MURAL MASTERPIECE
More than 200 OWU students, faculty, and staff members came together during Homecoming Weekend to create a new mural that celebrates diversity, social justice, acceptance, and the importance of community. See our story on page 7.
Features

12 Home Sweet Home in the City
Making a dent in housing inequities.
Three alumni thank their OWU professor for showing them the way.

18 The Mathematics Behind the Melting
How do glaciers respond to our ever-changing climate?
A troupe of Ohio Wesleyan researchers traveled to Alaska to gather important data and put their mathematical modeling skills to work.

26 Libby and Art—and Jeff Davis ’81
Promoting the liberal arts, 140 characters at a time.

30 Celebrating 30 Years of Inspired Learning
For the last three decades, the Sagan National Colloquium has linked the liberal arts to the civic arts of citizenship.

Departments

02 LEADER’S LETTER
03 LETTERS
04 FROM THE JAYWALK
08 GIFTS AND GRATITUDE
09 IN WRITING
10 COMFORT ZONES
17 OWU TIMESCAPES
28 BISHOP BATTLES
34 ALUMNI PROFILE
36 ALUMNI HAPPENINGS
38 CLASS notes
48 THE FINAL WORD

ON THE COVER: Carol Galante ’76 led efforts to develop affordable housing in the San Francisco Bay area before President Obama selected her to serve in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Cover photography courtesy of San Francisco Business Times.
The question grows weary on those of us who feel the answer is so clear. But the persistence of the question reflects a growing concern in the larger society that demands our attention. The question is simple and yet profound: What is the value of a liberal arts education?

Ohio Wesleyan’s charter states 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.” The liberal principles on which this university was founded do not represent political ideology. They represent a claim that there is nothing more important than liberation of the mind from old, narrow ways of thinking in order to imagine a new and better future.

Our society renews itself when individuals are free to imagine a better, more just, more humane world. Our quality of life advances with scientific and technological innovation that occurs when people are free to imagine new and creative solutions to old and complex problems. The creativity of the artist is reflected in the entrepreneurial spirit that gives birth to bold new ideas in business, industry, public service, education, and the very fabric that holds our society together.

A liberal arts education forms the intellectual capacities, the social sensitivities, and the moral foundations necessary to engage in such life-changing, life-giving innovation. A liberal arts education challenges students to hone capacities for critical and analytical thinking, to master the ability to communicate persuasively, to work with teams of people to explore complex problems from multiple perspectives, to listen smartly and learn that asking the right question almost always precedes discovering the right answer, to embrace diversity as a source of creativity and power, and to develop empathy as a tool for human flourishing.

Imagine the challenges facing our world today: global conflict and the search for peace; climate change; population growth and hunger; the increasing scarcity of potable water; poverty. At its best, a liberal arts education leads one to consider big ideas in search of big solutions.

For 17 decades, Ohio Wesleyan alumni have taken the benefit of a liberal arts education into the world, where they have made impacts, small and large, in communities, on the national or global stage, in industry and commerce, and in public service. In this issue of OWU Magazine, we share some recent stories of alumni who have launched big ideas to make a difference, ideas that come naturally to those with the benefit of a liberal arts education. And we explore how the campus works to foster that kind of thinking today, through a travel-learning course focused on mathematical models of climate change, and the Sagan National Colloquium’s focus on water.

In the basement of St. Paul’s Cathedral in London lies the grave of Sir Christopher Wren, the architect who designed the cathedral. The Latin engraving can be translated, “If you seek his monument—look around you.”

What is the value of a liberal arts education? The evidence is all around us.

Thank you for your support of Ohio Wesleyan and for your affirmation of the value of a liberal arts education.

Rock Jones
President, Ohio Wesleyan University
Letters

Teaching Legacies
I enjoyed reading through the Fall edition of OWU Magazine and stories devoted to teaching excellence.

Throughout my teaching career, I came to recognize the superiority of the education that I received during my years at Ohio Wesleyan as compared to my colleagues who graduated from other colleges and universities. The best realization of this came when a middle school student in the later years of my career told me: “Mr. Alspach, there is not a question that you cannot answer.”

The blend of my scientific and liberal arts education at OWU, coupled with some excellent public school teachers in the Lancaster, Ohio, school system that I experienced, led to such an observation. My graduate work in the zoology, botany, and education departments of several universities also made major contributions to my students providing such feedback. But it was Ohio Wesleyan that made the difference. The impact of Professors Hahnert, Chase, Stull, Shirling, Bossert, Maxwell, Jennings, Leathers, Crosby, and so many others helped me to be the effective educator that I think I became.

—Robert Alspach ’65

New OWU Magazine
What a fine job you and your staff have done in upgrading the OWU Magazine. The thematic content of the Fall 2014 issue, and its format and photography, are just outstanding! The theme of teaching excellence, and the influence of prior individual OWU professors upon current ones (at OWU and elsewhere), seemed to capture the essential heart of the University, in both the past and present. I think I recall someone as having written to the effect that the influence of a great teacher upon the future has no limits or boundaries (I’m paraphrasing). This issue illustrates that point vividly.

The photography jumps off the page—like the inside front cover, for example. Congratulations to you and your staff.

—Jim Russell ’65

Congratulations on my newest OWU Magazine. With 20 years of teaching in New Jersey and Michigan, “The Art of Teaching” (Fall 2014) was read with joy.

—Betty Cramer ’52

Thanks for the very clever issue of the Fall 2014 OWU Magazine. Ohio Wesleyan was always known for its emphasis on excellent teaching. Thanks to the Magazine staff, the message will be broadcast loud and clear.

—Evan Bukey ’62

Today’s Tech-Savvy Students
“A Delicate Balance” in the Fall 2014 OWU Magazine made me think about the advantages and disadvantages of learning via devices such as iPads, e-textbooks, laptops, and through social media. I brought my MacBook, iPad, Kindle, and iPhone to campus with me this year and probably use all of them at some points. Using my laptop, for example, allows me to get more information down during the class period than I would be able to do if I were writing, but there are bound to be people who play on Facebook or surf the Internet when they should be listening to their professors. I tend to buy e-versions of my textbooks as well, which allows me to have back issues and carry fewer heavy textbooks. As for social media, I am not a huge fan, but still do connect with friends and family via Facebook.

—Megan Buys ’15

OWU Magazine welcomes your thoughts of 300 words or less. Please sign and include your class year. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Please address your letter to: OWU Magazine, 61 South Sandusky Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015, or share at magazine.owu.edu/yourthoughts.
Top Prez Award Goes to Rock Jones

OWU President Rock Jones has earned the 2014 Outstanding Performance as a College or University President Award from Region IV-East of the National Association of Student Personnel Administration (NASPA).

Through this award, the eight-state/province organization recognizes a college or university president or chancellor in that region who has, over a sustained period, “advanced the quality of student life on campus by supporting student affairs staff and programs.”

Jones was nominated jointly by Craig Ullom, vice president for student affairs, and Kimberlie Goldsberry, dean of students.

In their nomination letter, Ullom and Goldsberry describe Jones as a visionary, and “a great communicator, a thoughtful listener, and someone who is a highly visible presence to all key OWU constituents, including students, parents, employees, and alumni.” They cite Jones’ focus on improving the residential environment and learning experiences in OWU’s residence halls, resulting in more than $20 million of investments in student housing, with more fundraising and planning underway for a comprehensive student housing master plan that will total $80 million.

“Complementing these student-centered facility improvements, Rock provides exceptional leadership in enhancing the curriculum and generously funding student-originated Theory-to-Practice Grants that support learning experiences in the United States and abroad since 2009,” say Ullom and Goldsberry. In addition, hundreds of OWU students have experienced study-away programs coupled with dozens of Travel-Learning courses made affordable by extensive underwriting of costs by the University.

“Dr. Jones is a truly inspirational leader,” wrote senior Lauren Holler and junior Jerry Lherisson, 2014 president and vice president, respectively, of the Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs, in a separate nomination letter. “He not only connects with students on a personal level to advance the student experience, but he also reminds us on a daily basis that we belong to a global society and that it is important to be moral leaders. The example that Dr. Jones sets is something that stays with students for the rest of their lives.”

Yet another award endorsement came from alumna and University Trustee Kathe Law Rhinesmith ‘64, who lauded Jones’ support of faculty efforts to enhance the curriculum with the creation of the OWU Connection. Jones received the Outstanding Performance Award on November 3 during the 2014 NASPA Region IV-East Conference in Columbus.

give us 5

This fall, the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs sponsored a series of five noontime workshops for students, designed to help them recognize and adjust to the life-phases all students experience during their college years. Coordinator of the lunch discussions, Terree Stevenson ’95, director of multicultural student affairs, describes the student development theory known as the “W Curve,” including: honeymoon, cultural shock, initial adjustment, mental isolation, and acceptance phases experienced by first-year students. Says Christine Pinder ’18, “Attending the OMSA workshops allowed me to put the actual amount of time I have in perspective so I can better manage that time.”

22

OWU’s women’s basketball team donated a No. 22 Battling Bishops jersey to the Jerseys for Lauren charity auction. Additional items were auctioned through November 16 to raise funds in the name of Lauren Hill, a 19-year-old freshman basketball player at the NCAA Division III Mount St. Joseph University in Cincinnati. She suffers from Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG), which impacts part of the brainstem and inhibits nervous system functions, and she was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer last year. Hill, whose jersey is No. 22, continued playing college basketball throughout her early treatment.
300 Greek students volunteer across Delaware

More than 300 OWU students representing OWU’s Greek organizations volunteered at 13 Delaware sites during Homecoming Weekend. Locales included Liberty Community Center, The Global Village, Main Street Delaware, Family Promise, and several more. Students donated 1,140 hours of their time.

“Our students tackled important projects ranging from campus cleaning, to stocking a food pantry, painting and cleaning community facilities, and lots of leaf raking. We hope our efforts and engagement with the community have shed a positive light on both Greek organizations and OWU students,” says Dana Behum, assistant director of student involvement for fraternity and sorority life.

“Being split into different groups with other chapter members helped strengthen the connections within the Greek community,” says Brianna Robinson ’15.

For Ahmed Abdel Halim ’16, it felt great to help the Delaware community. “Service plays an important role within Greek life and offers the chance to reach out to help make the community a better place.”

300 students
13 sites
1,140 hours

TOP:
Jen Lloyd ’15, Kappa Kappa Gamma, works with her sorority sisters and members of Alpha Sigma Phi to clear leaves at the Oak Grove Cemetery.

MIDDLE:
Ahmed Abdel Halim ’16, Fiji, prepares for painting with his fraternity brothers at Family Promise.

BOTTOM:
Members of Kappa Kappa Gamma, Sara Jane Sheehan ’15, Emma Keller ’16, Sadie Parsons ’16, Nicole Ebert ’16, and Marta Del Cid ’15 organize stock for the Lutheran Social Services Choice Food Pantry.
sweet
tweets

From the JAYwalk

OWU students, faculty, and staff members believe that when used properly, Twitter is a great way to communicate with and stay connected to others. Account holders can form study groups, access world and campus news, tell others about OWU, publicize events, and catch up with friends (or meet new ones). Or, as shown by Libby and Art in our story on page 26, tweets can be used to educate Twitter users about the value of a liberal arts education. Here is a sampling of ways in which people at OWU use Twitter.

**Jennifer Jolley**
Assistant Professor of Music
“I write concert music (orchestral, operas, small ensemble pieces), and I also teach music. I use Twitter to let the general public know how I run my life as a composer while simultaneously advocating my interests. I hope Twitter can help me reach others and inspire them to meet me in person, and quite possibly, visit campus! In 140 characters or less: As a composer, I tweet about new concert music @NANOWorksOpera, & @OhioWesleyan. Find my feed fascinating? Stop by Sanborn and say hi.”

**Carlos Jackson ’16**
OWU Student
“I mostly use Twitter to keep up with what is happening in my friends’ lives.”

**Ben Daigle**
Discovery Services Librarian
“I use Twitter personally to stay in touch with colleagues who share my professional interests. With so many librarians live tweeting from academic conferences, it’s a great way to get the highlights from conferences I’m unable to attend physically. I also manage the Twitter account for the OWU Libraries. We are still exploring the most effective ways to leverage social media, but we currently use Twitter and other social media platforms in the libraries as a way to promote awareness of library services, and as a way to engage students where they are.”

**Brian Rellinger**
Chief Information Officer
“Twitter provides a way to learn about new technologies. Some of my most successful tweets have been beautiful photos of the OWU campus, reaching thousands of people in just a few days. I believe social media technologies such as Twitter will continue to be an important communication tool for universities.”

**Roger Ingles**
Athletics Director
“Twitter is an effective way to spread positive messages about our teams and athletes. It can be very beneficial as a recruiting and news source tool.”

**Rock Jones**
President
“Twitter provides an excellent forum for communicating about events on campus and about the accomplishments of our faculty and students. I like the energy of Twitter and the immediate response, including the ability to share quickly with a wider audience what has been shared with you. It is an important vehicle for communication today.”

**How do you use Twitter?**
Send us your thoughts:
magazine.owu.edu/yourthoughts
or @OWUmagazine

Pictured left to right, are a few campus Twitter users:
Ben Daigle, discovery services librarian;
Jennifer Jolley, assistant professor of music;
Carlos Jackson ’16, and Leslie Melton, director of career services.
Mural, Mural on the Wall

Anything is possible when people put their heads—and spray paint cans—together. And more than 200 students and other members of OWU’s community did just that, as they created a mural masterpiece during Homecoming Weekend. Located in the amphitheater area just outside Hamilton-Williams Campus Center, the mural is a beautiful collage of brightly colored beadwork-like designs created with help from multimedia artist Jaque Fragua. Spearheading the mural project were Kerrigan Boyd ’15 and Catie Beach ’16, who lead the Citizens of the World House and the Student Led Art Movement, respectively. Best of all? OWU now has a beautiful piece of art that celebrates cultural diversity, social justice, and peace.

