The road lots traveled
from Pakistan to Ohio
Students celebrate the Indian Holi festival March 22, organized by Horizons International Club, welcoming the coming beauty of spring. (Photo by Kit Weber ’20)
Features

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ON THE COVER: Photo illustration by Jennifer Brinckerhoff
International students and cultural events enrich campus

As long ago as the 1890s, Ohio Wesleyan University attracted students from South Asia. The flow of students from the subcontinent began as a result of OWU alumni who joined Methodists in establishing schools and other education centers all around the world. Students from South Asia established a Young India Club on the OWU campus in the 1890s.

Well over a century later, Ohio Wesleyan attracts students from throughout the world, with the largest number of international students coming from South Asia. We celebrate the presence of an international student body with students from more than 35 countries. These students bring a magnificent array of diverse cultural heritages, religious traditions, and life experiences, enriching our campus and enhancing the education of students, faculty, and staff.

We speak often of an education that prepares the next generation of moral leaders for a global society. Through The OWU Connection, we challenge students to think big, go global, and get real. The significant presence of international students at OWU helps us establish a laboratory for a global society, making it possible to Go Global right here on campus.

A decade at OWU has given me an appreciation for numerous traditions on this global campus. Among my favorite events each year are Culture Fest and baccalaureate.

Culture Fest is sponsored each spring by Horizons International, a student organization that promotes cross-cultural friendship and understanding. At Culture Fest our students don the attire of their homelands and present various expressions of their native cultures, including music, dance, poetry, and other readings, followed by a buffet dinner featuring the exquisite cuisine of four different global cultures. It is one of the most well-attended events of the year.

Baccalaureate, planned and led by graduating seniors and held on the eve of Commencement, is a celebration of the diversity of the OWU campus. Each year baccalaureate begins with a parade of the nations, with every country represented in the graduating class recognized as a senior carries the nation’s flag to the stage of Gray Chapel.

We live in a time when some in our society question the benefits of a commitment to diversity. We live in a time when nationalism is on the rise around the world, at the expense of the values of cross-cultural friendship and understanding reflected in the longstanding mission of OWU’s Horizons International. We live in a time when some want to make it more difficult, not less difficult, to travel from one nation to another.

When given a choice of learning about and from those whose cultures and traditions are different from one’s own, too many people today choose to isolate themselves in their own cultural cocoons and in their ignorance of the humanity of individuals they view as different. The results can be tragic, even deadly.

I am grateful for the opportunity to spend my days in the midst of a student body that represents all corners of the globe and for the days I’ve spent among students who believe in the importance of building bridges, opening doors, crossing borders, and seeking to listen and understand rather than shout and condemn.”
body composed of young adults eager to learn from one another, and eager to live and study in the midst of people from all around the world. I am grateful for days spent among students who believe in the importance of building bridges, opening doors, crossing borders, and seeking to listen and understand rather than shout and condemn.

I am grateful to witness an academic community that places in leadership students from around the world. In my time at Ohio Wesleyan, our students have elected student body presidents from Pakistan and New Zealand. Students with family heritage in Laos and Slovenia have been elected senior class president. Seniors from Pakistan and Afghanistan have been elected by their classmates to serve as graduating class trustees. It is precisely this kind of environment that forms the next generation of moral leaders for a global society.

In this issue of OWU Magazine you will learn more about what it means to Go Global on the OWU campus as you read the stories of students from Pakistan, the nation that today sends the largest number of international students to Ohio Wesleyan, continuing a regional legacy that dates back more than a century. They enrich our campus, and they help prepare all of our students for lives that will enrich our global society.

Thank you for your support of this diverse, dynamic community and for your encouragement of all those who choose to make OWU their home for four years—and their alma mater for a lifetime.

Rock Jones
President, Ohio Wesleyan University
Twitter: @owu_rockjones

Students with the Rafiki club that celebrates African and Caribbean cultures perform at Culture Fest last March, including (from left, in front): Eva Churu ’19, (in back) Paris Norman ’19, Daniela Black ’19, and Iyana Buckmon ’20. (Photo by Reilly Wright ’20)
From the JAYwalk

Fody Frentsos receives staff STAR Award

A constant smile, a positive attitude, and a willingness to go above and beyond are just a few of the characteristics that nominators praised about Fotios “Fody” Frentsos ’84.

Frentsos received the third annual Special Thanks and Recognition (STAR) Award from the University Staff Council at a Jan. 11 luncheon. The peer-nominated award honors non-faculty employees who go above and beyond their job description, offering encouragement, a positive attitude, and an efficient work ethic to the campus community.

Frentsos is known as the “lifeline” of the Athletics Department, which includes being a trusted and sought-out mentor to students, especially athletes, although his actual title is coordinator of athletic facilities and equipment and he’s also the hitting coach for the baseball team. Whether it be a student struggling with academics or life at home, Frentsos’ door is open.

