

**OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY SEEKS A CREATIVE AND VISIONARY LEADER TO JOIN ITS VIBRANT CAMPUS COMMUNITY WITH A PASSION FOR LIFE AND LEARNING IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT.** The inaugural Executive Director of OWU Career Connection will have the unique opportunity of building a program, in concert with the faculty leadership, that will guide students to fully identify and embrace the endless opportunities before them with an Ohio Wesleyan University education.

**CONNECT TODAY**  
create tomorrow

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
OWU CAREER CONNECTION**

Ohio  
Wesleyan  
University

## Mission and Vision

Ohio Wesleyan's charter provided that "the University is forever to be conducted on the most liberal principles, accessible to all religious denominations, and designed for the benefit of our citizens in general."

In the spirit of this heritage, the University defines itself as a community of teachers and students devoted to the free pursuit of truth. It attempts to develop in its students the qualities of intellect and character that will be useful no matter what they choose to do in later life. The discovery, transmission, and extension of knowledge are central to the liberal arts tradition.

While encouraging professional scholarship and feeling justifiably proud of its faculty and graduates who enjoy national or international reputations in their fields, the University has as its preeminent purpose to be a quality institution for teaching and learning. Because effective teaching is of the highest importance, members of the faculty regularly are reviewed and evaluated for excellence in teaching.

To the extent that Ohio Wesleyan educates liberally, it fulfills its ultimate purpose of equipping students with knowledge, competence, and character for leadership, service, and continued learning in a complex and increasingly global society.



## About the University

Ohio Wesleyan University is a selective, nationally-ranked, residential liberal arts college of 1,600 students founded in 1842 and located on 200 beautiful acres in Delaware, Ohio. The charming city of Delaware retains its small-town qualities while benefiting from its close proximity to downtown Columbus, just 30 minutes from campus. It is situated in Delaware County, which is among the top 20 fastest-growing areas in the country.

The OWU community is active and engaged, and its faculty, staff, and students share informed opinions and ideas in rich campus conversations. Ohio Wesleyan's historic commitment to "practical idealism" affirms that an education that blends theory and practice, thought and action, inquiry and engagement, and the campus and the world has the power to transform the lives of students by equipping them to become leaders who have a compelling impact on the world in which they will live and work.

OWU students are academically gifted and highly motivated, with 32 percent of the first-year students having ranked in the top 10 percent of their respective high school classes. The student body is 47 percent male and 53 percent female. Students hail from 45 states and U.S. Territories and 26 countries. Fifty-three percent come to OWU from within Ohio. International and multi-cultural students represent 30 percent of the student body.

Ohio Wesleyan's student outcomes are strong. In a survey of 2017 graduates, 95 percent of respondents reported being employed or enrolled in graduate school. In recent years, OWU students have been named Goldwater Scholars, Fulbright Scholars, NSF Graduate Research Fellows, NCAA Postgraduate Scholars, Gilman International Scholars, and semi-finalists in the Rhodes Scholarship competition.

Students are taught and mentored by 137 full-time faculty. The average class size is 17, and the student faculty ratio is 11:1. OWU students consistently rate the faculty highly for quality of teaching, excitement about their academic disciplines, mentoring, commitment, and accessibility. At Ohio Wesleyan, 100 percent of full-time, tenure-track faculty hold a Ph.D. or the equivalent terminal degree in their discipline.



IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, Ohio Wesleyan's faculty have published opinion pieces, been interviewed as experts, and published research in outlets including *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Harper's*, the Associated Press, MSNBC, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *The Hechinger Report*, and the *Journal of Avian Biology*. Many faculty engage students in their creative and scholarly endeavors.

Because of its commitment to excellence in liberal arts education, Ohio Wesleyan is ranked among the top universities in the nation. OWU is one of only 44 institutions in the country featured in the influential guidebook *Colleges That Change Lives*. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked it one of the finest liberal arts colleges in its 2017 edition of *America's Best Colleges*. The Princeton Review listed it among the Best 381 Colleges and Best Midwestern colleges. *The Fiske Guide to Colleges* has called Ohio Wesleyan one of the "best and most interesting" four-year colleges in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain and a "small school with a big commitment to providing its students with a well-rounded education." OWU ranks No. 1 in Ohio and No. 17 among "America's Most Entrepreneurial Colleges," according to Forbes magazine.