Says Boyd, “Each dot is unique and stands alone, but they unite to create something even bigger and more beautiful as a whole, like a metaphor for what we aspire to live by and learn at OWU and in the world.”

Read more about OWU’s new mural at connect2.owu.edu/mural
Nancy Hall’s commitment to education was lifelong and life shaping for thousands of elementary school-age children in the Berea City School district, where the 1965 OWU graduate taught for 33 years. And now, thanks to her generosity, foresight, and love for Ohio Wesleyan, that commitment will continue in perpetuity for OWU students with the Nancy J. Hall Endowed Scholarship Fund, recently created with a $615,000 contribution from her estate. It was Nancy’s long-term plan to show her appreciation for the quality OWU education she received. Family members say she wanted others to share that opportunity and give something back to her alma mater.

Reflecting on Nancy’s thoughtful—and quiet—planning, David Papoi ’65 talks about his motivation to be part of this year’s 50th reunion planning and Alumni Weekend celebration. “I want to be out there reminding classmates that we rode along railroad tracks laid by others. Now it’s our duty to lay more tracks for students following us.”

Joining OWU’s Tower Society offers the Papoi family and other members opportunities to do just that by making an estate or deferred gift to Ohio Wesleyan, which David hopes all members of the 50th reunion class will do.

For Robert Alspach, reunion committee comrade, joining Tower Society followed naturally after the death of his mother, who sacrificed throughout her life so he could attend OWU. “Making a Tower Society commitment affirmed what my education really meant to me.”

And that’s what such decisions boil down to—thinking about those things that matter most in life: family, OWU, and the legacy we can leave for others.

For David and many alumni, the 50th reunion milestone encourages cherished thoughts of family, career, and educational benchmarks: sharing OWU memories with wife Pat ’66 and daughter Kristin ’94; retiring from a fulfilling management position at Procter & Gamble; and volunteering for OWU’s advancement and admission offices. David also is a member of the Board of Trustees.

“These are challenging times for liberal arts colleges,” says David. “We have a unique opportunity to help turn things to advantage by donating cash and stock gifts, IRA distributions, and Tower Society deferred gifts.”

He’s ready to rally with ’65 classmates to beat the class goal of $665,000 (up by $1,000 from 2014). This amount plus Nancy’s gift brings 1965’s goal to $1,280,000.

“Helping classmates Connect Today, Create Tomorrow is a gratifying passion for me,” says David, marveling at the new friends from ’65 he’s met on this journey.

- Pam Besel
Sean Kay’s new book, *America’s Search for Security: The Triumph of Idealism and the Return of Realism*, weaves the trendlines in foreign policy against the backdrop of a long-standing tension between American idealism and realism in pursuit of the national interest.

Writing the book seemed a logical next step for Kay, who has been working for decades on the topic of America’s global role and its search for security. Kay has been teaching courses in American foreign policy since 1994 and also served as a foreign and defense advisor to the presidential campaign of Barack Obama in 2007 and 2008.

“The issues in the book are hugely pertinent for all Americans, and hopefully it will serve to spark some fundamental debates about our role in the world which are long overdue,” says Kay, politics and government professor and director of the Arneson Institute for Practical Politics. He also is OWU’s chair of the International Studies Program.

Kay examines how our nation’s idealism and realism in foreign and defense policy worked in balance well up through the end of the Cold War. However, when the two were out of balance and one dominated the other, such as the period after the League of Nations or the Vietnam War, bad things happened, Kay says.

“The book then shows how after the Cold War, this balance that had worked generally well between idealism and realism, was discarded in favor of a loose consensus between liberal interventionists and neoconservatives—who while well intended, produced an outcome of destabilizing overstretch abroad and under-

investment in the economic power and human capital at home. Today, this makes it very difficult for any administration to prioritize effectively, for example, relative to the need to focus first on Asia and to find ways to get allies to do more to advance their interests with American help, but not with America always having to play a lead role in solving other nations’ problems for them.”

Kay hopes readers will get a good sense of America’s role in the world and how it has progressed from its founding period through very recent events.

“I’ve often been surprised in Washington, DC, how very little is known of even relatively recent trendlines historically,” Kay says. “This book gives the reader a sense of how we got to the position we are abroad and at home, and offers a framework for moving forward in a more balanced way in American foreign and defense policy.”

The book was introduced by Susan Eisenhower in Washington, DC, this September at the Eisenhower Institute, named for Susan’s late grandfather, President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Kay is a fellow at the Institute. The book has been met with good reviews and received an endorsement from Douglas Brinkley, one of America’s most prominent historians.

Kay has previously worked at the Institute for National Strategic Studies in the U.S. Department of Defense. He has published several books on the topics of American foreign and defense policy and international security.

Kay’s book can be found at the Ohio Wesleyan bookstore, Amazon.com, and through the publisher.

-Andrea Misko Strle ’99
Jerry Lherrison • A Passion for Politics

It seems that some days you see junior Jerry Lherrison everywhere on campus. After a day (and often late night) of classes, work in the alumni relations office, Jaywalkers (a cappella) practice, peer mentorship meetings with first-generation college students of color, student government meetings, and various other campus activities, he’s glad to be home.

We caught up with Jerry in his Comfort Zone—the library of the Sigma Chi house. The fraternity’s rich history dates back to pre-Civil War days, and today, it is characterized by its close-knit brotherhood and promising student leaders.

“I like the pride that comes with the history and tradition of the Sigma Chi house,” explains Jerry. He feels especially at home in his fraternity’s library, with its hardwood floors and walls adorned with old campus and fraternity photographs, an American flag, and awards garnered over the years by the fraternity.

1 Vote for Jerry
Jerry will be wielding the gavel as the newly elected president of the Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs, after serving as vice president last year. In the past year, WCSA has been leading a study on the campus smoking policy, and Jerry says WCSA plans to address issues such as student retention, gender-inclusive housing, and input on the Student Housing Master Plan.

2 A Future in Government
A double major in Politics and Government and Finance, Jerry says his life after OWU may include law school or political consulting. “My Ohio Wesleyan education and all of these commitments enable me to view everything around me with different lenses, as I hope to someday make a difference in the world.”

3 Very First Roll Book
Sigma Chi’s, that is. It resides in OWU’s Gamma chapter of the fraternity, adding to the pride each member feels in the organization and for those who came before them. The roll book begins with the signatures of the first members of Sigma Chi, founded in 1855. OWU’s Sigma Chi chapter was the second founded, and it is the oldest continuous chapter in the nation.

4 Casually Professional
“I like wearing a jacket, because you can dress it up or down. It’s a good hybrid between being formal in a meeting with President Jones or going out with my friends.”

5 Staying Connected
Whether at work in the Mowry Alumni Center or studying in the Sigma Chi library, Jerry’s Mac Air Pro is close at hand. And, yes, he loves apple juice.

6 Super Pooper Scoopers
Members of Sigma Chi volunteer widely in the Delaware community, and they received this plaque for their outstanding work with shovels as they walked behind the All Horse Parade.

7 The Voices
Jerry takes his a cappella seriously and studies his sheet music. His all-male group, The Jaywalkers, has a record 25 members, and one of Jerry’s solos this year was R Kelly’s “Ignition Remix.”

8 These Shoes Are Made for Walking
“I love walking along hiking trails,” Jerry says. “The weekend before my big brother (Martin Clark ’14) graduated, we walked around Delaware for hours. We walked by where the old Sigma Chi house was. Martin and I took many walks together late at night. It’s the little things like that that are so memorable.”

9 Jock
The 82-pound Doberman Pinscher loves goldfish crackers and carrots. Jock is the Sigma Chi house dog, but everyone says he thinks he’s a cat and loves to jump up and sit on your lap. It wasn’t easy getting him to sit still for this photo.

10 A Reminder of His Roots
On Jerry’s keychain, he carries a skeleton key to a trunk that held his toys when he grew up in Haiti. He and his family moved to Boston when he was 10.

11 The Lady and the Lion
There’s an interesting mix playing on Jerry’s iPhone. Mariah Carey, Louis Armstrong, Beyonce, Bob Dylan, Jay Z, Nina Simone, Lady Gaga, and the Lion King.
HOME SWEET HOME IN THE CITY

REVITALIZING URBAN HOUSING IN AMERICA

Dave Ghose
A TRIO OF OHIO WESLEYAN CLASSMATES FROM THE 1970s, INSPIRED BY THE TEACHING OF PROFESSOR RICHARD FUSCH, ARE LEADERS IN A REVOLUTION TO TRANSFORM AMERICA’S URBAN HOUSING.

In a hot June afternoon, Deborah McColloch ’77 stood in the courtyard of Norris Homes in North Philadelphia. TV cameras pointed at her and the other public officials gathered for a press conference in the run-down public housing complex. McColloch looked on as her boss, Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, announced the big news: an ambitious plan to transform the half-square-mile neighborhood that surrounds the complex.

Modern townhomes would replace the obsolete barracks-style public housing units. Additional affordable and market-rate apartments would rise elsewhere in the neighborhood, while beefed-up educational offerings and social services would benefit needy residents. Nutter and other political leaders called the plan a turning point for a neighborhood that has long struggled with crime, poverty, and unemployment.

“This is a day about the promise of tomorrow, and the future of this city, and the future of this region, and especially the future of this neighborhood,” declared U.S. Sen. Bob Casey at the press conference.

McColloch soaked up the moment. As the director of Philadelphia’s Office of Housing and Community Development, she spearheaded the effort to secure the highly competitive $30 million federal grant that made possible the massive neighborhood transformation plan. The announcement validated her hard work and, in a surprising twist, took her back full circle to the birth of her career nearly four decades ago at Ohio Wesleyan University.

In the mid 1970s, McColloch ’77 met a fellow Ohio Wesleyan student named Carol Galante ’76. They shared a love of cities and urban planning and became fast friends. After graduation, they both went into housing and community development. Galante moved to California, where she eventually headed one of the largest nonprofit developers of affordable housing in the country. In 2011, President Obama appointed Galante to head the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Federal Housing Administration.

When McColloch took her turn at the podium, she talked about her old friend Galante. Though Galante wasn’t at the press conference, she still played a pivotal role. She oversaw the HUD program that awarded Philadelphia the $30 million grant to target distressed public housing.

And like McColloch, Galante firmly believed the ideas of their former OWU professor, Richard Fusch, who preached the importance of urban housing on a human scale—and who inspired them to devote their careers to this profound societal issue.

“I’m so proud of the work that Carol has done,” McColloch says later. “She’s really fabulous, and she’s done fabulous work, and it’s really exciting for me to think that we’re still friends and still fighting the good fight, and here we are connected again through this grant.”

Indeed, it’s an impressive journey. McColloch heads housing and community development in the fifth largest city in the country, while Galante was one of the county’s top federal housing officials until leaving the Obama administration in late October. What’s more, another of their Ohio Wesleyan classmates has risen to prominence in national housing circles,

Emeritus Professor of Geography Richard Fusch

too. Claudia Cappio ’76 serves as the top housing adviser of California Gov. Jerry Brown.

In these important public service roles, the three OWU alumni have had a major impact. They’ve shaped public policy, directed significant projects, and tackled the deep-seated inequities in American society. It’s challenging, absorbing, and rewarding work. “And it all began at Wesleyan,” Cappio says.

He Opened the World

Richard Fusch taught urban geography at Ohio Wesleyan for nearly 40 years. In the class, Fusch, who has conducted research in East Africa, Western Europe, Latin America, East Asia, and the United States, talked about the decline of once viable inner-city neighborhoods and the ghettoization of minority populations.

“Housing is a major issue in American society,” says Fusch, who retired from full-time teaching in 2007. “It has been that way since the beginning of the republic.”

Fusch’s class had a profound impact on McColloch, Galante, and Cappio when they were at OWU. “He opened up the world for us,” Cappio says.

All three had ambitions to go into public service, and Fusch’s class crystallized those plans. “I remember doing a research paper or assignment where I got to work with census data about neighborhoods and the quality of housing, and who lived there,” recalls Galante, who thought she might become a public interest lawyer before taking Fusch’s class. “It really just felt less theoretical and more real than the law, and that’s what really attracted me.”

With Fusch’s help, McColloch, Galante, and Cappio helped Ohio Wesleyan establish a new interdisciplinary urban studies major in 1976. Fusch became the director of the program, which includes courses in geography, economics, sociology, politics, government, and humanities.

“I was interested in this field as an extension of public service,” McColloch says. “I wasn’t interested in planning or urban studies as economic development or real estate development. My interests were more in helping communities.”

After Ohio Wesleyan, all three went to graduate school. Galante and McColloch earned master’s degrees in city planning from the University of California at Berkeley and University of Pennsylvania, respectively. Cappio studied at the University of Minnesota for a year and a half before entering the workforce. “I got too restless,” she says with a laugh.

While still a student at Penn, McColloch took a job as a summer intern with Philadelphia’s Office of Housing and Community Development in 1978. She never left, steadily rising up the ranks until former Philadelphia Mayor John Street appointed her director 10 years ago. (Street’s successor, Nutter, reappointed her when he was elected.)

McColloch’s agency promotes affordable housing and attempts to revitalize struggling neighborhoods. It’s a challenging mission, especially in a city with an old housing stock and lots of poverty. (Philadelphia has the highest rate of “deep poverty”—people with incomes below half of the poverty line—of any of the nation’s 10 largest cities, according to the Philadelphia Inquirer.)

“There are huge problems here,” McColloch says. For instance, McColloch’s office has a four-year waiting list to participate in a $10 million program that helps homeowners make repairs on their properties.

Transforming Lives

Housing also has been Galante’s focus for most of her career. She’s worked in community development for municipalities and headed two Bay Area nonprofit developers, Eden Housing and BRIDGE Housing. She spent 22 years with BRIDGE, the largest builder of affordable communities in California,
becoming its president and CEO after founder Don Terner died in a plane crash in 1996.

Galante says good housing can transform lives. “It’s the foundation, in my view, for being able to build on other assets—education, health, all those things.”