“He exemplifies what is great about Ohio Wesleyan,” said Mike DeWitt, head men’s basketball coach.

President Rock Jones noted the lasting impact that Frentsos leaves on former students. “Everywhere I traveled, I’d be asked, ‘How’s Fody?’ These questions came from former classmates, students, and alumni.”

Frentsos was a standout athlete as a student, earning nine letters in three sports. He served as an assistant football coach for 11 seasons, then transitioned to baseball full-time to be able to spend more time with his family, including his wife Kelly Maxwell Frentsos ’86 and their six children.

Visit the alumni Facebook page to read more accolades for Fody or share your own.

Last year’s STAR winner was Cole Hatcher, director of media and community relations, who has been with the University for 12 years and was recognized for his quick, creative, and dedicated work.

-32 degrees

A polar vortex roared into Delaware on Jan. 30, and the wind chill factor (frostbite conditions) led to the cancellation of classes due to weather for the first time since the spring of 2008. (Classes were also canceled in February 2011 following a power outage caused by an ice storm.)

President Rock Jones (right) congratulates Fody Frentsos ’84 on receiving an award from his peers for his positive attitude and impact on students. (Photo by Reilly Wright ’19)
Newly rebuilt Butler A. Jones House of Black Culture welcomes students

The newly reconstructed Butler A. Jones House of Black Culture, in the same location at 65 Oak Hill, will be rededicated in a special ceremony during Reunion Weekend. All are invited to the house at 4 p.m. May 18.

Ellis named first director of new OWU Career Connection Center

Megan R. Sanders Ellis ’05 was named executive director of the new OWU Career Connection Center in December, following a national search. She was previously administrative director of Ohio Wesleyan’s Woltemade Center for Economics, Business and Entrepreneurship.

In her new role, Ellis partners with University faculty and staff to create a comprehensive and contemporary career center rooted in OWU’s mission of practical idealism. The Career Connection program helps students identify and embrace all of the opportunities provided by their OWU education, understand their strengths, and explore how those strengths may relate to career options, and it provides a guided exit to ensure they are prepared for their first jobs as well as a lifetime of meaningful work.

In her new role, Ellis reports to Natalie Milburn Doan ’03, vice president for University Advancement, and oversees four employees including those from the current Office of Career Services.

“Megan is the perfect person to lead the new OWU Career Connection Center,” says Doan. “In her work with the Woltemade Center, Megan helped to create two new fellowship programs and spearhead the development and October opening of the Delaware Entrepreneurial Center at Ohio Wesleyan University. I am confident she will bring this same energy, vision, and success to her new role.”

The OWU Career Connection Center is a component of Ohio Wesleyan’s signature student experience, The OWU Connection. The OWU Connection is designed to help students think big (understand issues from multiple academic disciplines), go global (gain international perspective), and get real (translate classroom knowledge into real-world experience).

“Through The OWU Connection, Ohio Wesleyan has created a strong foundation to help students achieve their goals,” says Ellis, who graduated cum laude from the University with an economics management major and psychology minor. “The OWU Career Connection Center will help to expand the impact of The OWU Connection with enhanced faculty-driven, career-focused mentorship as well as OWU Connection internships, independent research projects, and other vehicles. I am honored to be part of such a visionary project.”

Alumni interested in volunteering with the office or offering an internship are invited to contact internships@owu.edu or call 740-368-3152.

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Update your preferred email address to stay connected to OWU and receive important news, invitations to events in your area, and the latest on class affinity reunions and activities at owu.edu/emailupdate.
For twin Battling Bishop football players Mher and Sasoun Tcholakian ’20, the best things come in pairs. The brothers get plenty of time together on the field and in the classroom — they’re both wide receivers on the team and double (of course) majors in sports management and business marketing.

“Having class with my brother is like having class with any other of my best friends,” Mher says. “You’re comfortable being with them and working with them all the time. He’s always there when I need help.”

Sasoun hopes their work ethic inspires underclassmen on the football team. Because players must maintain a certain grade requirement to be on the team, coursework and fieldwork are closely connected. “Football teaches you hard work and dedication, and that is how I take my academics. The coaches are always on us about getting good grades, and I want to show the young guys that it is important to work hard on and off the field,” Sasoun says.

Head Coach Tom Watts and the entire football staff enjoy the twins’ contagious energy, dedication to make everyone around them better, and athletic talent. They have both started for the team for the past two years. “They truly change the culture of a team, in a good way, just because of their character,” says Watts. “They are extremely hardworking, dedicated brothers who we always know we will get 100 percent from.

“I personally have twin boys, and I hope one day they grow up to be like them.”

The twins hope to translate their classroom and field experiences to sports broadcasting after graduating and already have a podcast about college football called “Double Time.” They also have a YouTube channel.

