PICKAWAY PROGRESS PARTNERSHIP PRESENTS 2017 LEADERSHIP IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AWARD

On November 17, 2016, Pickaway Progress Partnership (P3) awarded its 2016 Leadership in Economic Development Award to Ohio Christian University President Mark A. Smith. Ryan Scribner, Economic Development Director for P3, shared that in his first encounter with Dr. Smith, they spoke of dreaming big, being bold, and having urgency as they would seek to elevate the community.

Mr. Scribner also highlighted Ohio Christian University's impact in Pickaway County. The baccalaureate rate in Pickaway County has increased from 11.7% to 17.1% since 2006, and many community members are taking classes to better their lives. Additionally, construction projects on OCU's main campus in Circleville, Ohio, are approached with the community in mind.

The Southern Gateway Economic Innovation Development Center is being developed as a public/private partnership to help attract new businesses and workforce opportunities to the tri-county region. It will link education in Pickaway, Ross, and Fayette counties, providing a seamless system of expertise and learning that will prepare the community for success in the local economy.

The new Performing Arts and Ministry Center will be a new community venue for musical, theatrical, and educational performances. It will also serve as the chapel for the on-campus student body, for which enrollment is quickly approaching 1,000.

"PICKAWAY PROGRESS PARTNERSHIP WORKS TIRELESSLY TO BRING JOBS TO OUR AREA AND IMPROVE THE COMMUNITY. OHIO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY IS EXCITED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE GROWTH AND ELEVATION OF OUR COMMUNITY," SAID PRESIDENT SMITH.

The evening concluded with Mr. Scribner sharing the successes of Pickaway Progress Partnership. The economic impact of projects in Pickaway County includes approximately 1,700 new jobs, \$60 million in payroll, and \$2.1 million in private investment.

Check out our construction webcam and videos at OHIOCHRISTIAN.EDU/CONSTRUCTION



Coming Summer 2017 / Southern Gateway Economic Innovation Development Center



Coming Fall 2017 / Ministry and Performing Arts Center



November / Ryan Scribner (left), Economic Development Director for P3, presented President Mark A. Smith the 2017 Leadership in Economic Development award.



WINTER 2017

MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL FOR 7TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Ohio Christian University has earned the 2017 Military Friendly® School designation by Victory Media, publisher of G.I. Jobs®, STEM JobsSM, and Military Spouse. Each year, the list of Military Friendly® Schools is provided to service members and their families, helping them select the best college, university, or trade school to receive the education and training needed to pursue a civilian career.

Lieutenant Colonel, USAF Retired, and OCU Provost Hank Kelly said, "OCU is committed to providing exceptional service and educational support to the military community, and several key leadership positions at the university are held by former military personnel. The Military Friendly School designation speaks to Ohio Christian University's dedication to honoring those who serve our country."

To support the courageous men and women who serve our country, Ohio Christian University

- Offers a discounted tuition rate of \$250 per credit hour to all military service members, veterans, military spouses, and dependents
- Accepts military education benefits such as G.I. Bill and Ohio National Guard Scholarship program
- Evaluates military training for college credit

For more information about Ohio Christian University's commitment to supporting military families, visit the OCU website at www.ohiochristian.edu/military.

FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

A CHRISTMAS GIFT
TO THE COMMUNITY

Dr. Dione Bennett / OCU Director
of Choral and Vocal Studies





Nearly 700 guests attended Ohio Christian University's 11th annual Festival of Carols concert on December 3, 2016, in the beautifully decorated Maxwell Center. Guests were treated to the artistry of the OCU Chorale, members of the Circleville Choral Society, and an excellent 40-piece orchestra that included students, faculty members, and local musicians.

Dr. Dione Bennett, Director of the OCU Chorale and Circleville Choral Society, led the evening's music, which featured festive orchestrations of well-loved Christmas music, beautiful acapella numbers, and selections from Handel's *Messiah*.

“This year’s theme was ‘We are Christmas,’” she said, “and we encouraged the community to perform random, but intentional, acts of kindness this Christmas season.”

Each year, OCU presents the Festival of Carols as a gift to the community and requests that guests bring canned food items. This year, more than 500 pounds of food were donated to local ministries who support needy families.