Galante also finds the building process fulfilling. “I kind of get a high from both helping people and seeing the physical product take shape,” she says.

In 2009, Galante left BRIDGE when Obama appointed her deputy assistant secretary for multi-family housing programs at HUD. Two years later, she was named FHA commissioner, a job that put her on the front line in the battle to lift the economy following the 2008 fiscal crisis.

“My entire tenure has been affected by the financial crisis,” says Galante, who left FHA in late October to return to the University of California at Berkeley, where she will teach in the College of Environmental Design and direct the Berkeley Program on Housing and Urban Policy.

FHA, which insures lenders against losses, had to step in to keep capital flowing during the downturn. In 2006, the agency backed $55 billion in new single-family mortgages—an amount that jumped to $330 billion three years later, according to the Wall Street Journal.

“The government and the Federal Housing Administration were really the only people standing,” Galante says. The agency required a $1.7 billion bailout from taxpayers in 2013 to stem mortgage losses, but the financial picture has cleared since then thanks in large part to increased fees.

Cappio also has felt the impact of the fiscal crisis. Unlike classmates Galante and McColloch, Cappio was not focused on housing until recently. “Most of my career has been as more of a generalist,” she says. She spent seven years working for then-Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown, serving as his get-things-done manager of big development projects: streamlining processes and teaming up with Brown to revive Oakland’s lifeless downtown.

When Brown was elected governor in 2010, he recruited Cappio to help him fix the California Housing Finance Agency, which provides financing for developers building affordable housing, as well as for low-income people buying their first home. The Great Recession had vacuumed much of the liquidity out of the agency. Cappio stabilized its finances by reducing variable rate debt by more than $13 billion.

“The messier and the more complicated, the more interesting it is to me,” says Cappio, who accepted a new appointment from Brown in August to lead the 520-employee California Housing and Community Development Department. Cappio says California’s housing market is broken. “We haven’t been building enough housing, and the housing that we have is very expensive, and there’s a huge demand for it,” she says.

Have the housing inequities she learned about in Fusch’s urban geography class four decades ago gotten better since then?

“It’s gotten worse,” she replies. “I live and breathe it every day, and wonder what the hell to do about it.”

Carol Galante: “Good housing can transform lives.”
Claudia Cappio is California Governor Jerry Brown’s top housing adviser.
Deborah McColloch’s agency promotes affordable housing and attempts to revitalize struggling neighborhoods.
If you’re a fan of “The Wire” or you’ve read the book *There Are No Children Here*, you know all about the profound failure of public housing in the United States. Built in the 1950s and 1960s, the monolithic towers of Chicago, New York, and other large U.S. cities became prisons of dysfunction and despair.

“These kinds of public housing projects, which were massive in size and scale, don’t fit American values and attitudes toward housing,” Fusch says. “Housing should be built at a human scale, and housing should be primarily single-family, detached housing.”

In recent years, urban leaders have embraced a new vision of public housing. They’re tearing down the infamous high-rises and replacing them with smaller-scale apartments and homes. They’re also attempting to create more diverse neighborhoods.

“It’s always been understood by planners and designers that you can solve a lot of socioeconomic problems if you disperse low-income populations among higher-income populations,” Fusch says.

McColloch and other Philadelphia leaders have adopted that idea for Norris Homes, the public housing complex in North Philadelphia. In 2011, the Philadelphia Housing Authority tore down the 11-story tower that used to be part of the project. Now, officials will add high-quality, mixed-income housing, while also enlisting partners—such as nearby Temple University—to help residents and their children succeed.

Federal housing officials are encouraging this type of broad approach through the Choice Neighborhoods grant program. Income diversity and better services are among the criteria required of applicants for the $30 million grants, one of which Philadelphia received in June 2014 for the Norris Homes project. Galante calls the criteria the “glue-type elements” of successful neighborhoods.

Galante’s staff chose McColloch and her Philadelphia partners over 40 other applications for the grant. “It’s been exciting to get to know Deb on a whole different level from when we were back at Ohio Wesleyan and see how we’ve grown as professionals and continue to share a passion for the kind of work we’re doing,” Galante says.

Though they live on opposite coasts, Galante, McColloch, and Cappio have remained friends—and devoted to their alma mater. A framed photo of the three along with their mentor Fusch sits on each of their desks. That photo was taken in the fall of 2007, when McColloch, Galante, and Cappio all returned to OWU to participate in a colloquium on worldwide urbanization, which was organized by their mentor, Fusch. They gave a group presentation on U.S. housing and urban development. McColloch and Cappio also spoke to Fusch’s urban geography class.

“They have gone on to have these phenomenal careers, serving their communities and developing policies that improve the lives of countless people,” Fusch says.

*Dave Ghose is a freelance writer from Columbus.*
Loyalty and love. Greed and disguise. Discrimination and justice. It’s the life of a college student—at least if they’re on stage performing William Shakespeare’s *The Merchant of Venice*. OWU students first staged this challenging comedy in 1908, just three years after the very first OWU production of a Shakespeare play, *As You Like It*, in 1905. OWU alumni well remember theatre professors and directors Clarence Hunter, Bob Crosby ’39, and Don Eyssen ’25, who helped build a century-long tradition of outstanding productions of Shakespeare’s work with generations of OWU students. The photo above is from the 1941 production of Merchant in Willis High auditorium, which *The Transcript* reported was “very well received.”

**SHAKESPEARE THROUGH the AGES**

OWU staged *The Merchant of Venice* again this autumn under the direction of theatre professor Elane Denny-Todd, who said, “The play’s treatment of the exotic world of Venice and the characters inhabiting it is exciting, dynamic, and full of intrigue.” Professor Glen Vanderbilt created the set and lighting, and Margot Reed ’16 served as stage manager. Gabe Caldwell ’17 said performing the role of Shylock was especially challenging because “the amount of passion in the dialogue and how complex he is, especially considering his motivations, is exacting.” Other students in the production included Maeve Nash ’16 as Portia, Luke Scaros ’15 as Bassanio, and Luke Steffen ’16 as Antonio.
THE MATHEMATICS BEHIND THE MELTING

OWU PROFESSOR AND STUDENTS TAKE MATHEMATICS OUT OF THE CLASSROOM AND INTO THE HEART OF GLOBAL CLIMATE STUDIES

Pam Besel
hen it comes to understanding climate science, mathematics professor Craig Jackson and four of his students discovered that the demons—and delights—are in the data.

This past May, Jackson and students in his Mathematical Models of Climate travel-learning class flew to Alaska for 10 days to measure and record glacial winds and temperatures, even camping out next to their new friend, Matanuska Glacier. The group hiked to the glacier and camped there three nights, admiring the scenery and wildlife, but also viewing, more disturbingly, ice melting off the glacier.

“We constantly heard running water,” says Whitney Lonnerman ’15, a mathematics major and education minor. “During our hike up Exit Glacier, I looked down into the valley, knowing the glacier once had been as large as that valley. Everything is melting and getting warmer.”

This up-close-and-personal look at Matanuska was just the beginning of a special relationship and life-changing experience.

Hiking for two hours onto the glacier early one day, the OWU team set up a wind tower to measure temperature, wind speed, and wind direction. A separate wind tower had been set up off the glacier the previous day, so they could compare wind data on and off the glacier.
“WE CONSTANTLY HEARD RUNNING WATER. DURING OUR HIKE UP EXIT GLACIER, I LOOKED DOWN INTO THE VALLEY, KNOWING THE GLACIER ONCE HAD BEEN AS LARGE AS THAT VALLEY. EVERYTHING IS MELTING AND GETTING WARMER.”

- Whitney Lonnerman '15
Glaciers often generate a persistent down-slope wind called a katabatic flow. Jackson says that by studying models of katabatic flow, we can better understand how glaciers respond in a changing climate.

“Data we collected from these wind towers can tell us more about energy exchange between the glacier and atmosphere,” says Jackson. And such data is the stuff of which mathematical climate models are made. “Collecting usable data and appreciating how hard it is to do that are at the core of this travel-learning opportunity.”

**CLIMATOLOGICAL CALCULUS**

Jackson’s first travel-learning trip to Alaska was in 2012, following approval of his proposal the year before. His burgeoning interest in the quantitative aspects of climatology, coupled with his desire to develop a travel-learning course of broad interest and relevance to students, excited Jackson. And the possibility of observing firsthand the impact of climate change in subarctic regions where retreating glaciers, shrinking ice fields, and endangered migrating species of animals increasingly exist, made a course on climate modeling all the more relevant.

“I knew I could teach students applied calculus and applied differential equations, along with scientific programming, all in a climatological context,” Jackson says. “But what I could not do in class was to give my students a firsthand view of the actual systems that are most at risk from a changing climate. I also could not give them an appreciation for the difficulty of collecting high-quality climatological data sets, which in most classroom settings, we take for granted.”

The students in Jackson’s class spent the bulk of their time studying models of the atmosphere and ocean. However, about one-third of the class was devoted to developing, analyzing, and coding models of glaciers.

“I was amazed that with just a very simple knowledge of physics, for example, you can obtain models of glaciers that exhibit behaviors which took many decades of observations to establish empirically,” says Jackson. “On the other hand, these models can also predict behavior that you might not expect and about which we would know very little if we limited ourselves to the observational record alone.”

**WIND DATA:** Whitney Lonnerman and fellow researchers collected data from wind towers set up on and off the glaciers.
In the end, explains Jackson, “the ability to better understand climate, how susceptible it is to change, and how these changes can impact our world in so many ways, requires ongoing reliable data produced by climate models.”

Putting together the travel-learning itinerary for students from a variety of academic disciplines was pleasantly challenging. Jackson wanted to find experiences that would be of interest to students in economics as well as math, physics, and chemistry. So they visited such sites as the Eklunta Water Treatment Facility, the Aleyaska Pipeline, and the Chatinika gold dredge. They viewed tidewater glaciers in Seward and Whittier and spent time in Fairbanks, meeting with leading Arctic systems modelers from the International Arctic Research Center and the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks.

“Whether you want to study Earth’s climatic history or forecast future climate, models are the answer.” -Tony Wong ’10

They also explored the Fox Permafrost Tunnel managed by the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Lab, as well as the facilities for studying altitude climate at the Poker Flat Research Range. And a visit to the Alaska Sea Life Center gave OWU students a glimpse of the efforts marine scientists are making to understand the impact a changing climate has on Arctic sea life—and offered hope that injured and displaced marine mammals, birds, and other Arctic animals sometimes can be saved and rehabilitated.
“WHAT I COULD NOT DO IN THE CLASS WAS TO GIVE MY STUDENTS A FIRSTHAND VIEW OF THE ACTUAL SYSTEMS THAT ARE MOST AT RISK FROM A CHANGING CLIMATE.”

- Professor Craig Jackson
FROM THEORY INTO PRACTICE
AT THE UNITED NATIONS

OWU alumnus Sriharsha (Harsha) Masabathula ’12, an economics major, wanted to understand climate change and its nuances from deeper technical and public policy perspectives. He was thrilled to have the opportunity to travel to Alaska in 2012 with Jackson’s first travel-learning group. Now with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Yangon, Myanmar, assisting with program management and implementation, Masabathula works with the local population across a wide range of sectors.

“My experiences at OWU enable me to swiftly understand the complex U.N. mechanisms and machinery in my work to achieve peace and sustainable development in a transition economy such as Myanmar’s.

Tony Wong ’10, now a graduate student at Colorado University in Boulder, applauds the opportunity that OWU students have to realize the usefulness of math—and other academic disciplines—in solving real-world problems.

“Those range from water resource management to mitigating dangerous effects of climate change,” says Wong, whose graduate research is focusing on the land surface...
component of climate models. "Math models are a tremendous aspect of climate science. Whether you want to study Earth’s climatic history or forecast future climate, models are the answer."

The Alaska experience also has changed Lonnerman’s outlook. She says her desire to someday teach math is still strong, and is now deepened by a new passion and confidence. “In so many math classes, we are given data to work with, but I realized while in Alaska, that I also like collecting the data, and understanding why we are doing that,” she says.

“I think, for me, this was especially important to see and experience firsthand because after I graduate from Ohio Wesleyan I plan on teaching high school math. I know that all too often students are asking, ‘When am I ever going to use this outside of the classroom?’ From having the opportunity to travel to Alaska and study how you can use mathematics to model different aspects of climate such as glaciers, I now have the firsthand experience to tell them.”

Pam Besel is Editor of OWU Magazine and Senior Writer in the Office of University Communications.
“They make degrees so expensive that people can be buried in debt for life.”

Sound familiar? It’s a common perception (or misperception) of the cost of a liberal arts education today. But when a Twitter user casually sent that thought into the cyber universe back in October, he probably didn’t expect the Twitter account of two cartoon characters to respond.

“Actually, it takes far less time to pay back college debt than it did 25 years ago,” came the reply from Libby and Art, linking to an article backing up the claim. Libby (a bright-eyed liberal arts student) and Art (a college counselor) are the voices of @SmartColleges, a Twitter handle from the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) that was developed by Jeffrey Davis ’81.

When CIC decided to launch a public awareness campaign on the value of liberal arts and independent education, they turned to Jeff, who is principal at J. Davis Public Relations in Baltimore and Baltimore editor at Capitol Communicator. With more than 30 years of news, public relations, and social media experience, Jeff is an expert at sending the right message to the right people—and that’s just what CIC wanted to do. Their goal was to break through the myths and stereotypes about liberal arts that often pervade the Internet and to start telling a more accurate story about the value of liberal arts.

That’s where Libby and Art come in.

“At first, we had no idea that the campaign would result in Libby and Art. All we knew at the start was the campaign should have a strong social media component,” Jeff explains. After conducting research and holding focus groups with high school students, CIC turned to Twitter as a top communication vehicle.

From there, Libby and Art were born. “By creating the two characters, we were able to give a voice to tweets that you couldn’t really do if it was a logo or an association’s account blasting out messages and not interacting with people,” Jeff says.