“The main goal is to eventually have our own network and talk about college football, because that is what we have expertise in,” Mher says. “We didn’t know what we wanted to do with our lives until this summer when an aunt of ours gave us the great idea to start a podcast.”

The brothers, from Farmington Hills, Michigan, have been playing competitive sports together their entire lives. Mher says he and Sasoun always planned to attend the same university. “We love playing sports together because there’s always a constant battle between us,” Mher says. “We don’t have to be yelling at each other or motivating each other face-to-face; we’ll just look over and see what the other guy is doing and try to one-up him.”

Says Sasoun: “We motivate each other more than anyone, without even trying.”

— Anna L. Davies ’19, with additional reporting by Caitlin Jefferson ’22
A Psychology Department experiment 50 years ago studied the role heredity plays in the IQ of a human being, concluding that environment also has important effects. In a Summer Science Research Program experiment last summer, (from left) Assistant Professor of Psychology Kira Bailey served as faculty mentor to Mickey Rice ’19, Lexi Lease ’19, and MaLia Walker ’19, who studied the effects of video game exposure on cognitive control. Participants in the study played 20 minutes of either a first-person shooter or strategy video game, and then completed tasks that assess cognitive control while temporary changes of their brain’s electrical activity were recorded from the scalp, as shown here.
Comfort Zones

Anna Davies ’19

After nearly four years, Anna Davies ’19 has written herself into Ohio Wesleyan’s history and, in many recent cases, has also been the person writing it. As the editorial assistant for OWU Magazine for three years, Davies — writing as A.L. Davies — has tackled everything from compiling Faculty Notes (see Page 22) to profiles (see Bishop Battles, Page 6) to longer features (“A FIJI in Fiji,” Winter 2019).

To thank Anna for her years of hard work in these pages, we decided to make her clean her room. In her single on the second floor of the Gillespie Honors House, Anna, originally from St. Clairsville, Ohio, has artifacts from her many travels through The OWU Connection, as well as a few aspirational pins and posters.

1. No pumped up kicks here
Anna digs her Converse. Like, really. “I basically have been wearing these since I was 9 years old, and I haven’t stopped,” she says. Plus: “Socks are an important form of expression.”

2. ‘I am fueled by caffeine’
Anna cops to drinking three or four cups of coffee a day in pursuit of her English major and history minor. She favors this mug with Jane Austen quotes on it. Austen could have been talking about the Honors House when she said: “Ah! There is nothing like staying at home, for real comfort.”

3. Keeper of secret ritual and history
Anna is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, for which she has served as marshal and chapter registrar. “Joining was one of the best decisions I made as an undergrad; I’ve met some of my closest friends through Kappa.”

4. Pin-teresting
Anna’s backpack features “a bajillion, give or take” pins on it, mostly from her travels. She has gone on four trips through OWU and, after completing the “The History of European Rivers” class this spring with Ellen Arnold, associate professor of history, she will embark on a fifth after graduation.

5. Shipyard satchel
Two of Anna’s trips were to Northern Ireland, where she visited Titanic Belfast, a visitor attraction on the site of the shipyard where the famed doomed passenger liner was built.

6. Jot this down
Anna is a writer. This is where she writes, among many, many other places.

7. Furry stand-in
Her mother got her this stuffed wiener dog for Valentine’s Day five years ago when she was missing “Mickey,” her half-dachshund, half-beagle pooch back home.

8. Who tells your story
Anna has had three internships on campus, including one for the Office of Communications, where she is now a student worker and writes for the magazine, among other assignments. She also interned with the English Department and launched its blog. Read her Final Word essay about the third, with the Student Involvement Office, on Page 48 of this issue.

This devotional book by Ted Shuttlesworth Jr. is a favorite of Anna’s, who says her faith is very important to her. “The book really helped me get centered in my faith for the new year.”

10. ‘I love you La Croix, please send me a hat’
Anna noticed an announcement for a contest for her favorite beverage on Instagram and replied with this very simple plea. A few weeks later, her gambit paid off when this hat arrived in the mail.

11. She is OWU
Anna was presented with this “You are OWU” award in September for her work as an orientation coordinator last summer.

— Molly Vogel
The 7,589 mile journey to become a Bishop

More than one-quarter of OWU’s international student population comes from Pakistan, and thrives  

By Joe Meyer

In October, Shadman Zafar ’94 flew back to Delaware to give the Robert L. Milligan Leaders in Business lecture.

As Citibank’s global head of digital, based outside Dallas — leading engineers, designers, product managers, and industry analysts to create, develop, and deploy digital financial services — he has plenty of business acumen to share. But over a lunch with students, Zafar’s conversation turned toward his roots.
He started chatting with Sophia Ahmed ’20, an Entrepreneurial Scholar and Woltemade Center Economics Management Fellow. In talking, the two Bishops separated by 25 years learned that they had attended the same high school— in Pakistan.

Such small-world connections are common when tracing Ohio Wesleyan’s ties to the South Asia country more than 7,500 miles away.