Following the concert, OCU's campus was the stage for a beautiful display of Christmas lights through the month of December. Our thanks goes out to the many individuals who helped make the Festival of Lights possible.



OHIO CHRISTIAN

CAMPUS UPDATES

SEE BUILDING PROGRESS LIVE ONLINE AT
WWW.OHIOCHRISTIAN.EDU/CONSTRUCTION



Coming Summer 2017 / Southern Gateway
Economic Innovation Development Center



Coming Fall 2017 /
Ministry and Performing Arts Center

We Need Your Help!

Let's Build Community Together!

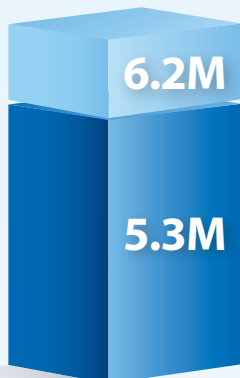
Ohio Christian University is Passionately Serving Our Community

- Over 100,000 community service hours served.
- More than 600 events on campus in the past year.
- Achieved 25% increase in county baccalaureate degree rate.
- Greater than \$75 million in annual economic impact.

*Performing Arts isn't just entertainment,
it's a key part of building a vibrant community.*

The New Performing Arts Center will enable our community to:

- Host diverse musical, theatrical and cultural experiences.
- Attract visitors from the surrounding areas, boosting the local economy.
- Engage residents and reinforce local culture and traditions.



**\$5.3M of the
\$6.2M goal
has already
been raised!**



*Honor someone or place your name on a seat
in the new, historic Chapel and Performing Arts
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☐ **Yes!** I will contribute \$1,000 to name a seat
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OCU WORSHIP LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FEATURED IN WORSHIP LEADER MAGAZINE BEST OF THE BEST



OCU'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP PROGRAM WAS NAMED A TOP WORSHIP PROGRAM OF 2016 BY WORSHIP LEADER MAGAZINE.

Ohio Christian University was featured as an Editor's Pick in the Higher Learning category for the 2016 *Worship Leader* magazine Best of the Best issue, released in November. According to *Worship Leader* magazine, this special issue features the top resources and products that influenced the services of worship in the past calendar year.

"OUR FOCUS ON BIBLICALLY RICH, GOSPEL-CENTERED WORSHIP, ALONG WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR HANDS-ON, CHURCH-BASED LEARNING IS ATTRACTING TALENTED STUDENTS WITH A HEART FOR MINISTRY."

-Dr. Rodney Sones, OCU Coordinator for Programs in Worship Leadership

Next fall, the program will be moving to the new Performing Arts and Ministry Center. "We are excited about relocating to the new ministry center," said Sones. "I believe having a new space dedicated to learning and ministry will be a catalyst for the program."

OCU offers a Bachelor of Arts (BA) program in Worship Leadership, along with dual-major programs combining the Worship Leadership major with majors in Psychology, Business, or Ministry. OCU also offers an Associate of Arts, a minor, and a certificate program in Worship Leadership.

The Worship Leadership program is part of OCU's Residential Undergraduate Program. To learn more, call **1-877-762-8669** or visit **www.ohiochristian.edu/undergrad**.

MINISTRY

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES



Dr. Scott Marsee / Assistant Dean & Director of Ministry Programs, College of Adult and Graduate Studies

The College of Adult and Graduate Studies (AGS) Ministry programs provide options for those called to serve in many capacities of full-time, bi-vocational, and lay ministry. Today, more than ever, there is a need for leaders who are equipped to meet the challenges of today's world. Our programs are uniquely prepared to develop transformational servant leaders.

AGS Assistant Dean and Director of Ministry, Dr. Scott Marsee, joined OCU full time in 2010 after 14 years of pastoral ministry in the Church of the Nazarene. During his time at OCU Dr. Marsee has served in several administrative roles. In 2016 he earned his PhD in Education specializing in Instructional Design.

"Throughout the program, the faculty stressed the importance of servant leadership. I learned that Jesus is the greatest servant, and we are called to serve with Him."