Through the personas of Libby and Art, Jeff shares a variety of tweets with @SmartColleges followers and other Twitter users, each intended to provide helpful facts about liberal arts and independent colleges.

“We focus on sharing a mix of tweets and not simply a series of press release headlines or one-way statements,” Jeff points out. “We look for conversations to join, questions to answer, and we’re not afraid to challenge people who are trying to spread myths about liberal arts.”

A few minutes on the @SmartColleges Twitter page reveals a variety of content: retweets from passionate liberal arts students, beautiful photos of independent college campuses, news articles, and engaging dialogue, as Libby and Art chime in to debunk Twitter users’ myths about liberal arts. With around 3,000 followers and 2,500 tweets, the page is full of personality and buzz.

Every day, Jeff and the CIC team sift through web content related to social media, then share and respond to promote positive messages about private, liberal arts institutions. Affordability and access to scholarships, high graduation rates, small class sizes, and the employability of graduates are just a few of the themes that Jeff and CIC highlight.

As characters, Libby and Art bring a lot of life to the story of liberal arts. At times, the
characters tweet individually, signing off as Art or Libby after the tweet. More often, the two share an opinion and a voice.

“If we do sign a tweet, Art is typically more serious, sharing facts or studies, while Libby is eager, involved, ready to defend,” Jeff explains. “We try to be ‘real’ by picking up and responding to tweets that actual students and other real-life people and organizations post. We try not to be boring, and we also are careful not to cross the line when challenging someone who bashes liberal arts or tries to spread myths.” Along the way, the characters bring energy, authenticity, and even a little snarkiness to their messages—just what CIC needs to stand out amidst the noise of the Internet.

So far, the campaign’s strategy seems to be working. As Libby and Art reach their one-year anniversary at the beginning of 2015, Jeff says the focus so far has been on building a base of followers and encouraging them to share Libby and Art’s content.

“If CIC can create useful content that all of the followers share (retweet), that single message touting an important point about the value of a liberal arts education can reach a huge audience. It’s the power of amplification,” he explains.

Libby and Art’s most retweeted content has been infographics created by CIC. The pair has also helped build and strengthen relationships between CIC and individuals and organizations. And they’ve received a good deal of media coverage, helping to further spread the word and draw more followers.

As an Ohio Wesleyan graduate and a parent of college-aged students, Jeff says these messages hit home.

“Being so close to the campaign’s messages reinforced how Ohio Wesleyan delivers on all the benefits of a liberal arts education. For me, the most enduring lessons took place in Slocum Hall, working on The Transcript when it was located on the ground floor, and taking the journalism classes taught by Verne Edwards on the second floor,” Jeff recalls. He has used the lessons from those OWU experiences throughout his career, he says, and he’s thankful for the broad exposure and real-life experiences he received as an undergraduate.

“One of the campaign’s messages is that a liberal arts education prepares you for a career that doesn’t exist yet, and that was true for me,” says Jeff, a journalism major at OWU whose first job was working as a reporter at The Delaware Gazette. “When I was at OWU, we certainly weren’t talking about social media, but the skills we were learning—problem-solving, creativity, clear written and oral expression, and the ability to work in teams—translated perfectly to a form of communication that wouldn’t come along until decades after my graduation.”

Through Libby and Art, Jeff is telling that story every day—helping to open the door for others to have a college experience like his. He’s on the front lines, fighting for what OWU and so many other independent colleges stand for—one myth-busting fact at a time.

Amanda Zechiel-Keiber ’09 is a freelance writer in Columbus, Ohio and Class Notes Editor of OWU Magazine.
DIGGING for GOLD

NEW VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH KIRSTA COBB BELIEVES IN WINNING ATTITUDES ON AND OFF THE COURT.  |  Brian Cook ’15
When OWU women’s volleyball team members talk about their new head coach, Kirsta Cobb, they use words such as “synergy,” “confidence building,” and “cohesiveness.” Completing their first winning season since 2006, the Bishops this year have gotten a good taste of what is shaping up to be a successful future. And the excitement among team members is mounting.

“The women first must realize that they have what it takes to be a successful team at the college level.”

The Bishops ended the season 17-12, and they finished fourth in the NCAC tournament in November.

The team is well stocked with talented young players. Iris Anderson ’18 was a second-team All-NCAC selection and was named Newcomer of the Year. She was also named to the all-tournament team. Brianna La Croix ’18 was an honorable mention All-NCAC choice.

“The greatest impact Coach Cobb has is her ability to set the foundation for a successful volleyball program,” says Meigan Day ’16, a middle blocker.

Given Cobb’s prior success as a college coach at Indiana Institute of Technology and Xavier University and as a former collegiate and professional volleyball player, it’s not surprising that the Bishops showed up ready to play from the get-go. Developing that mindset was exactly what athletics director Roger Ingles encouraged his new coach to do.

“Kirsta was hired with the mandate to change the culture within the volleyball program to one of teamwork, hard work, dedication, and family support,” says Ingles. He adds his praise for what she and her coaching staff have accomplished in her first season at OWU: establishing a winning attitude among players and a fundamentally sound volleyball program.

Cobb emphasizes the importance of enabling players to make themselves better on and off the court.

“My game strategy philosophy is to be as prepared as possible as a coaching staff, with the intent that our players feel empowered and prepared to make good decisions on their own,” she says. “The women first must realize that they have what it takes to be a successful team at the college level.” It was challenging, however, getting everyone on the same page.

“It was like they all were freshmen,” Cobb says, adding that the learning curve for upperclassmen was particularly tough, as they were accustomed to doing things a certain way for most of their college careers.

To facilitate team building, Cobb and her assistant coaches, including Seth McGuffin, assistant track and field coach, wanted the team to perform exercises aimed at improving communication skills. She praises McGuffin for the way he has instilled proper mechanics in the players and has helped them become “complete athletes” through enrichment meetings focusing on non-volleyball aspects of sports. He, in turn, finds working with Cobb to be very rewarding.

“The first thing I enjoy is the mutual respect we have for each other and having her ask for advice and input without hesitation,” McGuffin says. He attributes the team’s immediate success to Cobb’s confidence, loyalty, and dedication. “This created so much synergy in our time with the players both on and off the court.” But it is more than a quick fix.

“Players are learning to directly communicate positive and not-so-positive things to one another,” says Cobb. “This helps them figure out better ways to talk to each other and build their relationships as trusting teammates.”

Because Cobb came to OWU in the off-season, it was challenging to get to know the players on the court last semester. To make up for the lack of practice time they had together, Cobb made an extra effort to know the players personally. The other challenge of switching schools in the middle of a recruiting season is that coaches fall behind some, as the recruiting process wraps up in January for volleyball. Cobb says she will have a long cycle of catch-up, but “eventually, we’ll get there.”

All in all, Meigan Day believes the transition has been made as easy as possible.

“The coaching staff was understanding, open to questions, and knew how to push our players to be their best,” says Day, who is looking forward to her last year on the team. “Huge strides of progress occurred this past year and I’m confident we’ll continue to grow as a team. To have such a successful first year is exciting.”

Brian Cook is a student writer in the Office of University Communications.
In its 30 years at Ohio Wesleyan, the Sagan National Colloquium has not balked at the provocative, the controversial, and the critical issues of the time. On the contrary, the program has addressed big issues head on, dissected them, analyzed them from every vantage point, and then challenged participants to think about what they believe, why they believe it, and what action they plan to take.

“SNC is the ultimate connection of theory to practice and the ultimate expression of civic engagement that educates citizens for a civil society,” says OWU President Rock Jones.

Though the Sagan National Colloquium has continued to evolve, its mission has remained firm since SNC’s 1984 founding: to create a unified Ohio Wesleyan experience, linking liberal arts and the civic engagement, inspiring an informed, involved citizenship.

**1984** Pulitzer Prize-winning writer and journalist John Hersey was a featured speaker during OWU’s first National Colloquium series in 1984, “After Hiroshima: Life and Death in the Nuclear Age.” Hersey is shown here signing copies of his award-winning book, *Hiroshima*.

**1986** Roger Wilkins, Pulitzer Prize-winning author, journalist, and distinguished professor, talks with students during the 1986 colloquium built around the theme “The Great American Experience: The Constitution 200 Years and Beyond.”
“I leave every colloquium with a head full of new information and a heart brimming with determination to do what I can to help in whatever way possible,” says OWU sophomore Cindy Hastings ’17, an environmental studies and botany double major from Parma Heights, Ohio. “I try to bring what I learn into action by spreading environmental awareness through informing others and leading by example.” She has especially enjoyed the environmental themes of the last two colloquia.

That kind of inspired learning and desire to be a contributing world citizen was at the heart of the concept former OWU President David Warren Hon. ’93 proposed when interviewing to become the OWU president in January 1984.

“The National Colloquium came to me as an idea that was especially right for Ohio Wesleyan in 1984,” says Warren, President of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities for more than two decades. “I observed that in its nearly 150 years, OWU had developed a distinctive and powerful tradition of educating and graduating individuals committed to service and citizenship,” he says. “I believed that by linking the liberal arts to the civic arts of citizenship through the National Colloquium, such an initiative would find fertile and familiar ground at OWU.”

In its 30 years, the Colloquium has been directed by 31 different faculty members, visited by more than 160 speakers, including President Gerald Ford, author Kurt Vonnegut Jr., social activist Gloria Steinem, and Nobel Peace Prize winner Jody Williams, and attended by thousands of students.

Each year SNC organizers identify a single, transcending theme to serve as an overarching meta-curriculum for the entire OWU community. The theme is explored through both the current curriculum and co-curriculum via lectures, panel discussions, and events such as film, drama, and dance.

President Jones says, “The genius of David Warren’s original vision for the SNC is that it challenges the campus to move from intellectual consideration to practical applications that impact the issue under consideration.”

BOLD BEGINNING

Early in his presidency, between March and May of 1984, Warren spent 100 days living with students in residence halls and fraternity houses. During his conversations with students, he crystallized ideas about the colloquium—and the first topic became clear.

Nearly 40 years after the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, and amid a continuing debate over the threat of nuclear weapons, the central topic for the first colloquium was obvious: “After Hiroshima: Life and Death in the Nuclear Age.” A series of notable physicists, historians, authors, news reporters, and filmmakers came to OWU to discuss topics such as the bombing of Hiroshima in 1945, the development of nuclear power in the postwar years, and the Cuban missile crisis of October 1962. Students also read three books, including Hiroshima by Pulitzer Prize-winning author John Hersey, who was the keynote speaker.

“In the early 1980s, nuclear war and nuclear disarmament...
were identified by many Americans, and our students, faculty and staff, as matters of grave concern,” Warren says. “During my 100-day live-in conversations with the students and faculty March to May 1984, these issues were raised repeatedly as ones of existential concern.”

What began as a year-long exploration of a topic eventually was scaled down to one semester by the late 1980s, and students still receive academic credit for taking the SNC course. Funding and staffing often presented challenges through the years, though a Pew Grant provided some relief from 1986 to 1991. The colloquium was not held in 1992-1993, when both its coordinator and Warren left OWU, and then again in 1996, for budgetary reasons. Emeritus Professor of English Dennis Prindle, who with faculty helped resurrect the program in 1993, directed the program for six years on a much smaller budget. Despite the challenges, Prindle says the topics and discussions were just as powerful.

Prindle’s passion to keep the program going grew out of his belief that the SNC set OWU apart and served as an instantly recognizable feature. Surrounded by a committed group of faculty, Prindle developed a new format that featured a smaller number of main events at Gray Chapel and more programs featuring experts available for smaller fees.

The colloquium’s budget worries were eased in 1999, when the program was endowed by 1948 alumni John Sagan and Margaret Pickett Sagan, now deceased. The series has subsequently carried the Sagan name. The Sagans were a fixture on campus for decades through their involvement with the board of trustees and supporting students through scholarship contributions, establishment of the Sagan Academic Resource Center, and construction of the Marge Sagan Softball Field.

TIMELY TOPICS

SNC organizers have kept up the tradition of choosing timely and relevant topics that can excite and unite the campus.

“Having one idea that links everyone is key,” says Joseph Musser, Professor Emeritus of English, who directed the 2003 SNC titled “Food: A Harvest of History, Culture, Politics, and Science.”

“Everyone makes choices about food. I thought it was a great topic, and there are many ways of looking at it. ‘What am I going to eat? What difference does it make to me, the community, and the world? What should I think about when I make my choices or how are my choices limited?’ It’s a natural topic for a unifying issue.”

Having students read a common text and offering academic credit to students for attending SNC events also help create a unified experience. For Musser, one of the most memorable SNC events during the year he directed was the keynote speech by journalist Michael Pollan, author of the summer reading, *The Botany of Desire: A Plant’s-Eye View of the World*.

“He was a really great speaker, and lots of people read the book and responded well to it,” Musser says. “He didn’t give a canned speech. He made an effort to fit into what we were doing with the whole series. He had me drive to McDonald’s...
so he could get some containers to use in his talk, and he used them to challenge students to think about what exactly they are eating. What exactly is in those containers?"

Prindle especially remembers a moving discussion from 1993 when “Waging War, Waging Peace” was the SNC topic.

Student leaders from that year gathered with student leaders from the late 1960s and 1970s in the ballroom of the old student union, now the R.W. Corns Building. They talked for hours about war and student protest, trying to understand the differences of their generations.

**YEAR 30: WATER IN OUR WORLD**

The current SNC director, Assistant Professor of History Ellen Arnold, is equally passionate about this year’s topic, “H2OWU: Water in Our World.” The theme was inspired by Arnold’s experience at an environmental studies research center in Germany in 2012 and her own personal concerns about the looming water crisis in Ohio, America, and the world.

“Water is so fundamental not only for environmental concerns, but also for cultures around the world, religious ideas, economies, landscapes, and imaginations about nature. Water trickles to all parts of nature,” Arnold says. “This is the crisis of the next century.”