Ahmed and Zafar both attended the Karachi Grammar School, a private school that, like many top-tier schools in Pakistan, features instruction in English. One of Ahmed’s instructors was her literature teacher, Siham Gheewala ’10, who encouraged her to apply to OWU. The draw of OWU’s management economics major and a scholarship sealed the deal for Ahmed.

On a recent admission recruiting trip to Pakistan sponsored by EducationUSA, the U.S. Department of State network of international student advising centers, OWU Director of Admission Josh Stevens was struck by OWU’s local name recognition.

“We walked into these schools in Karachi and Lahore and Islamabad, and these college fairs and high school visits would begin, and students and counselors both would come directly to my table that is proudly waving the OWU banner and say, ‘Oh my gosh, I’m so glad you’re here. I was hoping to meet someone from OWU. My cousin went there, my teacher went there....’”

Usman Javaid ’10 came to Delaware from the prestigious Aitchison College Lahore, a boarding school known for producing prime ministers and other high-ranking governmental officers across Pakistan. Javaid recalls that when he came to OWU, two other Aitchison grads were OWU seniors. “We have lots of alumni from my high school that regularly go to Ohio Wesleyan,” he says.

The admission data bears this out. For the 2018-19 school year, 95 traditional international students from 35 countries are enrolled at OWU, and 25 of them come from Pakistan. This makes OWU something of an anomaly in the United States. Nationwide, Pakistan stands 23rd among countries sending students stateside to study. China and India take the top spots, accounting for roughly 33 and 18 percent, respectively, of the total 1.1 million international students for the 2017-18 academic year. Pakistan’s 77,000 students accounted for 0.7 percent, according to the 2018 Open Doors Report from the Institute of International Education.

Darrell Albon, administrative director of the OWU Connection programs and director of OWU’s international and off-campus programs, says Pakistan’s representation at OWU is a long-standing tradition. “Pakistan is always, always in
the top three, going back at least 20-25 years,” he says.

The University appreciates and pays close attention to those historic ties, says Stefanie Niles, OWU vice president for enrollment and communications. “It’s a high priority for us to continue those relationships, because they do go back beyond our time on campus,” Niles says.

On his recent tour, Stevens was joined by representatives from approximately 40 other schools, including Kansas State University, DePauw University, and the University of Buffalo. Getting to Pakistan took some effort and visa help from EducationUSA. But in these challenging times for higher education, when schools including Ohio Wesleyan are facing shrinking enrollment, recruiting “creatively” can pay off.

“If you can find a recruitment niche in one of these countries that’s not a terribly open country, there’s a competitive advantage in that,” Stevens says.

Culture shock

And yet some culture shock is inevitable when transitioning from an Islamic republic and cities like Karachi, one of the world’s largest. “Karachi really is a very metropolitan city and it’s very fast paced, so (arriving in Delaware) you suddenly feel a little bit of a shock,” says Moomal Shaikh ’13, who first heard about OWU from friends back home.

Slowing to the pace of a tightknit campus in a small Ohio city, though, came comfortably and quickly for her, aided by thorough orientation activities for international students that included stops like opening a checking account at a local bank.

“You’re not consistently feeling like a stranger in a place that, automatically you do tend to feel like a stranger when you first show up there, after going across the world and starting a whole new chapter of your life,” Shaikh says.

Now working as a client partner at Oracle, a computer technology corporation in New York City, Shaikh encourages younger cousins back in Pakistan to consider OWU, as well as a high school student from the Bronx whom she now mentors. “She’s actually originally from Ethiopia, and she was feeling a little nervous about going to college. I’m telling her there is no better experience than to be able to have your international community but also always to have the opportunity to expand out of that. I think Ohio Wesleyan is really unique in giving you that.”

Ibrahim “Ibs” Saeed ’15, the product manager of digital payments for JPMorgan Chase in New York City, also came to OWU from Karachi. A cousin who went to Northwestern University had friends who raved about OWU. Once on campus, Saeed says he never felt like an outsider, especially after he joined Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. “I was in a frat filled with all our baseball players. It doesn’t get more American than that. They were the most welcoming guys in the world,” he says.

friends invited Saeed to spend holidays in the States with their families. And when it came time for graduation, with hotel rooms in the area scarce and a large family contingent traveling to OWU for commencement, a professor offered a room in his house to put up Saeed’s relatives.

Javid, too, recalls the personal attention given by staff and faculty when he came from Lahore. “It was an exceptionally welcoming environment for an international student,” Javid says. He remembers appreciating that the prayer room was designed to be welcoming to students of all faith backgrounds, which, as a Muslim, he says was “very wonderful to see.”

He remembered a time when he was “going through this personal difficulty” and reached out to Chaplain Jon Powers late one night. “I just told him I was going through this tough time. And he showed up to my dorm very late at night, all dressed up in his uniform, and just took all the time in the world to listen to me and comfort me, and gave me advice.”