- Yaves Ellis / 2011 AGS Ministry Program Graduate

MINISTRY DEGREES AND CONCENTRATIONS

Associate of Arts in Christian Ministry

- Biblical Studies Concentration
- Pastoral Ministry Concentration

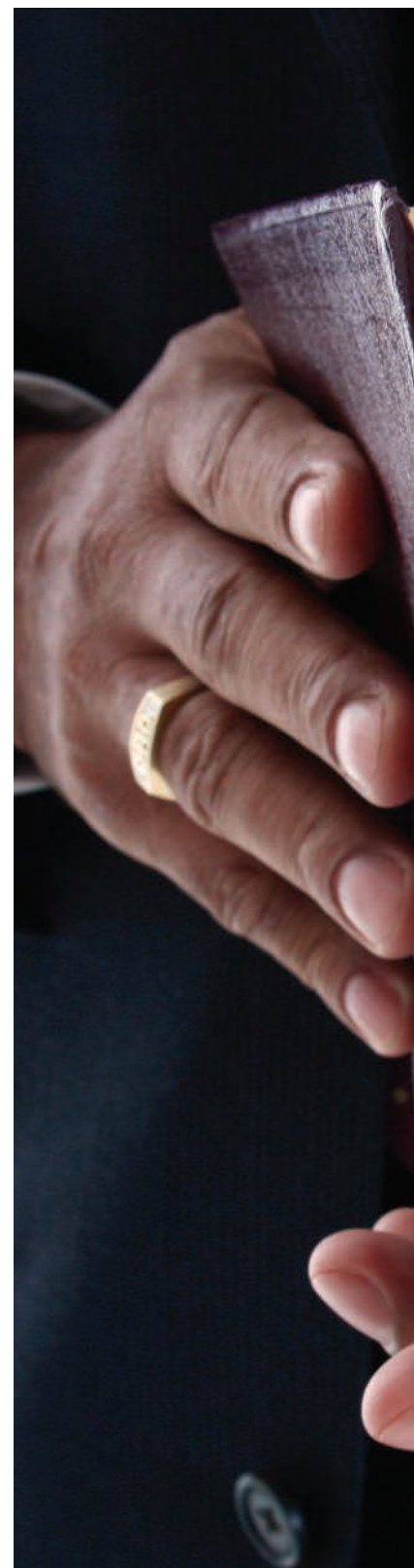
Bachelor of Arts in Leadership and Ministry

- Biblical Studies Concentration
- Church Planting Concentration
- Organizational Leadership Concentration
- Pastoral Ministry Concentration

Master of Arts in Ministry

- Pastoral Care and Counseling Concentration
- Practical Theology Concentration

Dual Degree: Master of Business Administration and Master of Arts in Ministry





The fastest growing ministry program we offer is the affordable MA in Ministry program. We offer two concentrations in the Master of Arts in Ministry program: the Pastoral Care and Counseling Concentration and the Practical Theology Concentration.

Student Cheryl Collins commented on the MA in Ministry program at the conclusion of the capstone course:

“My journey at OCU has been more than wonderful. I cannot begin to share what a blessing it has been to my spiritual life and my church’s life. My growth and development has flourished under the tutelage of every single one of my OCU instructors. My classmates and the integrity of the school have blessed me. I am proud to be an alumna, and I count it a privilege to continue to be associated with my school.”

Ohio Christian University understands God’s call to ministry and its eternal significance. Whether you are just recognizing Jesus’ personal call on your life for service or are currently in ministry, OCU’s experienced and expert faculty and staff can help guide you. Whether a graduate, bachelor, or associate degree program, OCU can help you develop your unique call and ministry skill for the assignment God has for you which only you were created to fulfill.

The College of Adult and Graduate Studies serves non-traditional learners as they earn degrees at locations in Ohio and Georgia and online. If you’re ready to continue your education, call us at 1-855-OCU-GRAD or visit www.ocuonline.com/ministry.

HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES



William Harle, Jr. / Director of Humanities & Social Sciences, College of Adult and Graduate Studies

The College of Adult and Graduate Studies (AGS) Humanities and Social Sciences programs are designed to provide the knowledge and skills students need to thrive in an ever-changing marketplace of ideas and technologies.