She adds, “Students are recognizing that the answers we come up with are going to have to be complex. There will not be simple ways out of any of this. The earlier they acknowledge, accept, and embrace the complexity of all this, the more effective they are going to be in dealing with it once they leave here.”

Inspired by this year’s theme, Cindy Hastings is working on an event called Water Week, where students learn about the importance of water conservation and changes individuals can make to preserve this resource.

“It will hopefully inspire others, as these Sagan speakers inspire me, so we can heal some of the world’s damage and move toward a more sustainable future.”

Learn more about the Sagan National Colloquium at [snc.owu.edu](http://snc.owu.edu)

Andrea Misko Strle ’99 is a freelance writer in Columbus, Ohio.

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**2010** Susan Eisenhower, CEO and Chairman of The Eisenhower Group, Inc. is pictured here with OWU Professor of Politics and Government Sean Kay. She was a guest speaker during the 2010 series about “Renewing America in a Global Century.”

**2011** Social activist Gloria Steinem addressed members of the OWU community in 2011 as part of the colloquium focused on “Global Opportunities for Global Citizens.”
TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS
AT NATGEO

OWU ALUMNA IS HELPING ONE OF THE WORLD’S MOST BELOVED ORGANIZATIONS NAVIGATE THE CHANGING MEDIA AND BUSINESS LANDSCAPE

Mary Cavanaugh Thompson ’84

ew business people ascend to leadership positions in the world’s top corporations before they turn 50. Tracie Winbigler ’87 has already done it three times—in two very different worlds.

“I knew she was going to be successful, but she really hit a home run,” OWU Professor of Economics Bob Gitter says of Winbigler, his former student. Since working the meat counter as a teenager at her family’s store in Willard, Ohio, Winbigler knew she wanted a career in business. “[Even as a teenager] I was good at math and good with people,” recalls Winbigler, who went on to major in economics and accounting at OWU, while working as a resident assistant at Welch and Bashford Halls.

After graduating, she was accepted into General Electric’s prestigious executive training program in Schenectady, NY. The corporate college is widely known for launching successful careers, and Winbigler’s was no exception. For five years she rotated through different industries at GE, where she had four intense months to learn and fix one business before moving on to the next.

Over the next 25 years, drawing on her work ethic, her liberal arts foundation from OWU, and her management expertise, Winbigler steadily climbed to the position of executive vice president and chief financial officer of GE Asset Management, overseeing $120 billion in assets. She also spent five years at NBC while also at GE, including service as chief financial officer and executive vice president, finance, for NBC Universal Television Group and Digital Media.

Then two years ago, she made a move that likely stunned her corporate colleagues. She took a job with a nonprofit organization. Winbigler is now the executive vice president and chief financial officer for the National Geographic Society. She’s very happy with the move.

“The Society has more of a family, entrepreneurial feel—less rigorous and process-driven. GE, meanwhile, is known for its success with management processes,” she reflects. “My job is to apply some of those qualities to National Geographic and still preserve its magic.”

Winbigler returned to Delaware this fall to deliver the Robert L. Milligan Leaders in Business lecture at OWU’s Woltemade Center for Economics, Business and Entrepreneurship. Her topic was one that consumes strategic thinking at National Geographic and is of particular relevance to millennial-generation students: How will print media like National Geographic Magazine keep pace in a market flooded with digital content?

“It’s critical that traditional media companies drive cultural change in their organizations as they move into the digital world,” she said, discussing issues traditional magazines and newspapers face as they struggle to stay relevant to consumers getting free content on their smart phones and tablets.

She said many people don’t know that the National Geographic Society is a nonprofit institution with a wide range of media outlets.

“The way the machine works is that the Society makes money from its TV channels, retail, and other assets, in order to feed the...
nonprofit side.” At one time the print magazine drove revenue, but its circulation is down 70 percent from its peak, according to Winbigler. With the exception of fashion magazines, “consumers don’t want the newsstand magazine the way it’s always been done.”

*National Geographic’s* reputation for vivid images and compelling stories gives it an advantage over other traditional magazines, but the organization’s talented staff has had to evolve to engage today’s media consumers.

“Everyone from our editors to photographers has to think differently,” she said. She explained how the National Geographic Society uses its various media outlets to support each other: The magazine offers readers photo-rich, in depth pieces, while the website allows the broader organization to provide more timely content. “If there’s an avalanche on Mt. Everest and you’ve got a Mt. Everest story being planned, put it online!”

Winbigler also shared insider tips with students, such as what it is that she looks for in a job candidate. “Team building and influencing skills are key,” she said, adding that she is pleased to see more group work taking place in the classroom. She also emphasized that problem solving and critical thinking need to be part of every graduate’s skill set. “In the global world you have to be able to adapt and solve problems.”

When interviewing a candidate, she can tell when someone has the chops for thinking on their feet. She said that young job seekers don’t need a long résumé to demonstrate their skill in strategic, critical thinking.

“You practice it in your daily activities,” she pointed out. However, she emphasized that it is important to continually develop this skill, which is vital in a rapidly changing tech-driven business environment.

She also met with a number of students while she was on campus, and she was impressed by their complex questions, which touched on topics such as gender equity and diversity in corporate leadership.

As with today’s students, Winbigler says the foundation for her career was the solid base of economics and accounting that she acquired at OWU.

“That was instrumental as I took the GE courses and moved through the rotations in the GE Financial Management Program,” she says. “That base also gave me the strong foundation that enabled me to get on the GE Corporate Audit Staff and complete the five-year program, which really accelerated my career.”

Tracie Winbigler is a dynamic force whose story continues to unfold and place her among the most talented finance executives in the nation.

Mary Cavanaugh Thompson ’84, is a freelance writer in Columbus, Ohio.
VOTE FOR TRUSTEES!

http://community.owu.edu/2015BOTslate

Official Alumni Trustee Ballot 2015

Slate for the Board of Trustees
Term 2015-2018

Vote with an "X" for or against the slate presented. Alumni couples may vote twice on the same ballot. Mail or fax to the Alumni Relations Office:

Attn.: Brenda DeWitt, (740) 368-3329.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: March 15, 2015

☐ I vote for the slate as presented
☐ I vote against the slate as presented

Alumni Signature ____________________________ Class Year ________________

Alumni Signature ____________________________ Class Year ________________

To vote online go to:
http://community.owu.edu/2015BOTslate

To nominate an alumus/a for future consideration, please send an email to:
alumni@owu.edu
(include name, class year, and qualifications).

Stay Connected!

Send us your email and receive special invitations to events, and more!

Name ____________________________ first middle last

Class Year ____________________________

Email ________________________________

Name ____________________________ first middle last

Class Year ____________________________

Email ________________________________

Alumni Happenings

Cindy Carran O’Neill ’81

Cindy has more than 30 years of experience in printing, advertising production, and related graphic arts. She works with commercial and specialty printers, advertising agencies, corporate marketers, and nonprofit organizations to produce excellent printed communications. Since 1996 she has been President of The Printer’s Eye, Inc., offering a range of services across all phases of the printing process, with a specialty in unique and complex printing and mailing projects. Cindy is a founding member of the Production Club of Baltimore and has won many industry awards for printing she has produced.

Cindy was born and raised in the Cleveland, Ohio, area. While a student at Ohio Wesleyan, Cindy was very active in campus life, serving as a Student Assistant, member of WCSA, Panhellenic, and President of Alpha Rho chapter of Delta Gamma. As an alumna, Cindy has served as an Alumni Admissions Representative and a member of the Alumni Board of Directors. She has also been a consistent contributor to the Annual Fund and several OWU capital campaigns.

In addition to her profession, Cindy has been involved in grant-making with a private foundation for over 20 years. She is also an active community volunteer in her current hometown of Annapolis, Maryland. Cindy and her husband Tim are the parents of two young adult children.

Sally Christiansen Harris ’76 (Incumbent)

Sally graduated from Ohio Wesleyan in 1976 with a major in theater. For the first decade after graduation, she worked in public relations and marketing for various organizations in the metro New York area while staying active in the New York City OWU alumni group and the alumni admission program. She was elected to the OWU Alumni Board in 1984. During her second term, the Assistant Alumni Director position opened at OWU and she was hired. Eventually she became Director of Alumni Relations. In that position, Sally served as an administrative representative for the student government, was on the judicial appeals board, and was an advisor to Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. In 1998 she moved back to Greenwich, Connecticut, and married Mike Harris. She set up a satellite OWU admission/alumni/development office at home and from 1999–2004 she continued working for OWU in the metro New York area.

In 2005 she joined the development staff at Greenwich Country Day School as Capital Campaign Director, overseeing a $50 million campaign. Although officially retired, she continues to work with GCDS on a project basis. In Greenwich, she has been involved in many volunteer organizations including the Junior League of Greenwich. Sally has many OWU alumni relatives including three sets of aunts and uncles, numerous cousins and her sister Karin Christiansen ‘69 and brother-in-law Scott Fowler ‘68.

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SCENES FROM HOMECOMING 2014

Sun, blue skies, and high spirits abounded during Homecoming Weekend on October 24-26, as hundreds of OWU alumni, families, and friends enjoyed lectures, athletic events, and the opportunity to spend time together. From “Great Teachers” lectures delivered by award-winning professors to exciting athletic competition, to campus tours and service projects completed by several OWU Greek organizations, there were plenty of activities that brought people together to celebrate fall at Ohio Wesleyan.
Lillian Flickinger Bernhagen '38 was honored posthumously by the Ohio State University College of Nursing as one of 100 “Alumni Transformers in Nursing and Healthcare” in conjunction with the school’s centennial celebration.

Bill Bertenshaw ‘50 retired—after 60 years of commuting to New York, NY, for on-air radio/TV programming—to create three web sites, “Perspective on the News (.net, .org, and .com).”

Ezra Vogel ’50 was honored with the 2014 Fukukoka Grand Prize Laureate award at the Algonquin Club of Boston on July 1, 2014. He was also the featured speaker at the Harvard Club of Boston on July 1, 2014. He is the Henry Ford II professor of the social sciences emeritus at Harvard University and has served twice as director of the Fairbank Center for East Asian Studies.

Chuck Kaiser ’52 won the 2007 Racquetball National Senior Olympics championship in Louisville, KY, and was ranked first in the United States from 1995-98 by the U.S. Racquetball Association.

Gordon Amendt ’55 and Marjorie Post Amendt ’55 celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on August 28, 2014. They met at Ohio Wesleyan and were married in Ashtabula, Ohio prior to their senior year. Before retirement, Gordon worked at Farm Bureau Insurance for 30 years, and Marge is a retired homemaker.

Ted Pollard ’55 recently wrote “Grant’s Wish,” a staged reading, which was performed by the Cincinnati Playwrights Initiative on October 14, 2014 at the Aronoff Center for the Arts’ Fifth Third Bank Theater in Cincinnati, OH.

Susan Dodge Moore ’61 of Fort Myers, FL, was honored for her tireless work with the Lakes Park Enrichment Foundation and the Botanic Garden at Lakes Park. In 2002, she organized the Lee County Bird Patrol to protect the bird rookeries at the park. The Bird Patrol now has 60 volunteers doing monthly bird counts in various sites throughout Lee County. In 2006, she joined the Enrichment Foundation to protect the birds of the park. In 2010, she changed her emphasis to the gardens in the park. In 2012, she was nominated as Citizen of the Year by the Lee County Commissioners for her many volunteer hours. In 2014, she received the RSVP outstanding volunteer award. She has raised over $20,000 for the construction of a children’s educational garden to teach the coming generations about the importance of plants and their miraculous functions and behaviors. Sue is married to Francis E. Moore Junior, Yale ’55. The couple lives at Shell Point Retirement Village in Fort Myers. She invites her classmates to a “Grow the Garden” fundraiser on the afternoon of March 15, 2015. She can be contacted at sukeel23@gmail.com.

Paul Schimmel ’62 was part of the team at Scripps Research Institute that uncovered almost 250 new protein slice variants. The results of the team’s research were published in July 2014 in Science magazine.

John Bassett ’63 will remain president of Heritage University through 2020, as his five-year contract extension was announced this past summer. He has been president of the university since July 2010, before which he was president of Clark University in Worcester, MA, for 10 years.

Reid Calcott III ’64 made a $25,000 donation to the Chester, WV, Volunteer Fire Department in July 2014. Reid is a native of Chester, and he gave the donation in memory of former Mayor Roy Cashdollar and in the name of the Chester High School class of 1960.

James Oberg ’66 was awarded the 2014 Jonathan Eberhart Planetary Sciences Journalism Award by the Division for Planetary Sciences of the American Astronomical Society this past July. His winning article was “Torrid Mercury’s Icy Poles,” published in Astronomy magazine in December 2013.

David Johnson ’68, an attorney at Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP in Indianapolis, IN, was named to the Best Lawyers in America 2015 list.

Michael McCluggage ’69 received the Alumni Achievement Award from Delta Tau Delta fraternity at its 92nd biennial convention in New Orleans, LA, in July 2014. Alumni Achievement Awards are given to alumni of Delta Tau Delta whose achievements have brought honor and prestige to the fraternity. Michael is a partner at the Chicago law firm of Eimer Stahl, where he is a trial lawyer and litigator specializing in antitrust law.

Barbara Masarky ’72 was honored in July 2014 by Tarvin Realtors in Ridgewood, NJ, for her excellent real estate sales success that month. Barbara has nearly 20 years of real estate experience and was named Salesperson of the Year in 2007.

Alex Shumate ’72 was the winner of an Oswald Cos. Smart 50 Award, celebrating and recognizing Ohio’s top executives. Alex is the managing partner of the Columbus office of Squire Patton Boggs, an international integrated legal firm.

Thomas A. Cole ’73 collaborated with singer/songwriter Jaime Mills to write the song “Hard Heart,” which is scheduled to be on a soundtrack for a still-in-development movie, The Perfect Season. The movie will be about the Toledo Troopers, a women’s professional football team in Toledo, OH.