Such personal interactions made a mark on him. “It seemed that everybody was very sensitized to this influx of international students, where there was this great allowance for different styles of thinking and different styles of being,” Javid says.

After OWU, Javid earned a master’s degree in public policy from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government and has held a number of jobs focused on public policy and data analysis of international development, including posts with UNICEF and USAID. He’s worked for the World Bank Group since late 2012. He
started in the Washington, D.C., area, but in late 2017 he found his way back closer to home, as operations officer at the World Bank offices in Islamabad.

### The alumni network

After discovering their Karachi connection and her interest in business, Shadman Zafar encouraged Sophia Ahmed to apply for an internship with Citibank in Dallas, for which she was later chosen. This summer, she will work on financial forecasting, financial analysis, and the budgeting side of a team’s tech project proposals.

Instances of OWU alumni helping OWU students and other alumni aren’t limited by country of origin, of course. While majoring in economic management with a focus in marketing, Moomal Shaikh had an externship in digital marketing in New York City her senior year through Bill Jennings ’84. Jennings hired her following the externship to do research part-time while she was still a senior.

“Every time I have a current student call me and ask for job advice or something, I tell them, ‘Don’t underestimate the alumni network.’ The alumni network has been absolutely vital in my own growth,” Shaikh says. For her part, junior Ahmed says that after graduation, she hopes to remain in the States to pursue a master’s degree in finance or financial decision-making.

After maximizing her education in the United States, like Javaid, she plans to return to Pakistan to put it to work. “At the end of my career path, I do want to go back to Pakistan and take what I’ve learned and make a change any way that I can,” she says.

“When I think about where I stand right now in terms of knowing what I’m doing this summer, knowing what I’m doing when I graduate, I don’t think that I would be this clear if I was at another school. I will definitely recommend OWU to people back home,” Ahmed says.

— Joe Meyer is a freelancer writer from Westerville.

### Zafar: inventor and entrepreneur first, executive second

Shadman Zafar has helped change the way we use our phones for banking. He led development of Citibank’s app and the Zelle money transfer app and is responsible for ensuring both are safe from hackers.

The bad guys out to steal clients’ personal data today no longer are just hackers in a garage somewhere. More likely they are part of organized crime, state-sponsored groups, or terrorist organizations. Many work in office buildings and put in regular work hours, in sophisticated coordinated attacks on financial security across the globe.

Much of the security operates without you noticing. Before your device asks for your PIN or a two-step authorization code, the app/financial institution already knows your habits: how you hold your phone, how fast you press the numbers, even how fast you walk are just some of the “bio-markers” now noted by phones when people access their secure accounts.

It’s all about safety, and not being obtrusive to the customer.

“The people shouldn’t know the complexity of keeping them secure,” Zafar says.

Majoring in mathematics at OWU and completing most the requirements for a dual major in computer science, Zafar was hired after graduation by GTE Laboratories in Boston to work in research and development. Advancing through the ranks, he moved to the business side and joined Verizon when that company was formed out of GTE and Bell Atlantic.

Zafar’s not been afraid to go big with ideas in his corporate life. He recounts persuading the Verizon board to invest $24 billion — with a ‘B’ — to build the FIOS fiber optic network for residential customers.

“When I first presented it to the board, somebody told me … ‘You know the amount of money you’re asking for is the same amount of money this country spent on Project Manhattan?’ And I was like, ‘Yeah. And Project Manhattan changed the future of this country, just like this will change the future of this company,’ Zafar says. ‘This was really a transformational program for a company like Verizon.’

In 2011, he moved to London, and the financial side, joining Barclays as chief digital officer, before returning to the U.S. to join his extended family in Dallas in 2014, working at JPMorgan Chase as head of digital products and services, and then Citibank as its global head of digital.

Despite his success as a corporate executive, Zafar says he considers himself first to be an inventor and entrepreneur. He holds about 100 patents on inventions in entertainment and media, telecommunications, software engineering, finance and, most recently, in healthcare. He’s also started a private equity firm, a nonprofit foundation, and has a book in the offing about the keys to success in corporate America.

He is also on the ballot to join OWU’s Board of Trustees. (See voting information on Page 25.)
Ambassador Shirin Tahir-Kheli ’61 blazed an early trail to Delaware

Shirin Tahir-Kheli ’61, a national security advisor to three U.S. presidents, first made the 7,062-mile journey from Peshawar to Delaware via train, plane, and Greyhound bus at the age of just 15.

Born in the south-central Indian city of Hyderabad before the partition of Pakistan from India in 1947, she was the daughter of prominent physicist and scholar Dr. Raziuddin Siddiqui. Her father was called upon by leaders of the newly independent Pakistan to lead the development of its higher education system, and the family relocated to Peshawar in northwest Pakistan in the shadow on the Khyber Pass.