AGS Director of Humanities and Social Sciences, William (Bill) Harle, joined OCU in 2015 after a successful business career in employee benefit administration and 10 years of service as a faculty administrator at Bryan College in Dayton, Tennessee.

Certified faculty, who are experienced practitioners in their fields of study, seek to present God's truth and the beauty of His creation in every assignment, course, and major. The result is that students acquire the tools to be independent thinkers and lifelong learners while encountering God's Word as the foundation of all knowledge and understanding.

A degree in a discipline from the Humanities and Social Sciences department provides the critical thinking and decision-making skills necessary in the marketplace or in ministry.

Regardless of the field of study, students master the skills of analysis and interpretation that prepares them for leadership positions in any organization. Combined with the foundation of a Christ-centered education, graduates are equipped to approach every decision with the ethical and spiritual maturity needed to make a difference in their world and in their workplace.

DEGREES OFFERED

Associate of Arts

- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Human Services

Bachelor of Arts

- Criminal Justice
- English
- History
- Human Services
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Substance Abuse Counseling

All programs are conveniently offered entirely online and at regional campuses where students typically attend class one evening per week.

To enroll or learn more about Humanities and Social Sciences at OCU, call 1-855-OCU-GRAD or visit us online at www.ocuonline.com/humanities.



**STUDENTS ARE OUR
GREATEST INVESTMENT.**

ESTATE PLANNING

Will you help us provide
scholarships for students
in Pickaway County?

Ohio Christian University is serving Pickaway County by providing outstanding educational opportunities and has focused on increasing the percentage of students in Pickaway County receiving a college education. Many Pickaway County students need assistance to attend college, and last year Ohio Christian University assisted with \$1.6 million in scholarships and grants.

We need your help in establishing a \$10 million scholarship endowment. Will you include Ohio Christian University in your estate planning?

To learn more about estate planning, please contact Mark Taylor, Vice President for University Advancement.

**CALL 740-420-5918 OR EMAIL
MTAYLOR@OHIOCHRISTIAN.EDU
TODAY TO LEARN MORE.**

BUSINESS

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES



Dr. Debra Grimm / Director of Business Programs,
College of Adult and Graduate Studies

The College of Adult and Graduate Studies (AGS) business programs are designed to prepare students for success in the business world.

Students name diversity in their cohorts as one of the benefits of the business program. The cohort model, in which groups of students move through their academic programs together, provides an enriched learning experience. By interacting with students from other industries such as education, manufacturing, accounting, finance, and healthcare, they can learn from and network with classmates with varied business perspectives.

AGS Director of Business programs, Dr. Debra Grimm, joined OCU in 2012 after an extensive business career focused in finance. During her corporate career, Dr. Grimm also taught accounting and business classes at the college level. She began working in education fulltime in 2009.

Dr. Grimm's vast experience in the corporate world gives her invaluable perspective in guiding program curriculum. Experienced faculty practitioners develop curriculum that integrates theory and application. Using biblical examples of integrity and discernment in decision-making, students learn to solve everyday business problems through the lens of Christianity. Courses are designed to be immediately relevant in the workplace, so students can apply what they learn in class in their current positions.

"We had some great faculty who were truly interested in seeing students succeed and get excited about business – they even offer career advice and resume help after graduation!"

Student Feedback / MBA Graduate in Business Advisory Group





BUSINESS DEGREES AND CONCENTRATIONS

Associate of Arts in Business

- Agribusiness Concentration
- Business Management Concentration
- Information Technology Concentration

Bachelor of Arts in Business

- Accounting Concentration
- Business Management Concentration
- Criminal Justice Administration
- Disaster Management and Relief Concentration
- Healthcare Management Concentration
- Human Resources Concentration
- Information Technology Concentration
- Insurance Concentration
- Logistics Management Concentration
- Marketing Concentration
- Organizational Leadership Concentration

Master of Business Administration

- Accounting Concentration
- Digital Marketing Concentration
- Finance Concentration
- Healthcare Management Concentration
- Human Resources Concentration
- Organizational Leadership Concentration

Master of Management

Dual Degree: Master of Business Administration and Master of Arts in Ministry

Ready to elevate your career? Call 1-855-OCU-GRAD or visit www.ocuonline.com/business today.