Gregory Moore ’76 spoke at the Reynolds School of Journalism at the University of Missouri on September 5, 2014, as a member of the Gerald M. Boyd lecture series. Gregory has been in the newspaper business for more than 35 years and was named editor of The Denver Post in 2002.

Donald Brey ’77, an attorney at Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP in Indianapolis, IN, was recently named to the Best Lawyers in America 2015 list.

Gordon Witkin ’77 was named to the top editor position at the Center for Public Integrity, a nonprofit investigative news organization. Gordon has served as acting executive director for the organization while overseeing coverage of health care, juvenile justice issues, and the State Integrity project since
joining the organization in 2008. The magazine apologizes for an error that appeared in this note in the fall magazine.

Steve Cooper '78 joined the U S Department of Commerce in June 2014 as chief information officer (CIO). Previously, he served the Federal Aviation Administration as acting deputy assistant administrator for information services and CIO.

Alexandra Herger '78 was named to the board of directors of Panoro Energy ASA. Alexandra has 35 years of global experience in the upstream oil and gas industry.

Bill Staples '78 received the American Physical Therapy Association Lucy Blair Service Award during the association’s annual meeting last June in Charlotte, NC. The award honors association members who have made exceptional contributions to the association through district, chapter, committee, section, task force, or national activities. Bill is an associate professor at the University of Indianapolis’s Kranert School of Physical Therapy and president of APTA’s Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy.

1980s

Jeff Davis '81 spoke at the Mid-Atlantic Marketing Summit in Baltimore, MD, in September 2014. With more than 20 years of news media and public relations experience, Jeff is principal of his business, J. Davis Public Relations, LLC.

Robert Hanna '81 was selected by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America list for 2015. Robert works for Tucker Ellis law firm in Cleveland, OH, focusing on commercial litigation.

Carol Drake '82 was re-elected for a fourth term to the board of directors for the Council of Institutional Investors and selected to serve as the organization’s treasurer for the second year. The council is an association of pension funds, corporate and other employee benefit funds, endowments, and foundations. Carol is the chief external affairs officer for the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System in Columbus, OH.

Daniel Glaser ’82, president of Marsh & McLennan Cos. Inc., was named chairman of the Federal Advisory Committee on Insurance. The committee was created in 2011 to provide advice to the Federal Insurance Office, and it includes a variety of insurance regulators, insurance industry executives, academics, and beyond.

Glenn Cummings '83 began work as interim president of the University of Maine at Augusta in September 2014.

Ralph Kohnen ’83, an attorney at Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP in Indianapolis, IN, was named to The Best Lawyers in America 2015 list.

Angelo Puzella ’83 has been awarded a PhD in Electrical and Computer Science Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Angelo’s thesis was on phased array antennas. He is a senior engineering fellow at Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems and holds 15 U.S. patents. He also has an MBA and an MS in Electrical Engineering. Angelo lives with his wife Anna (originally from Milano, Italy) and three children in Marlboro, MA.

Kara Trott ’83 won an Oswald Cos. Smart 50 Award, celebrating and recognizing Ohio’s top executives. Kara is CEO of Quantum Health in Columbus, OH.

Suzanne Quirk Baker ’84 attended the training “Helping Children & Adolescents Cope with Grief,” completing 30 hours of classroom education by the internationally recognized Center for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, CO. This course is one of five Suzanne is attending to earn the Death and Grief Studies Certificate. Suzanne is a master educator and childhood grief support facilitator. She presents workshops and professional development for educators on the topic of childhood grief support, promoting the integration of research-based childhood bereavement theory with best teaching practice.

Tim Corbin ’84 coached the Vanderbilt baseball team to its first ever national championship in June 2014. The team beat the University of Virginia Cavaliers 3-2.

Christopher Shepler ’84 was appointed to the board of directors of Citizens National Bank in Cheboygan, MI, in May 2014. He is the president of Shepler’s Mackinac Island Ferry Service in Mackinaw City, MI.

Jeff Erdmann ’85, a Merrill Lynch private wealth advisor, was featured on Barron’s 2014 Top 100 Financial Advisors list, ranked at number eight. Fifteen advisors make the Barron’s list each year, and Jeff is celebrating his 10th anniversary on the list.

Timothy Schmiechen ’85 was named athletic director at Beloit College in Beloit, WI. Timothy has been a men’s soccer coach at the college since 1990.

Lisa Workman ’85 was named president of the Community Foundation for Crawford County in Ohio.

Mike Richards ’87, PGA director of instruction at the Mike Richards Golf Academy at Parkland Golf and Country Club (FL), was named the 2014 SFPGA Teacher of the Year. This award recognizes outstanding service as a golf instructor. Mike is a 1992 OWU Athletic Hall of Fame inductee.

Alan Oehmsman ’89 was named senior vice president/chief communications officer at TrueCar.

1990s

Doreen DeLaney Crawley ’91 was named Executive of the Year for a midsize organization by Columbus CEO magazine. Doreen is chief human resources and administrative officer at Grange Insurance in Columbus, OH.

Michael Hamra ’91, president and CEO of Hamra Enterprises, opened a new Panera Bread location in Highland Park in Chicago. Hamra Enterprises operates 33 Panera Bread locations in the Chicago area.

Keith Rucker ’92, defensive line coach and special teams coordinator for the OWU football team, interned with the New York Jets of the National Football League as part of the Bill Walsh NFL Minority Coaching Fellowship during the summer of 2014. To be chosen for the position, Keith underwent an intense application process, part of which included making a 20-minute video that incorporated coaching and practice footage and a voice-over of games.

David Campbell ’94 was featured in Charlotte Business Journal for his company, Boxman Studios, which specializes in shipping-container architecture. David is founder and CEO of the company.

Christina Diersing Zamarro ’94 was named vice president of investor relations at the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in September 2014.

Trent Collier ’96, an attorney at Collins Einhorn Farrell PC in Southfield, MI, was named to the 2014 Michigan Rising Stars list.

Koritha Mitchell ’96 ran a half marathon on July 13, 2014, to raise money for the Girls on the Run of Franklin County organization.

Joel P. Ides ’97 joined Anarchy Post, a multi-award-winning post-production facility specializing in sound and video services for the feature film and television industry, in July 2014.
1 | Wesley Dorne '05 was married to Jesse Kaler Colby '08, on July 26, 2014 in North Bend, WA. OWU alumni attending were, from left to right: Mike Crahan '05, Wesley Dorne '05, Kerrin Rogers Dorne '73, John Shimer '05, Nate Timm '07, and Matthew Crossen '05.

2 | Colleen Brieck Yoder '10 and Willy Yoder '09 were married on August 2, 2014 at Old Town Hall in Fairfax, VA. Ohio Wesleyan alumni in attendance were Willy Yoder '09, Colleen Brieck Yoder '10, Lee Schott '09, Alex Paya '09, Ryan Klein '14, Jeff Brauning '11, Yaser Helal '09, William Tappan Kenny '09, Nick Baker '09, Ben Thompson '10, Matt Yoder '08, Wendy Farrell Yoder '07, Jo Hartley '11, Lucy Schott '09, Meg Evans '11, Kara Reiter '10, and Christian Schlabach '10.

3 | Louisa Hoffman '09 and Andrew Stewart '09 were married over Labor Day weekend of 2014 in Lakewood, OH. Many OWU alumni gathered for the celebration. Pictured from left to right are: Andy Coder '09, Brooke Coder '09, Eric Stewart '73, Oksana Pelts '09, Andrew Stewart '09, JeanMarc Duplessis '09, Louisa Claire Hoffman '09, Rick Durham '09, Tara Pavlovcev '09, Demitra Roux Brown '09, Conor Close '09, and Jessica Monroe '09.

4 | Erin Clayton Saunders '12 and Justin Saunders '10 were married on August 10, 2013. Joining in the celebration were, from front to back and left to right: Erin Clayton Saunders '12, Phyllis Waters Thomas '54, Justin Saunders '10, Benjamin Pepe '10, William Clint Saunders '13, James Jason Walsh '10, Thomas Saunders '09, Nick Wagner '09, Matt Nasif '09, Kelsey Morrison '12, Cara Foley '12, Katherine Zdenek '12, Victoria Morris '12, Angel Roland '10, Rylan Mitter-Burke '10, Madeline Hargis '12, Diane Bizzarro '12, Sam Bixler '10, Nathan Barnett '12, Brandon cannon '10, and Kyle Adams '09.

5 | Janet Fillmore '82 was ordained as an elder in full connection in the United Methodist Church on June 17, 2014, at the East Ohio Annual Conference in Lakeside. She is a pastor at Mayfield Church in Chesterland.

6 | Pyik That New '13 and Christian Kissig '13 were married on July 12, 2014, in Willoughby Hills, OH. Many Ohio Wesleyan alumni joined in the celebration. Pictured are: top row, left to right: Eric Juang, Duy Phuong Hua '11, Victoria Wehner '13, Clare Duffy '13, Brooke Tolin, Chris Brooks '13, Devinn Sinnott '13, Samuel Monebi '13, Iftekhar Showmi '13, and Nurul Islam '13; bottom row, left to right: Bradley Turnwald '13, Timothy Heinmiller '13, Christian Kissig '13, Pyik That Nwe '13, and Shane Brandt '13.

7 | Colin Magruder '09 was married to Courtney Kingston on October 12, 2014, in Hingham, MA. Many OWU alumni were in attendance; pictured from left to right are: John Brannan '73, Kirk Shearer '81, Susan Magruder '82, John Magruder '80, Bruce Magruder '77, Munro Magruder '78, Sam Sinclair '07, Kim Leary '09, Wes Goodman '06, Courtney Kingston, Colin Magruder '09, Leanna Bucceri '10, Alison Kennedy '10, Meredith Sinclair '09, Sarah Bruno '10, Amanda Zechiel-Kelber '09, Sam Skaggs '12, Anthony Rosato '09, Grant Daniels '09, Justin Skaggs '09, and Kathy Joseph '83.
8 | Caroline DeMambro '09 and Patrick Coakley '09 were married on July 5, 2014, in Newtown, CT. Pictured at the celebration from left to right are: Brent Wilkins '08, Meg Henesy '09, Josh Dougherty '09, Channing Bush '09, Lauren Hardy '09, Lauren Reed '09, Brandon Praznik '09, Dina Salvatore '09, Nick Lahoud '10, Greg Vasami '09, Josh Dougherty '09, Channing Bush '09, Lauren Hardy '09, Lauren Reed '09, Brandon Praznik '09, Dina Salvatore '09, Nick Lahoud '10, Greg Vasami '09, Kyle Keefe '09, Foster Thalheimer '09, Caitlin Duggan Thalheimer '09, Merl McCumber '09, Mac Stemberg '07, Alex Lesser '09, and Justine Bryar '09.

9 | Thomson Hall reunion
Friends from the third floor of Thomson Hall reunited in Boston in October 2014. Pictured from left to right are: Laura Bothfeld '84, Robin Rittinger '83, Nancy Doyle '84, Kathy Sampson Malloy '83, Sue Yablon Yuhas, Liz McCartney, and Christine Hartman '84.

10 | Fiji brothers’ annual golf trip
For more than 25 years, several Fiji fraternity brothers from the class of 1977 have gathered for an annual golf trip. Half of the brothers who join in the trip are from Ohio and half are from other states, and they compete in a “Ryder Cup” match between Team Ohio and Team USA. Pictured at their most recent gathering at the Forest Dunes Golf Club in Roscommon, MI, on September 8, 2014, are, front row: Bruce Smith ’77, Rick Goclano ’77, Ken Sternad ’77, Paul Eddy ’77, Greg McComas ’77; back row: Doug Kennedy ’77, Greg Sponseller ’77, Bob DiBiasio ’77, Steve Walton ’77, Byron Choka ’77, and Chris Swift ’77.

A honeymoon around the world

Brenden Lewer ’01 and his wife, Julie Lewer, bonded over their love of travel when they first met—and recently, they brought that love to life by taking a year-long honeymoon around the world. Their blog, “Moons Around the World,” details their journey, which began in November 2013.

“We are traveling the world in seek of luxury destinations, while sharing our stories of fun and adventure, love and romance,” their blog explains.

According to Brenden, the adventure is a dream come true. “We both have a passion for travel, trying exciting new adventures, meeting new people, eating different foods, learning about different cultures and going to places that we have dreamt about seeing. Many people in our lives and professions have said that they regret not traveling enough and we never want to live with any regrets.”

Together, the couple has visited nearly 20 countries around the world, and their blog details their accommodations at each destination. Brenden says they hope to inspire others to travel, experience the world, and make memories.

“Throughout this journey and while documenting our story, we hope to have inspired others to be courageous and follow their dreams. If there is a will, there is always a way to achieve your goals and follow your dreams.” For more on the couple’s travels, visit www.moonsaroundtheworld.com.
2000s

Jana Brown ’01 was appointed program manager of the Children’s Literacy Foundation in July 2014. The nonprofit works to nurture a love of reading and writing among low-income, at-risk, and rural children in New Hampshire and Vermont, and Jana will oversee the organization’s programs for summer readers and at-risk grants.

Rebecca Smith Lott ’01 joined the board of trustees for the Highland Foundation for Educational Excellence in Sharon Center, OH.

Martin McGann ’02 was named senior vice president of government advocacy for the Greater Cleveland Partnership in June 2014. Since February 2011, he had served as vice president of state and local government advocacy for the organization.

Jeffrey Bergeson ’03 began working as pastor at the Unity Presbyterian Church in Cambridge, OH, during the summer of 2014.

Jennifer Koch Bingham ’04 and Torrey Bingham ’03, owners of a Tampa-based wine bar named Cru Cellars, opened a location of the winery in Frankfort, MI. Jen is a certified sommelier with an advanced certificate in wines and spirits. She has been featured in publications such as Wine Spectator, Sommelier Journal, and the Chicago Sun-Times.

Eric Korn ’04 opened a restaurant called The Roost, Irvington in Irvington, NY.