At the University of Peshawar, her father set up a U.S.-Pakistan university faculty exchange with Colorado State University. A visiting professor from CSU previously had taught at Ohio Wesleyan and suggested OWU for the young Tahir-Kheli while the family also was considering Columbia University in New York.

Tahir-Kheli devotes most of a chapter in her 2018 book, Before the Age of Prejudice: A Muslim Woman’s National Security Work With Three American Presidents, to her time at OWU.

“My time in Delaware, Ohio, covered an era where the only possible contact with my family back in Pakistan was through the weekly letter. Yet surprisingly, I did not feel isolated in Middle America,” she writes in the book.

“Friendship and understanding seemed to soften any loneliness that might have been natural in a very young Muslim girl’s transplantation from the frontier town of Peshawar in Pakistan to the bucolic meadows circled by the Olentangy and Scioto Rivers in Delaware, Ohio. Obviously one of the very few female ‘foreign’ students in the Delaware, Ohio, of the day, I found my fellow students, teachers, and the townspeople curious about me. However, their curiosity contained no hostility; instead, it aimed at the novelty of a different religion or culture that I clearly represented.”

After graduating from OWU in two years, Tahir-Kheli earned a master’s and Ph.D. in international relations from the University of Pennsylvania before embarking on a highly distinguished career as a political scientist and diplomat. She served as a member of the National Security Advisor staff and in the State Department, working in the administrations of Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, and George W. Bush.

“I landed first in Ohio, so I consider I’m from Ohio.”

She was appointed as the first ambassador for women’s empowerment by U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, making her the first American Muslim ambassador when she was sworn in under President Bush in 1990. She then served as senior advisor to the secretary of state on United Nations reform. She later served for two years on White House National Security Council under the second President Bush.

Her graduation from OWU nearly was derailed by the swimming pool. Just a couple of months before her scheduled June 1961 graduation, she was called to her counselor’s office to review a checklist of graduation requirements. Passing a swimming test was on the list, and she’d never learned to swim. Another international student was enlisted to tutor her through a splash crash course, and six weeks later, she graduated on schedule.

Now retired and living in the Philadelphia area, Tahir-Kheli says she continues to extol the virtues of Ohio Wesleyan and a great liberal arts education at every chance. She has taken to citing Ohio when asked about her origin. “I landed first in Ohio, so I consider I’m from Ohio,” she says.

Ohio Wesleyan, “gives you that sense of belonging,” she says, “which is important for nurturing and so on. And I think that’s probably why a lot of South Asians from half a world away come. Because it’s a place where you get a serious education, but it’s also a place where you just are nurtured. It’s a special place.”

All multicultural and international alumni and their guests are invited to a special reception at 5 p.m., Friday, May 17, during Reunion Weekend. 
See owu.edu/2019rw for more information.
Katie White Arendt ’98 has made it her life’s work to advocate for pregnant women through medicine, overseeing a team of more than 400 at the prestigious Mayo Clinic. By Laura Arenscheid

The bulletin board that Katherine “Katie” White Arendt ’98 keeps behind her desk at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, is covered with reminders of things that matter to her: a card recognizing Mother Teresa’s canonization; notes from friends, colleagues, and family; a photo of the Mayo Clinic as a nod to its mission — putting patients’ needs first, always.
Katie White Arendt visits the Schmimel/Conrades Science Center during her visit to campus in October to participate in the Women of Ohio Wesleyan leadership forum. (Photo by Mark Schmitter ’12)
And one more slip of paper, printed with words physician-writer Howard W. Haggard wrote in 1929: “The position of woman in any civilization is an index of the advancement of the civilization; the position of woman is gauged by the care given her at the birth of her child.”

It’s an adage that has defined Arendt’s professional life. Her work focuses on how doctors around the world can take better care of women with complicated medical diagnoses during their pregnancies. “It is extraordinarily satisfying to care for these women,” Arendt says, “because there is a baby at the end. That’s something I’ve learned in my career: Mothers matter, and pediatric care can begin in the womb.”

In the 21 years since she left Ohio Wesleyan, Arendt has become an international expert on ways to keep pregnant women — and their babies — alive. She has gone from Mayo Clinic medical student to the clinic’s medical director of obstetric anesthesiology to the associate practice chair for the department, overseeing a team of more than 400 anesthesiologists and nurses in one of the country’s best medical research institutions.

Dr. Carlos Mantilla, chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine at Mayo, says Arendt is at the forefront of providing new understanding and addressing the gaps in current knowledge about maternal mortality and morbidity, in particular with women with cardiac disease, not just at the Mayo Clinic but around the world. “When someone has to look up ‘What do we know; what is our understanding; what is new about this topic?’ hers are the articles they would go to,” Mantilla says.