"I was made to feel like an asset to the program instead of a number. Exposure to many topics has made me a more well-rounded engineer and contributor at work."

Curtis Crego / 2014 MBA Graduate, Facility Engineer at Kenworth Truck Company



OCU ATHLETICS CONTINUES TO MAKE HISTORY



Cross Country / Teams spent time this fall working in the Circleville community to help the elderly with a variety of household tasks.



Men's Soccer / The Men's Soccer program fought hard in their fall season, capped off by a thrilling overtime win against Asbury.



Volleyball / Junior Megan Morrison received her 1,000th kill this fall as a Lady Trailblazer.



Men's Basketball / Nic Baker scored his 1,000th point as a Trailblazer this season. Nic has been a member of the team all four years of his time at OCU.

**FOLLOW THE TRAILBLAZERS OR
DOWNLOAD THE MOBILE APP:
WWW.OCUTRAILBLAZERS.COM**



Cross Country / The Cross Country program had a strong fall season. Both the men and women qualified for NCCAA Championships for the first time.

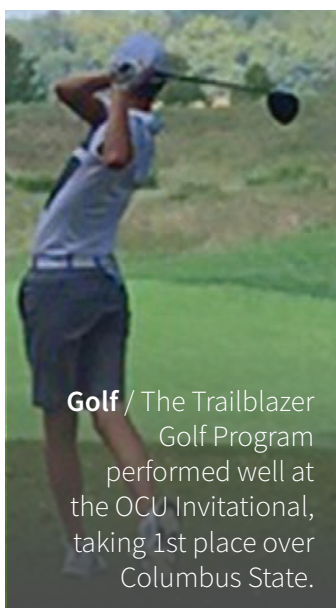


The Lady Trailblazers were crowned the 2016 RSC Regular Season Champions, while Head Coach Jake Warren was selected as the RSC Coach of the Year.

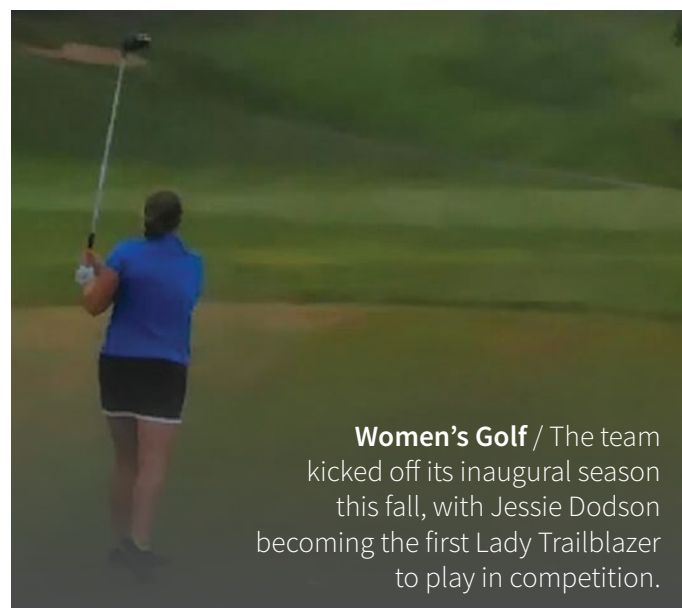
Women's Soccer / Head Coach Jake Warren



Men's Basketball / Athletic Director David Bireline congratulates Head Coach Tony Stockman (left) on his 100th win over Marygrove College on Nov. 3, 2016. This is Stockman's fifth season at OCU.



Golf / The Trailblazer Golf Program performed well at the OCU Invitational, taking 1st place over Columbus State.



Women's Golf / The team kicked off its inaugural season this fall, with Jessie Dodson becoming the first Lady Trailblazer to play in competition.



Women's Soccer / The OCU Women's Soccer program went on a tear through the month of October, going 7-1-1 en route to a 11-7-2 record.

OHIO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
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Did you get a new job? Get married? Welcome a new addition?
Stay connected by sending your updates to alumni@ohiochristian.edu.