Jeffrey Sindelar Jr. ’04 was a speaker at Take Back the Night on October 21, 2014. The program was presented in Canton, OH, by Malone University and Domestic Violence Project, Inc., in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Jeff is part of the Ohio Men’s Action Network (OMAN), and his presentation was titled “Sexual Assault Prevention: A Men’s Issue?”

Evan Bayles ’05 joined Northern Kentucky Eye Practice as an optometrist in July 2014. He earned his Doctorate of Optometry in 2009 from Southern College of Optometry.

Nicholas Levine ’06 was named head coach of boys’ varsity basketball at The Bishop’s School in San Diego, CA.

Sarah Ottney ’06 was appointed editor-in-chief for the Toledo Free Press, and she received a 2014 20 Under 40 Leadership Recognition Award in September 2014 at the annual 20 Under 40 awards ceremony in Toledo, OH.

Benjamin Chojnacki ’07 joined Walter | Haverfield LLP, a northeast Ohio law firm, as an associate in its Cleveland office.

Jason Ramsey ’07 joined the law firm of Roetzel & Andress, LPA in Akron, OH, as an associate in October 2014. Jason received his law degree from Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law. While at Ohio Northern, he served as chief justice on the Ohio Northern Law Moot Court and as associate editor of the Ohio Northern University Law Review.

Christopher Wyche ’08 was named director of external affairs for AT&T in northwestern Ohio.

2010s

Lauren Gentene ’10 was named head coach of the women’s basketball team at Clark Montessori high school in Cincinnati, OH.

Jason Robson ’10 started a joint dental practice with his father in July 2014 in Bellefontaine, OH.

Hannah Coughlin ’11 is now the coach of the Dublin Scioto High School girls’ field hockey team in Dublin, OH.

Judson Hall ’11 was promoted to director of player development for the Ohio State University men’s lacrosse team.

Kaylie Titus ’11 became women’s athletic director and head volleyball coach at the Fuchs Mizrachi School in Beachwood, OH.

Justin Akers ’12 was named the first men’s golf coach in the history of the athletic program at Indiana University South Bend.

Megan Hoffman ’12 was named community affairs coordinator for the city of Upper Arlington, OH.

Michelle Rotuno-Johnson ’12, a reporter for the Marion Star, published a book titled The Marion Popcorn Festival: A Fun-Filled History.

Morgan Treni ’12 released her debut album as a singer-songwriter, The Dreamer and Other Essays, a folk-pop album with jazz influences.

Travis Wall ’12 was named director of soccer operations at Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH, in June 2014.

Andrew Winters ’13 was named assistant coach for the Capital University men’s basketball team in Columbus, OH.

Marissa Alfano ’14 received a Mortar Board Fellowship to support her graduate studies at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. Mortar Board, the premier national honor society for college seniors, awards eight national fellowships each year.

Sarah Bechtel ’14 joined Ursuline College as a graduate assistant to the track and field program in July 2014. Sarah holds OWU track and field records in the pole vault, both indoors and outdoors.

Andrew Diehl ’14 rejoined the track and field staff at St. Lawrence University as an assistant coach.

Tabitha Johnsen ’14 was named deputy dog warden at the Wright-Poling Pickaway County Dog Shelter in Circleville, OH.

Marriages

1950s

David Reed ’57 and Janith Root Peak ’59 were married September 27, 2014. The couple met at Carlyle Place, a retirement community in Macon, GA, after having recently lost their spouses. The two had never met during their time at Ohio Wesleyan, but they are happy and excited to have found each other late in life. Please view the couple’s wedding photo online.

2000s

Marshall Jenney ’01 was married to Erin Christine Conaty on September 6, 2014, in Rehoboth Beach, DE.

Ali Long ’07 married Craig Raymond Mansfield in her home state of Georgia on May 25, 2014. The two reside in the Washington, DC, area. Maid of Honor and best friend since freshman year at OWU was

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please email your news to classnotes@owu.edu. You also can submit your news to: The Ohio Wesleyan Magazine, Ohio Wesleyan University, Mowry Alumni Center, 61 S. Sandusky St., Delaware, Ohio 43015, Attn.: Class Notes Editor.

Include your name (birth name, too) and class year as well as a daytime phone number, should we need to reach you. Submitted information may be edited for space. In addition, you also can send your Magazine class notes information to our alumni web site at www.owualumni.com for posting online.
Class Notes

WINTER 2014 | 43

Stephanie Taylor ’07 Paula Breen Clemmons ’07 also attended.

Jillian Snyder ’07 was married to Brian Scherf on October 18, 2014, in Fairview Park, OH. Many Ohio Wesleyan alumni joined them in the celebration, which included a reception at The Club at Key Center in downtown Cleveland.

Ross Stern ’09 was married to Ananne Kailas on July 26, 2014, at Falkirk Estate and Country Club in Central Valley, NY.

2010s

Lindsey Queen ’11 was married to Rob Gardner on May 4, 2014, at the NorthPointe Hotel and Conference Center in Lewis Center, OH.

1980s

Erica Mitchell ’78 and Steven Mitchell ’78 celebrated the birth of a granddaughter, Mia Kennedy Haire, to mother Bailey Mitchell on June 30, 2014.

1990s

Gregory Blomquist ’00 and Rachel Blomquist ’00 celebrated the birth of Niall Stigand Blomquist on July 29, 2014. Also celebrating is grandfather Glenn Blomquist ’67.

Jaclyn Nichols ’01 welcomed Isabel Lou Nichols on August 15, 2014.

Kimberly Miller ’02 and Philip Miller ’02 celebrated the birth of James Peter Miller on August 15, 2014. Also celebrating are uncle Mark Dubovec ’10, grandfather Robert Dubovec Sr. ’73, great-aunt Marina Shahinian ’82, and second cousin Nicole Blatchford ’15.

Katie Feran Lindamood ’03 welcomed a daughter, Cameron Eliza Lindamood, on August 12, 2014. Also celebrating are aunts Sarah Feran Ayers ’00 and Meghan Feran Sexton ’06.

Evan Garver ’04 and his wife Melissa are very happy to announce the arrival of a baby girl, Alaina Leo Garver.

John Burns ’04 and Jennifer Burns ’06 welcomed Micah Glen Burns on August 7, 2014. Also celebrating is Micah’s great-aunt, Susan Howard ’79, uncle James Burns ’99, and aunt Julie Karra ’01.

Neal Boone ’05 celebrated the birth of a son, Victor James Boone, on July 4, 2014.

Alison Mock ’05 welcomed a son, Connor Jackson Mock, on September 28, 2014.

Carrie Schlegel ’05 and John Schlegel ’05 welcomed a daughter, Nora Schlegel, in September 2014. Also celebrating are grandparents Nancy Williams ’72 and Thomas Williams ’72.

Charlie Diemar ’06 and his wife Abby Diemar are happy to announce the birth of their son Andrew “Drew” James Diemar on August 18, 2014.

Salvatore Hall ’07 welcomed a son, Sam Hall, on July 4, 2014.

Christopher Incorvia ’07 celebrated the birth of Victoria Michelle on August 29, 2014.

Kyle Sherman ’07 welcomed a daughter, Nora, on October 9, 2014.

Sean Kennedy ’08 celebrated the birth of Elizabeth Kathryn Kennedy on July 24, 2014.

Joy Twesigyi ’08 welcomed Kalenzi William Smyth on July 16, 2014. Also celebrating are aunts Gloria Twesigyi ’07 and Peace Twesigyi ’08.

Andrew Miglietti ’09 and Catie Coleman Miglietti ’09 celebrated the birth of a daughter, Eve, on September 19, 2014. Also celebrating is uncle Nathan Kafiy ’13.

Emund Livingstone ’09 and Paolamantina Grullon Livinstone ’10 celebrated the birth of Sebastian Alexander Livingstone on September 1, 2014.

In Memoriam

1930s

Virginia Waer Dawson ’39, of Ann Arbor, MI, died on August 22, 2014, at the age of 97. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Evelyn Reger Frost ’42, of Parkersburg, WV, died on July 22, 2014, at the age of 91. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Dorothy “Dot” Millman ’42, of Murrells Inlet, SC, died on October 5, 2014, at the age of 93. She was a member of Delta Phi Beta sorority.

Dorothy “Dot” Millman ’43, of Venice, FL, died on July 4, 2014, at the age of 92.

Mary Fulton Pleiness ’43, of Fort Wayne, IN, died on August 19, 2014, at the age of 89.

Ilona Trousdale Stanwood ’47, of Simsbury, CT, died on July 22, 2014, at the age of 88. She was predeceased by her husband, Edwin Holland ’47, and is survived by a son, Peter Holland ’72. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

Charles Harrah ’48, of Bolton, MA, died on May 21, 2014, just hours short of his 91st birthday. He was preceded in death by a sister, Mary Rader ’48, and was a member of Chi Phi fraternity. Please see longer version of this obituary online.

C. Robert Lessig ’48, of Parkersburg, WV, died on August 23, 2014, at the age of 92. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Glen Swenunson ’48, of Houston, TX, died on August 3, 2014, at the age of 89. He is survived by his wife, Beulah Swenunson ’48.

Dorothy Weber ’48, of New Smyrna Beach, FL, died on October 1, 2014, at the age of 88. She was predeceased by her husband, Fred Weber ’43, and was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Ebert Weidner ’44, of Chagrin Falls, OH, died on July 1, 2014, at the age of 91. He was predeceased by his wife, Harriet Billman Weidner ’48, and he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

Wilda List Gibson ’45, of Mansfield, OH, died on September 3, 2014, at the age of 91. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Jack Basquin ’46, of Naples, FL, died on September 13, 2014, at the age of 89.

Rosemary Bohl ’47, of Urbana, OH, died on September 24, 2014, at the age of 89. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Mary Streip Klaren ’47, of Fort Wayne, IN, died on August 19, 2014, at the age of 89.

Mariana Shahinian ’54, of Urbana, OH, died on November 26, 2014, at the age of 93. She was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Winifred Temple Schumacher ’48, of Stow, OH, died on November 26, 2014, at the age of 97. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Virginia Lukenberg ’49, of Houston, TX, died on April 18, 2014, at the age of 89. She was a member of Delta Phi Beta sorority.

Virginia Lewis Jacobs ’49 of Lima, OH, died on August 2, 2014, at the age of 92. She is survived by her children, Ann Jacobs ’72 and John Jacobs ’76. She was a member of Phi Beta Phi sorority.

Winfred Temple Schumacher ’44, of Glen Mills, PA, died on July 19, 2014, at the age of 91. ‘Winnie’ was married for 66 years to Frederick Schumacher and is survived by her five daughters, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. She was a member of Kappa Delta sorority.

In Memoriam

1940s

Bettie Houlte Dzury ’42, of Stow, OH, died on June 23, 2014, at the age of 93. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Evelyn Reger Frost ’42, of Parkersburg, WV, died on October 2, 2014, at the age of 94. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Dorothy “Dot” Millman ’43, of Murrells Inlet, SC, died on October 5, 2014, at the age of 93. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

Dorothy “Dot” Millman ’44, of Venice, FL, died on July 4, 2014, at the age of 92.

Mary Fulton Pleiness ’44, of Fort Wayne, IN, died on August 19, 2014, at the age of 89.

Margaret Swenunson ’44, of Ann Arbor, MI, died on August 22, 2014, at the age of 91.

Evelyn Reger Frost ’44, of Fort Wayne, IN, died on August 20, 2014, at the age of 91. She was a member of Chi Phi fraternity.

Dorothy Weber ’44, of New Smyrna Beach, FL, died on October 1, 2014, at the age of 88. She was predeceased by her husband, Fred Weber ’43, and was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.
Barbara Blackford Holmes ’49, of Findlay, OH, died on October 10, 2014, at the age of 87. She is survived by a daughter, Tracey Mason ’78, and was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Frank Jacobs ’49, of Prairie Village, KS, died on September 30, 2014, at the age of 88. He was preceded in death by father Eunice Jacobs ’21 aunt, Josephine Wilthel ’30, and uncles George Wolfe ’41 and Wesley Wolfe ’25. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Jacobs ’50. Frank was a member of Phi Gamma Delta sorority.

Kappa Psi fraternity.

44  |  OWU

Class Notes

James Cheaney ’50 died on October 2, 2014 at the age of 88.

Benjamin Foote ’50, of Kent, OH, died on July 6, 2014, at the age of 85. He is survived by his wife, Anita Foote ’53, and he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

Josef Ladd ’50, of Bryn Mawr, PA, died on June 28, 2014, at the age of 87. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Robert Reese ’50, of Findlay, OH, died on September 2, 2014, at the age of 89.

Barbara Bowin ’51, of Sonora, CA, died on August 10, 2014, at the age of 85. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority. Barbara majored in education at OWU. Music was always an important part of her life, especially voice. She is survived by Jim, her husband of 63 years, four children, four grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.


Robert Ball ’52, of Avon, CT, died on August 21, 2014, at the age of 83.

Katharine Perkins Lorenz ’52, of Mechanicsburg, PA, died on September 13, 2014, at the age of 85. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

Nancy Farquharson Berquist ’53, of Prescott, AZ, died on January 26, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Goodwin Berquist ’52.

John Kelly ’53, of Dallas, TX, died on February 24, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Mary “Teddy” Kelly ’52, and was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

William McDevitt ’54, of Stratford, CT, died on October 1, 2014, at the age of 81. He was preceded in death by his father, Harold McDevitt 1916, a brother, Philip McDevitt ’49, and two cousins, Eleanor Kilroy ’47 and Robert McDevitt ’51. He is survived by a son, William McDevitt ’86. He was a member of Chi Phi fraternity.

Charles Carlson ’55, of Athens, OH, died on September 3, 2014, at the age of 82. He was preceded in death by his wife, Harriet Carlson ’55. He is survived by two brothers, Ron Carlson ’58 and Robert Carlson ’63, and a niece, Rebecca Royer ’85.