Ohio Wesleyan has long been seen as an institution striving to ensure a strong return on investment, The Princeton Review's 2018 *Colleges That Pay You Back* identifies OWU as a "Best Bang for Your Tuition Buck." OWU is featured in *Money Magazine's* "Best Colleges for Your Money" and Kiplinger's 2018 *Best College Values*.

## Affiliations

Ohio Wesleyan is a charter member of the Great Lakes Colleges Association – a consortium of 13 nationally-acclaimed liberal arts colleges. Drawing upon the combined resources of the GLCA, Ohio Wesleyan students have ready access to a wealth of internship, undergraduate research, and off-campus study opportunities. GLCA member colleges include Albion, Allegheny, Antioch, Denison, DePauw, Earlham, Hope, Kalamazoo, Kenyon, Oberlin, Ohio Wesleyan, Wabash, and the College of Wooster.

In addition, Ohio Wesleyan is part of the Five Colleges of Ohio, which includes Denison, Kenyon, Oberlin, Ohio Wesleyan and Wooster. The "Ohio Five" was formed to foster closer cooperation and understanding, coordinate operating functions and administrative services, develop collaborative academic programs and resource sharing, and enhance quality while reducing individual and collective operating and capital costs among the member institutions.

Ohio Wesleyan is also a member of Colleges That Change Lives, an organization "dedicated to the advancement and support of a student-centered college search process."



Wesleyan's residential and athletic facilities and has increased campus residency from 81 percent to 89 percent of the student body.

Jones came to Ohio Wesleyan from Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas, where he served as executive vice president and dean of advancement, vice president for enrollment and dean of admission and financial aid, interim vice president for student affairs, and chaplain. He holds a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of Texas-Austin, a master of divinity *magna cum laude* from the Duke University Divinity School, and a bachelor of arts with honors from Hendrix College, where he received the college's President's Medal, presented to the student who best exemplifies the school's highest ideals.

## Leadership

Rock Jones, Ph.D., was inaugurated as Ohio Wesleyan's 16th president in October 2008. Jones' innovative leadership has resulted in the creation of a strategic plan to solidify further Ohio Wesleyan's position as a national leader in liberal education.

Philanthropic support has helped to transform the campus during Jones' tenure, with more than \$25 million devoted to student and scholarship aid and commitments for several newly endowed professorships. Jones also has led an intense effort to update Ohio

## Financial Resources

Ohio Wesleyan's financial situation is secure, with an excellent debt-to-endowment ratio of \$25 million in debt to \$240 million in endowment. The current \$200 million **Connect Today, Create Tomorrow** comprehensive campaign is the largest in school history and is renewing the commitment to the founding principles as well as charting a bold path forward. To date, \$161.5 million has been raised around the priorities of investing in the faculty, student scholarships and financial aid, The OWU Connection, capital improvements and annual giving. The campaign is a full year ahead of schedule in commitments received.





## Student Life and Athletics

Ohio Wesleyan affords students numerous means of becoming involved in campus life **with nearly 100 clubs and organizations** that present valuable leadership opportunities. OWU has a strong history of promoting social awareness and civic engagement among its students, and 70 percent of students participate in community services in a given year. Seventy-five percent of students will engage in community service throughout their time at OWU. Annually, an average of 60 students travel during spring break to complete service activities. In 2017-18, 42 students participated in the institution's Interfaith Service Trips.

The OWU fraternity and sorority community was founded in 1853; currently, 36 percent of students are involved. Nearly 90 percent of all students live in campus-owned housing, and the unique living-learning environments encourage interpersonal connections and help shape students into collaborative, socially-aware citizens. Club and intramural sports are also part of the Ohio Wesleyan lifestyle, with 80 percent of OWU students participating in some sort of organized recreational activity. Wilderness treks and other outdoor learning experiences are available.