**LINLEY ROSE
FARRELL**
BORN DECEMBER 27, 2016

Chris '13 and Johnna
(Sandlin) Farrell '11



**DAPHNE CAMILLE
BLEVINS**
BORN NOVEMBER 11, 2016

Michael '12, G'14 and Kenna
(Bolender) Blevins '11



**LAVENDER SOFIA
BARKER**
BORN OCTOBER 21, 2016

Jacob '15 and Kayleigh Barker



AUSTIN RICHEY
BORN AUGUST 8, 2016

Clay '12 and Korrin (Miller) Richey '13



**FLYNN PAUL
EGENREIDER**
BORN AUGUST 13, 2016

Joshua '16 and Kendra
(Nead) Egenreider '15



**OLIVER DEXTER
CHAPMAN**
BORN DECEMBER 9, 2015

Dexter '12 and Rachel
(Muncy) Chapman '11



**CLAIRE
ELIZABETH HUBE**
BORN NOVEMBER 16, 2016

Dustin '14 and Kelsea (Dicks) Hube '16

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



KELLY HOTT
BACHELOR'S IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY 2010 &
MASTER'S IN PASTORAL COUNSELING AND
LEADERSHIP 2013

My name is Kelly Hott, and I just celebrated 25 years of marriage on November 2, 2016! Nearly 17 years of those have been serving my Lord and Savior!

Today I rejoice in saying that I work at Amazing Grace Church in Grove City, Ohio, with approximately 350 members. I am the Pastoral Counselor Ministry Team Leader of the Compassion Ministry. I work with united team members to minister to those who are ill, in need, or going through life changes. We send cards, prepare meals, donate, visit hospitals and nursing homes, help families welcome new babies, and even serve concessions for Upwards Basketball. We are serving as the hands and feet of Christ to the needy and broken-hearted.

I also work part-time for King's Kids Daycare Center for the Pre-K and Kindergarten classes. There is nothing compared to showing a child love through teaching and caring, especially when it involves praying and Jesus!

I couldn't have achieved any of this without the love and knowledge I gained through OCU. My goals are written in the palms of God's hands! He knows just where He is leading me.

HOMECOMING WEEKEND



Legacy Chapel / Melody Foster,
Vickie Morrison, and Mike Grable



Homecoming / Alyson Gritter

OHIO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES 10 YEARS!



Annual Josias Rodriguez 5k / Runners
at the 4th Annual Josias Rodriguez 5K



Torch Run / Homecoming Torch Run Runners



Homecoming / Larry & Janice Lane

Homecoming at Ohio Christian University is a time for students, faculty, staff and alumni to celebrate heritage, traditions and friendships. This year's Homecoming celebrations focused on bonds forged and connections remembered; students and alumni mingle together as the past, present and the future to celebrate OCU's 10th anniversary.

This year's Homecoming featured many events including the Ohio Golf Tournament, FNL Reunion Show featuring Alumnus Derrick Radcliff, Josias Rodriguez 5K Run & Walk, and the Annual Legacy Chapel.

Legacy Chapel Awards honored

- Pastor of the Year: Rev. Bruce Morrison '10
- Young Alumnus of the Year: Andrea Gambill-Smith '11
- Special recognition: Dr. David Lattimer for his time and service to the Kingdom.



FNL Reunion Show /
Senior Allen Roberts



Legacy Chapel /
Dr. Doug Carter

**SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT
YEAR'S OCU HOMECOMING
OCTOBER 12-14, 2017.**



Golf Outing / \$20,000 raised!



FNL Reunion Show / from left: DJ Malone,
Derek Radcliff, and Jason Otero

HARVEST HOMECOMING

GOSPEL CONCERT SERIES

The Harvest Homecoming Concert event produced by Abraham Productions, Inc. continues to grow in popularity as 2016 had the highest attendance to date. A first class lineup of national talent along with great speakers makes this event a crowd pleaser. More than 30 attendees made decisions for Jesus Christ during the 2016 event held October 13-15. Emily Ann Roberts, semi-finalist from “The Voice 2015,” was a huge hit with both the concert audience and with OCU students.

To continue building on the success, Harvest Homecoming 2017 will coincide with the OCU Homecoming celebration week allowing OCU Alumni and their families to experience this first-class event. To compliment the celebration week, Harvest Homecoming will be consolidated into two evening events and will feature the best in Christian music and speakers. Michael Booth of The Booth Brothers presented a phenomenal message in 2016, as did OCU President Mark Smith. Both speakers have agreed to return for the 2017 event.