Bessie Mackle Durigg ’55, of Melbourne, FL, died on September 12, 2014, at the age of 80. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Durigg ’55, and was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Allan Edwards ’55, of Raleigh, NC, died on August 27, 2014, at the age of 80.

Jule Ann Marx Kingsley ’55, of Ormond Beach, FL, died on May 31, 2014. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

Judith Binkele McCulloh ’56, of Urbana, IL, died on July 13, 2014, at the age of 78. She is survived by her husband, Leon McCulloh ’55. Judith received the Distinguished Achievement Citation from OWU in 1993.

Sally Reich ’56, of Norwalk, CT, died on July 29, 2014. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Martha Wilkin Wise ’56, of Avon, OH, died on July 22, 2014, at the age of 80. She is survived by a cousin, Nancy Parks ’58, and was preceded by her mother, Kathryn Wilkin ’36, and her husband, Wayne Wise ’56. Martha was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

Olin Stephens III ’56, of Lebanon, NH, died on July 23, 2014, at the age of 80. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity. Please see longer version of this obituary online.

Charles Craig ’57, of Ann Arbor, MI, died on August 18, 2014, at the age of 79. He was predeceased by a brother, Harold Craig ’56. He is survived by sister Mary Sykora ’62, daughter Mary Shea ’84, and niece Elizabeth Kirchner ’92. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Gail Kendrick Baker ’58, of Palm Desert, CA, died on August 28, 2014, at the age of 77.

Gerald J. Christoff ’58, of New York, NY, died on October 2, 2014, at the age of 79.

Melvin Hoover ’58, of Marietta, OH, died on October 9, 2014, at the age of 77. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

1960s

Bruce Billings ’60, of Chocowinity, NC, died on August 18, 2014, at the age of 75. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

James Gustafson ’60, of Duluth, MN, died on July 23, 2014, at the age of 75. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

William Kyler ’60, of New Philadelphia, OH, died on August 27, 2014, at the age of 76. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

John Fischer ’61, of Cincinnati, OH, died on August 9, 2014, at the age of 74.

Stephen Sheridan ’61, of Solon, OH, died on July 19, 2014, at the age of 74. He is survived by a daughter, Jennifer Budin ’98, and he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Lucinda Hunt-Stowell ’62, of Southbury, CT, died on July 31, 2014, at the age of 73. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Judith Jones ’62, of Charlotte, NC, died on June 11, 2014, at the age of 74.

Judith Henry Dawson ’63, of Hallowell, ME, died on
September 18, 2014, at the age of 73. She was predeceased by her husband, Peter Dawson ’63, and she is survived by her daughter, Sarah Dawson Carr ’92. Judith was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Dale Larabee ’63, of San Diego, CA, died on June 27, 2014. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

Alene Baker Whitaker ’63, of Springfield, MO, died on September 21, 2014, at the age of 74. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority.

Richard Williamson Jr. ’63, of Atlanta, GA, died on September 12, 2014, at the age of 72. Richard was preceded in death by his father, Richard Williamson ’37. He is survived by a sister, Ann Meier ’63, and a brother, Thomas B. Williamson ’72. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

John Woods ’63, of Delaware, OH, died on July 14, 2014, at the age of 72. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Kenneth Kaye ’64, of League City, TX, died on July 29, 2014, at the age of 71. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

Phillip Spengeman ’67, of New Orleans, LA, died on August 3, 2014, at the age of 69. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

1970s

James Cavanagh ’70, of Hilton Head, SC, died on October 2, 2014, at the age of 66. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean Cavanagh ’70, and was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Richard Innis ’71, of Millburn, NJ, died on September 1, 2014, at the age of 65. He is survived by his wife, Katherine Youngs Innis ’72, and he was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Davis Burroughs III ’73, of Asbury Park, NJ, died on August 9, 2014, at the age of 63. He is survived by his partner, Elizabeth Old ’72, and a stepson, Forrest Old III ’12.

Jeffrey Dunbar ’73, of Fort Wayne, IN, died on September 19, 2014, at the age of 63. He was predeceased by a brother, Harlton Dunbar ’58, and was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Malcolm Kelley ’76, of Stamford, CT, died on July 18, 2014, at the age of 60. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Charles Canfield ’78, of Oreland, PA, died on October 8, 2014. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Barbara Wissler Letts ’79, of Danville, CA, died on July 17, 2014, at the age of 57.

1980s

Harry Kimbriel III ’84, of Irving, TX, died on August 10, 2014, at the age of 53.

Brooks Thomas ’91, of New York, NY, and East Hampton, NY, died on August 16, 2014. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta.

1990s

Joseph Cox, of Delaware, OH, died on August 5, 2014, at the age of 79. Joseph was a retired electrician for Ohio Wesleyan. Joseph is survived by a son, Joseph Cox ’86.

Catherine “Kay” Schlichting, of Delaware, OH, died on July 4, 2014, at the age of 90. Kay was a professor emeritus of OWU and was awarded an honorary degree in 1997. She was also the curator of the OWU historical collection until 2007.

Jim Leslie, Ohio Wesleyan’s first full-time chaplain from 1960 to 1988, died on October 31, 2014, at the age of 89. He is survived by his son Andrew Leslie ’84, daughters Jennifer Leslie ’81 and Deborah Leslie-Beck ’75, and grandchild, Jordan Leslie ’11. See page 45 for full story.

Verne Edwards, professor emeritus of journalism, died on November 4 in Delaware, OH, at the age of 90. He is survived by his wife, Dolores, daughters Debby Burke and Nancy Johnson, and several grandchildren and great grandchildren. See page 46 for full story.

Betty Freshwater, of Lakeside, OH, died on November 5, 2014, at the age of 92. She spent most of her teaching career at OWU and was instrumental in establishing the Early Childhood Center. She is preceded in death by her parents and her husbands George Smythe and George Freshwater.

Friends

Ellen Stover Eddy, of Short Hills, NJ, and Bayville, ME, died on June 16, 2014. Ellen and her husband John established the John Kennard Eddy Memorial Lecture on World Politics in memory of their son, Jeff, who died in 1988 as a student at Ohio Wesleyan.

Chris Iman, help desk coordinator in the Ohio Wesleyan information services office, for the death of her husband, Marc Iman, of Plain City, OH. Marc died on June 27, 2014.

Gigi DiBello ’83 for the loss of her wife, Carla Hansen, on May 19, 2014.

Bill Gianakopoulos ’83 for the loss of his mother-in-law, Hannah Connor, on September 6, 2014 in Naples, FL.

Diana Leard Wahl ’02 for the passing of her older brother, Robert E. Leard Jr., on April 5, 2014, at the age of 36. Robert lost his life while surfing in Del Mar, CA.

Current students Alyssa Clark ’17 and Tyler Clark ’15 for the loss of their father, Harry Clark, of Martinsburg, PA, who died on September 9, 2014, at the age of 71.

The deadline for receiving Class Notes submissions for the Spring OWU Magazine is January 15.
LIFE-CHANGING LEGACIES

Edwards and Leslie shaped the history of Ohio Wesleyan

Verne Edwards

If the value of college professors can be measured by the success of their former students, then few stand taller than Professor Emeritus of Journalism Verne Edwards. “It is no exaggeration to say that Verne Edwards helped to shape the face of American journalism by training an all-star team of some of the nation’s finest and most prominent journalists,” says OWU President Rock Jones.

Verne’s former students have won Pulitzer Prizes and Emmy Awards. They have held positions as top editors and journalists at the New York Times, Washington Post, Boston Globe, Denver Post, CBS News, 60 Minutes, Time, U.S. News and World Report, and other leading media outlets, corporations, nonprofits, and universities.

This legendary member of the Ohio Wesleyan faculty died November 4, at the age of 90, at Willow Brook Christian Village in Delaware, with his family by his side.

At a memorial service for Verne held in late November on campus, many of his former students remembered their professor with great fondness.

“Verne was the most inspiring teacher I had,” recalls Susan Headden ’77, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and senior associate at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

“He changed my life,” says Tom Jolly ’77, associate managing editor of the New York Times. “I’ve never had a more demanding or caring editor.”

For Greg Moore ’76, editor of the Denver Post, Verne was all that and more: “He made us care about each other as well.”

A student at Carleton College from 1942 to 1943, Verne then enlisted in the Army Air Force, where he served for three years. He completed his BS at Wisconsin State University in 1947 and his MS at the University of Wisconsin in 1949. What followed was an impressive assortment of journalism positions at the Milwaukee Journal, Buffalo Evening News, Columbus Dispatch, and Toledo Blade, and he was chief editorial writer for the Detroit Free Press.

He received writing awards from the Associated Press and United Press International.

Verne married Dolores Whitcher in 1947 and started his teaching career as a journalism instructor at Washington State University. He joined OWU’s journalism department in 1952, and he served as chairman from 1963 until his retirement in 1986. Verne received OWU’s Bishop Herbert Welch Meritorious Teaching Award in 1972. Two years before that, he wrote Journalism in a Free Society, a text that was used at more than 100 colleges.

Following Verne’s retirement, he worked as assistant to the publisher at the Delaware Gazette for 12 years, during which time he received the Arneson Award for Distinguished Public Service.

Verne is survived by his wife, Dolores, daughters Debby Burke and Nancy Johnson, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jim Leslie

As Ohio Wesleyan’s first full-time chaplain, The Rev. Dr. James Stewart Leslie, changed the lives of thousands of OWU students and for many was the spiritual anchor of the University.

“Jim served Ohio Wesleyan faithfully for nearly three decades and was considered the conscience of the University and confidant for OWU students during turbulent times that included the Vietnam War,” says OWU President Rock Jones.

“Generations of OWU students and employees live richer, more enlightened lives because of Jim’s good work.”

Jim, who served as chaplain from 1960 to 1988, died on October 21 in Delaware at age 89.

“Dr. Leslie was indeed influential on both my academic and spiritual growth in college and beyond,” recalls Tom Tritton ’69, senior fellow at the Chemical Heritage Foundation and chair of OWU’s Board of Trustees.

“He truly was the heart and soul of OWU during my time there, and I’m sure that was the case during his entire career at Ohio Wesleyan,” says Paul Kaliner ’74.

Originally from Boston, Jim completed his BA at DePauw University and his Bachelor of Divinity and PhD at Boston University School of Theology. He was ordained a Methodist minister and served as pastor at Methodist churches in Brookline, Lynn, and Medford, Massachusetts. He married Betty Anthony in 1951, and they traveled to London, England, for a year, where Jim was a Rotary Foundation Fellow.

After returning to Massachusetts, he served as the first full-time Director of the Wesley Foundation, and at the campuses of Harvard, MIT, Wellesley, and Dickinson. In 1960, he moved to Delaware to become OWU’s chaplain.

An active member of the National Association of College and University Chaplains and the Fellowship for Reconciliation, Jim retired from OWU in 1988, continuing occasional travel with Methodist work camps and Elder Hostels.

In 2008, OWU honored Jim as the University dedicated the James S. Leslie Center for Peace and Justice. The center is built on the ideals of servant leadership, restorative justice, and transformative reflection.

“My life is one of the lives touched by Jim Leslie,” says Linda Shearer ’68, recalling how small group discussions, accompanied by liturgy and a meal, informed her decision making in the years ahead. “I remember going to Dr. Leslie for counsel before committing myself to a marriage that has lasted 49 years, thus far.”

Preceded in death by his son Peter, Jim is survived by his wife, Betty; children Debbie Leslie-Beck, Diana McComas, Jennifer Leslie, Kristen Leslie, and Andy Leslie; 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

On page 48 of this issue, you can read one of Jim’s moving and memorable speeches.
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Hillary Panas Pember ’85
Sheila Fagan Plecha ’84
Dan Sharpe ’06
Samuel Smith ’96
Mary Beth Sommer ’88
Sue Struna Subel ’69
Thomas Tatham ’56
College days are a mixture of ecstatic moments, when everything is going well, and periods of despair, when nothing goes right, with the bulk of time being filled with hard work giving various degrees of satisfaction to both student and instructor.

There are times when the creation of a term paper brings out the best of one’s ideas and leads to a feeling of real accomplishment, when one’s love is returned in kind, and when the lacrosse team wins a particularly special game.

Such times are invigorating. But there are periods when the community is drawn together because one of its number has been hurt, and when it appears that almost nothing can be done about it except to come together and ask for the help of the God who at other times would have been called dead.

Such a feeling is being experienced now in our nation and in our community. We feel the same mixture of emotions that many of our students have felt during the past four years at Ohio Wesleyan. We feel the joy of accomplishment; the feeling of pride among parents and family, many of whom have made great sacrifices to let this day be possible for those who are to receive degrees today.

But this joy is tempered by the feeling of despair because of the recent events in our nation that have snuffed out the life of one who offered so much promise for our nation and its future.

There are those who in respect for the life and memory of Senator Kennedy would have us cancel the events of today, saying that this is not in keeping with the presidential proclamation designating this day as a day of national mourning.

We feel that it is most appropriate that we continue with plans for today’s events, that through these acts there might result a more intense desire to serve our God, our nation, our many callings, and our world in the spirit of this young man who was slain during the week, as well as in the spirit of one who was slain on Calvary.

In yesterday’s funeral service, Senator Edward Kennedy quoted his brother as saying: “Some men see things as they are and say ‘why?’ I dream things that never were and say, ‘Why not?”’

Why not work for those programs in our land that seek to alleviate pain, heal sickness, give men pride in themselves rather than giving honor to the destruction of villages in distant lands?

Why not work for a society that will judge a person by his potential and by his being a child of God rather than by his choice of church, nationality, or the pigmentation of his skin?

Why not extend the benefits of our technical know-how to those in our land and elsewhere who have been denied them because we have not been as concerned with building as we have in destroying?

Why not love mankind and use things instead of using mankind and loving things?

If what Robert Kennedy was saying to us in life can be heard by us through this agonizing experience of his death, then his living and his dying will not have been in vain.
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