Ohio Wesleyan is a member of the NCAA Division III and the North Coast Athletic Conference. Approximately 27 percent of students participate in intercollegiate athletics on a combined total of 25 teams, including 13 women's teams and 12 men's teams.



## Diversity and Inclusion

Ohio Wesleyan is committed to providing a supportive and richly diverse culture on its campus, where the liberal arts can flourish and students can best grow, succeed, and achieve.

OWU's academic programs explore global issues and cultures from diverse perspectives. Social programs celebrate the diverse cultures on campus. Students from all backgrounds are welcome, from across the nation, and from around the world. Services are provided to help support the social and academic goals of all students, and leadership opportunities are offered through a wide range of student organizations. Graduating seniors regularly reflect on the important role the diversity of the student body played in their OWU experience.

Ohio Wesleyan's rich athletic tradition reaches back to the 19th century, when the first football game played by Ohio State University was hosted by OWU. OWU's scholar-athletes achieve at the highest levels on the field and in the classroom. Last year, 75 Ohio Wesleyan Bishops were named to the NCAC Academic Honor Roll, and five were named Academic All-Americans. This year's athletics accomplishments include the NCAA Division III men's basketball player of the year and the women's high jump indoor national champion.

OWU believes completely in the integration of academics and athletics. The sports teams have faculty partners who help the students adjust to college academics and succeed in their studies as well as their sports.

## Alumni

Ohio Wesleyan graduates go on to lead lives of consequence in the arts, education, business, government, law, medicine and other worthy fields. In academia, Frank Sherwood Rowland '48, won the 1995 Nobel Prize for chemistry for his research on the depletion of the Earth's ozone layer. Ezra Vogel '50, is a prominent author on China-Japan issues and was the director of Harvard's Fairbank Center for East Asian Research. William Hsiao '59, is an economist in the field of international health and the designer of a landmark study to examine the United States' system of reimbursing physicians for medical services.

Numerous Ohio Wesleyan alumni have been associated with social justice. Branch Rickey, Class of 1904, was a baseball manager and executive known for signing Jackie Robinson as the first African-American in Major League Baseball. Mary King '62, worked alongside the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the U.S. civil rights movement when she was a young student, and was a member of the staff of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

In politics, Charles Fairbanks, Class of 1872, was the 26th Vice-President of the United States. Jo Ann Emerson '72, serves as a U.S. Representative from Missouri. Arthur Flemming '27, was Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, was known for his commitment to civil rights,

was the recipient of two Presidential Medals of Freedom, and served as president of University of Oregon, Ohio Wesleyan University, and Macalester College. Lucy Webb Hayes, Class of 1853, wife of U.S. President Rutherford B. Hayes, was the first woman to be called First Lady, and the first First Lady to hold a college degree.

Notable journalists and media personalities include Frank Stanton '30, a past president of CBS known for supporting broadcast journalism before Congress; Greg Moore '76, a past editor-in-chief of the *Denver Post*; Byron Pitts '82, co-anchor of "Nightline" and formerly of "60 Minutes;" Wendie Malick '72, an Emmy-nominated actress recognized for her roles on "Just Shoot Me!," "Hot in Cleveland," and "This is Us;" Patricia Wettig '74, from "Prison Break;" and Clark Gregg '84, from "The New Adventures of Old Christine."

## Academic Mission and Curriculum

Ohio Wesleyan, a Phi Beta Kappa campus known for its rigor and excellence, offers a liberal arts education that combines personal attention and guidance, **a vast array of majors**, global travel, research, and internships to help students find their passion and make it their career. Collaborating with professors on research projects, obtaining grants to explore new academic terrain, gaining practical experience from internships, and participating in sports, clubs, and service activities are just some of the opportunities available at the University.

In 2016, OWU added a business administration major, and has recently launched eight new majors in the rapidly growing fields of data analytics, communication, environmental science, film studies, Middle Eastern studies, and nutrition; and in fulfilling areas such as social justice and special education. Top students can also apply for new scholar programs in accounting and global studies.