The Hoppers





SAVE THE DATE - OCT. 12-13, 2017

The 2017 lineup will include The Booth Brothers, The Hoppers, Ivan Parker, Karen Peck & New River, The Talleys, The Whisnants, The Guardians, The Lore Family, Persuaded, and The Stevens Family.

Tickets for Harvest Homecoming 2017 will go on sale on March 16, 2017, and can be reserved by calling toll free **888-238-6858** or may be purchased online at **abrahamproductions.net**.

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The music you love! The vacation you deserve!



Booth Brothers



The Talleys



Emily Ann Roberts

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



PAUL SMITH
MASTER OF ARTS IN MINISTRY
ALUMNUS

The Alumni Relations office is excited to highlight Paul Smith, an alumnus of Ohio Christian University. Paul is a long-time resident of Central Ohio, graduating from Otterbein University with a double major in Religion and Speech Communication and a minor in Philosophy.

Paul has served as Children's Pastor, Youth Pastor, and Executive Pastor. Paul has made a career move and is now climbing the corporate ladder. His present position is the Managing Director at the Surace-Smith Group, a benefits company that handles the permanent benefits for over 30,000 unions and groups for the last 65 years. In this position the company he is working for is offering our current Ohio Christian University students the opportunity to intern with them based upon certain criteria. We are pleased to have our students work alongside Paul and Surace-Smith as they develop their leadership and business skills.

Paul's experience at OCU provided a strong foundation in leadership skills as well as helped to develop his people skills. Through critical thinking exercised in his courses, he was able to develop a strong ability to assess a situation and determine the best solution. These skills developed and strengthened at OCU have helped him to advance into a strong leader.

His relationships and experiences at OCU have taught him how to successfully manage a multi-billion dollar company, while continuing to grow both personally and professionally. Congratulations, Paul, on your accomplishments.

COMING EVENTS

- **February 2-4:** OCU Florida Golf Classic
- **February 24:** Residential Undergraduate Preview Day
- **March 18:** Dinner Concert 5:30 PM
- **March 24:** Residential Undergraduate Preview Day
- **March 30:** Scholarship Banquet
- **April 11:** Leadership Forum
Executive Session: 11am-4pm
Pastoral Conference: 2-4pm
Main Event: 6-8pm
- **April 8:** OCU Graduation in Georgia
- **April 21:** Residential Undergraduate Preview Day
- **April 29:** OCU Graduation in Circleville
- **June 20-25:** Mount of Praise Camp Meeting
June 22: OCU Night at Mt. of Praise Camp Meeting
- **October 12-14:** Homecoming Weekend
- **October 13:** 26th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament

DINNER CONCERT



MARCH 18, 2017
5:30PM Dinner
6:45PM Concert

\$35 for dinner and concert
or **\$15** for concert only

Get tickets online today at
www.ohiochristian.edu/dinnerconcert



OCU ALUMNUS DR. DAN SCHAFER NAMED WORLD GOSPEL MISSION PRESIDENT

In January, World Gospel Mission held a regional retreat of its South American fields. This event brought together 45 people from across the continent along with officials from the United States.

In addition to the excellent training sessions that were held, it also became a great time to meet OCU graduate, and new WGM President, Dr. Dan Schafer and his wife Pam. Dr. Schafer is a 1979 graduate of Ohio Christian University.

There were eight OCU graduates present and they serve through WGM in the United States, Bolivia, and Paraguay. OCU is an important part of what God is doing through World Gospel Mission.

Back row from left / Mark Donahue (class of '82), Marlene Post McGrady ('80), Ned McGrady ('82), Dan Schafer ('79).

Front row from left / Bev Susanna Cordell Donahue ('83), Weadette Burge ('03), Donna Sweet Brown ('81) and Michael Brown ('83).

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leadership expert, coach to
fortune 500 CEOs, EQUIP®
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MICHAEL REDD

Former Milwaukee Bucks
star athlete and member of
the gold medal winning, U.S.
national basketball team