Her success is no surprise. Arendt has always been a high achiever. She won full scholarships to both OWU and the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, completed her medical residency and internship at the clinic, then earned a prestigious fellowship in obstetric anesthesiology at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. A self-described extrovert, she bubbles over with energy, exuding happiness and laughing as she tells stories about everything from her days on Sandusky Street to her three kids (two girls and a boy, ages 15, 12, and 8).

But when it comes to her research, she turns serious, because the problem is serious. Arendt’s role is to help build the kind of medical care team that keeps women alive during childbirth — a feat that has become more difficult in the United States over the last 25 years. From 1990 to 2015, the rate of women in the United States who died during childbirth increased by 16.7 percent, the exact opposite of what happened in the rest of the world, according to a systematic analysis by the United Nations Maternal Mortality Inter-Agency Estimation Group.

An NPR and ProPublica investigation in May 2017 found that: “Every year in the U.S., 700 to 900 women die from pregnancy or childbirth-related causes, and some 65,000 nearly die — by many measures, the worst record in the developed world.”

That is where Arendt comes in. Her research and her work as an obstetric
anesthesiologist have focused on pregnant women with medical conditions like congenital heart disease — conditions that put them at higher risk for dying or getting very sick during childbirth.

“Prenatal and perinatal care is not a given in the United States,” Arendt says. “The fact that we’re losing mothers during childbirth is the biggest failing of our healthcare system.”

The most at-risk of at-risk women come to her Mayo Clinic team during their pregnancies, and she works hand-in-hand with obstetricians, perinatologists, neonatologists and other medical specialists to find ways to get them through delivery safely. She also leads research into the causes of increased maternal mortality, and into new approaches to treatment that could help more women survive. “We are the right hand of the obstetrician for critically ill pregnant patients,” she says of the work obstetric anesthesiologists do.

The reasons that women die during childbirth are as complex as their medical conditions, but, as Arendt wrote in a 2014 paper, nearly half of the deaths worldwide are caused by hemorrhaging after giving birth. About a fifth of the deaths are from complications related to hypertension and another fifth from acute heart problems, including heart attack. Almost all of these deaths are preventable.

The most recent data has shown that more and more women in the United States are dying as a result of cardiac disease, which has inspired her to collaborate with other specialists worldwide to develop best practices. Arendt has worked with national and international organizations to hold symposiums, collaborate on research, and write guidelines for the care of patients with cardiac disease in pregnancy.

Dr. Timothy Curry, vice chair for clinical practice for the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine at the Mayo Clinic, notes that Arendt is sought after in her field. “She’s reaching an audience of not just a hundred in a room but thousands and thousands of people around the world. But where she has her biggest impact is on the day-to-day care of those patients. She’s literally saving lives, both with her direct patient care and with the systems and processes that she is putting in place as a leader here at the Mayo Clinic.”

Arendt believes our changing society is a big factor in declining maternal health, including the increased likelihood of health conditions during pregnancy that come with women choosing to have babies later in life. Her work also addresses our nation’s increasing obesity and the complicating factors of abuse, addiction, poverty, and huge disparities in outcomes when comparing black women to the rest of the population.

“And then you put a pregnancy on top of it,” Arendt says. “I see my role as recognizing those challenges and facing the social systems to fix it.”

When Arendt speaks around the world, she tries to drive home the point that her work has shown over and over again: Doctors who focus on delivering a healthy baby often overlook additional health issues that could harm a mother. Because of that, mothers are dying.

This passion for helping women, especially women who might be overlooked, began when Arendt was an undergraduate student double-majoring in chemistry and philosophy. “Ohio Wesleyan was this place that gave me this incredible, broad experience,” she says.

To an outsider, OWU might have seemed inevitable for Arendt. Her parents, Elizabeth Fraunfelder ’71 and Nicholas J. White ’70 met at OWU, as did her maternal grandparents, Marian Buchwalter ’36 and William A. Fraunfelder ’36. Her grandfather, Nicholas L. White ’52 and great-grandmother, two uncles, and an aunt are also alumni. In fact, when Arendt came to tour the campus, her grandfather’s photo was hanging up in the gym — White managed the men’s basketball team that won the 1948-49 Ohio Athletic Conference championship.

Arendt had already been accepted through early admission to Princeton University, which her sister attended. She was pretty sure she wanted to be a doctor, and the chance for an Ivy League education was enticing. “But then I visited Ohio Wesleyan, and it felt like I would be free to explore and grow — and I thought if I went to Princeton, I would be more focused on performance and perfection than becoming the best form of me,” she says.

Ohio Wesleyan also allowed her to keep playing soccer, a sport she loved. A presidential scholarship allowed her to attend tuition-free, and she never looked back.

She made friends from around the world, including her roommate, Farida Khwaja ’98, who came to OWU from Pakistan (see story about other Pakistani alumni, Page 10). During her junior year, Arendt traveled with a group of friends from a campus Christian group to south Texas as part of the ARISE Border Witness Program, which helps empower women along the Rio Grande River to improve their communities. And she learned about the ways in which women often encountered roadblocks — both professionally and in how they received medical care.