The Delaware Entrepreneurial Center, opening at OWU in Fall 2018, is believed to be the first in the nation that is a partnership among a university, city, and county. It will serve students from across the University.



## The OWU Connection: THINK BIG, GO GLOBAL, GET REAL

The majority of Ohio Wesleyan students participate in **The OWU Connection**, a personalized and expertly-guided four-year program that includes a guaranteed signature experience (travel, research, or internship) and opportunities to create a degree plan from more than 90 academic majors and 60 minors. The flexible interdisciplinary curriculum, strengthened by a closely-knit residential learning environment, encourages students to combine majors and disciplines to create individualized academic programs. Twenty-seven percent of OWU students have at least two majors, one of the highest percentages at any college or university in the country.

The OWU Connection helps students connect academic theory with real world practice in a global context. The substantial expansion of global opportunities has resulted in the creation of **54 Travel-Learning Courses** in which students embark on trips to explore in-person the topics studied in class. Nearly 70 percent of the Class

of 2017 benefited from an experience outside of their home country as part of their OWU education.

Successful outcomes post-graduation are a product of The OWU Connection, and students work closely with professors and advisors who help them find their passion and build a program to make it a career. The intimate classes and personal attention of a small, liberal arts college combined with the vast opportunities typically found at a big university help to create a unique experience that prepares students for the next step and for a lifetime of learning and growth.

The OWU Connection helps develop the knowledge, skills, and experience that employers and grad schools value most: the ability to think critically, analyze complex problems, work in diverse teams, and communicate effectively. Over and over, OWU graduates link their jobs or grad school placements directly to their OWU Connection experience. Ninety-five percent of graduates report having immediate success in becoming employed or enrolled in a graduate program shortly following graduation, and 81 percent of graduates report they are working in their field of choice.

# OWU Career Connection Center

Ohio Wesleyan's commitment to a practical liberal arts education will be realized with the creation of the OWU Career Connection Center. The Career Connection Center will move beyond the traditional Career Services model and will leverage and be intertwined with the signature OWU Connection experience that sets Ohio Wesleyan University apart from its peers.

Faculty and administrators are currently in collaboration through the Curricular Cohesion Task Force to ensure the Career Connection experience will provide students with enhanced faculty-driven, career-focused mentorship as well as opportunities to engage the Connection through internships, independent research projects, and other vehicles. The faculty is committed to integrating the OWU Connection and Career Connection programs into the curriculum.

The new Career Connection Center, will provide students with a guided entry into OWU with a series of programs and assessments designed to help students understand their own strengths and how those may relate to career options. It will also provide a guided exit to ensure students are prepared for their first job as well as a lifetime of work. Along the way, students will follow a four-year pathway making connections between their academic experience and life after OWU.

An essential component of the journey will be a guaranteed internship and undergraduate research

experience available to every student. In order to offer this guarantee of **career-related internships**, there will be a significant expansion of outreach and requested involvement from alumni. Many alumni can offer internships or leverage their contacts to create opportunities for OWU students. Alumni will also be asked to serve as mentors. Expanding on previous career services offerings, the Career Connection Center will better integrate with The OWU Connection and more closely align with Alumni Relations to leverage alumni interest in student mentoring, externships, and internships.

To enable more alumni engagement and to leverage other potential employer relationships, the Career Connection Center is now a part of the Advancement division. To support increased programming and student opportunities, the Career Connection Center is a key fundraising focus in the **current campaign** as part of a \$35 million dollar objective for the OWU Connection. A current proposal is on the table that would place the OWU Career Connection Center in Slocum Hall, where it will have a powerful presence on campus and be co-located with the Office of Admission. This would send a clear signal to prospective students and their families that students, upon completion of their degree, will be ready for their first job and prepared for a lifetime of fulfilling work.





## Executive Director of Career Connection

Partnering closely with faculty and staff colleagues, the executive director will develop and execute a shared vision for a comprehensive and modern career center rooted in OWU's mission of practical idealism, serving students throughout their undergraduate and early postgraduate years. The executive director and his or her team will help students prepare for and then thrive in life after OWU. Reporting to the vice president for University Advancement, the executive director will manage a 4-member team and will grow the center staff to include internship coordinators designated by field of interest. The ED will work closely with leadership to develop a clear plan to grow staff and budget as needed to meet the expanding mandate.

### Opportunities and Challenges

**Engage and collaborate with faculty and staff in the creation and implementation of the OWU Career Connection Center to ensure their involvement and expertise are fully utilized and leveraged.** It is essential to fully integrate the OWU Connection and Career offerings into the curriculum of the institution. Building strong relationships with faculty and the entire academic affairs division to collaboratively identify

opportunities for appropriate integration of career and vocational exploration in the classroom or through departmental programs and initiatives is expected. In addition, The Career Connection staff will have a strong collaborative relationship with faculty and work together to ensure the curriculum will guide the students in reflecting on what they are learning in the classroom and how to showcase their learnings as transferable skills.

**Leverage passionate and engaged alumni to offer students access to internship opportunities, serve as guest speakers, and partner with students as mentors and coaches.** Coordinate with colleagues in University Advancement and Alumni Relations to build a corps of engaged alumni volunteers who will mentor students and young alumni and share stories of their own career or vocation exploration as well as professional contacts. Provide structure and frameworks to support alumni hiring student interns, ensuring a positive experience for both constituencies. In addition, work to develop multifaceted outreach and engagement strategies with corporate partners.

**Provide compelling and clear information to the community to increase student awareness and usage of Career Connection Centers resources.** In addition, the executive director will equip students, their families and faculty to recognize and communicate the incredible value proposition of a liberal arts skill set in career/vocational settings.

**Act as the public face of the Career Connection Center to build strong relationships internally and externally and to attract additional resources.** The executive director will be an energetic, engaging and passionate advocate for the Career Connection Center and will actively strive to connect with students, parents, alumni, faculty, employers, trustees, and foundation and higher education leaders.

## Desired Skills, Experiences, and Personal Qualities

The executive director will be a creative, diplomatic, and innovative leader able to engage others in the creation and execution of a shared vision. Successful candidates will demonstrate progressively responsible leadership with a track record of launching a program or significantly improving or growing a program. Candidates should have the ability to help students realize and embrace the endless opportunities before them with an excellent liberal arts education. An advanced degree is preferred. Experience with career services and student development is preferred. In addition, the successful candidate will demonstrate many of the following professional and personal attributes:

- Comprehensive and contemporary knowledge of career and vocation services, trends and best practices, and employment trends and markets;
- A commitment to and strong belief in a liberal arts education and the broad interests of liberal arts graduates, and the unique worth of a liberal arts degree;
- A collaborative and inclusive leadership style and a shared sense of the University's core values, which include embracing a broad and diverse spectrum

of people and ideas within a warm and supportive community;

- Strong program development and execution skills; ability to create a vision and gain buy-in from key stakeholders;
- Confidence in communicating and establishing mutual trust with faculty, staff, trustees and other key partners along with the ability to serve as a compelling and creative spokesperson for the University;
- Ability to develop and nurture effective relationships and communications with current students and alumni and parent volunteers;
- Ability to identify, mentor and develop talented staff, with measurable goals and clear objectives;
- Adept at navigating a range of personalities and priorities with grace, diplomacy, humility and a sense of humor;
- Proven track record of generating and nurturing relationships with potential employers across industry sectors; parents and alumni; domestic and international career resource centers; and
- Skilled at budget management and resource development.

## Nominations and Applications

Review of candidates will begin immediately. For best consideration, **please send all confidential nominations, inquiries, and expressions of interest to:**

**Ms. Susan VanGilder**

**Ms. Holly Jackson**, *Senior Associate*

**Ms. Kenna Boyd**, *Associate*

Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates, LP

**OWUDirectorCareer@storbecksearch.com**

*Ohio Wesleyan University is strongly committed to diversity within its community and encourages all interested applicants, including women and minorities, to apply (EEOE).*