She returned to her studies with an even more determined focus, tackling philosophy texts and chemistry experiments with the memory of real women she’d met who might benefit from her advocacy and research.

At OWU, “I kind of became a feminist,” she says now. She interned one summer in Washington, D.C., with a public-affairs consultant group named Bass and Howes, Inc., which provides grassroots organizing and network building around progressive issues, especially women’s health issues. She also had the chance to conduct summer chemistry research.

Studying philosophy and taking English composition classes at OWU, she believes, improved her ability to write. The close-knit campus allowed her to have personal relationships with her professors. And she thinks both made her a better doctor.

“I don’t take those parts of my education for granted,” she says. “The
ability to deal with ambiguity, to hold a lot of thoughts in suspension — to know that the world isn’t black and white or right and wrong — you’re not going to learn that in medical school.

“To have had that base of development early on has been critical to my development as a person.”

After graduation, Arendt went to the Mayo Clinic’s College of Medicine, then completed both a residency and internship at the clinic. She was in Rochester when she met her husband, Patrick Arendt, who played Division I hockey at the University of Notre Dame. He is now a self-employed criminal defense attorney, which gives him room to get their children to school, extracurricular activities, and friends’ houses to hang out.

“People always ask me, ’How do you do it all?’ I think it’s important to tell them, ’I don’t!’” she says, laughing. “I have this incredibly supportive spouse who takes on so much of the work of our household, and that lets me do the work I do. I think it’s important for people to know that — you don’t have to do everything.”

But that doesn’t stop Arendt from trying.

At Mayo, she has championed new programs that improve women’s and babies’ chances of surviving childbirth, specifically in the use of anesthesia during fetal surgery — surgeries on a fetus in the womb.

“Mayo Clinic is one of few surgical centers in the world which performs these procedures. We have one of the highest volume of fetal surgery centers in the country,” she says. “When there is something wrong with the baby in the womb, when a baby has tumors or spina bifida or has hernias into the lungs, there are things we can do. We can fix this while the baby is still in the womb. As pediatric and obstetric anesthesiologists, we work to keep these mothers and babies safe while the surgeons perform these complicated procedures.”

The anesthesia in those cases is complex, but complexity is where Arendt shines.

She helped build a Mayo Clinic perinatal program that unites obstetricians, neonatal caregivers, nurses, midwives and other medical professionals to save high-risk pregnant women — those with, for example, cancer, organ failure or heart disease.

“At Mayo Clinic, we care for very, very sick pregnant women, but we don’t lose women,” she says. “We have seen changes in morbidity scores, the prevention of post-operative wounds and infections, a reduction in the number of women sent to the intensive-care unit for unrecognized escalation of illnesses. And the truly fulfilling thing is that we are informing care 20 years down the road; we are making things better for women in the future.”
Ohio Wesleyan students a natural fit at the Mayo Clinic

Dr. E. Rolland Dickson ’55, an internationally renowned medical specialist in liver transplant and liver disease, and professor emeritus of medicine at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, has spent more than 40 years at the Mayo Clinic. Dickson’s lifelong commitment to medicine may have started in medical school, but has carried forward in his work. He is responsible for pioneering new treatments for end-stage liver diseases and has conducted research into relatively unknown liver diseases. That research was a foundation for the Mayo Clinic, which is now the largest liver transplant center in the world.

He was the Rev. Billy Graham’s doctor and has mentored young physicians and researchers throughout his time at Mayo. In 2013, 10 years after his retirement, he founded the Dr. E. Rolland Dickson Endowed Scholarship at OWU to provide tuition support for pre-med and science students.

In 2015, he worked to facilitate an internship opportunity for OWU students at Mayo. He connected Alexandra Cook ’16, a biochemistry major, with a former protégé of his, Dr. Timothy Nelson, a cardiologist at Mayo.

Cook is one of several OWU students who have had summer internships at the Mayo Clinic. “These are wonderful young people, and we’ve been very pleased with how well they’ve done in the lab — we’ve had a very, very good relationship with the Ohio Wesleyan students,” Dickson said. “And I think they’ve come away with a new understanding of some of the science we do at the Mayo Clinic.”

Dickson said Ohio Wesleyan and the Mayo Clinic are a natural fit.

“Both Mayo and Wesleyan have the same doctrine,” he said. “What is really going to serve our nation, our people, at the best level — both in education and science? How can we stimulate our students to live up to their greatest potential? We are real believers in bettering society here at Mayo, and Ohio Wesleyan has the same focus. It is the goal to optimize these students’ skills and talents to the best interests of our society.”

Alexandra Cook ’16

Alexandra Cook was a biochemistry major minoring in physics at OWU when she landed the internship at the Mayo Clinic in the summer of 2015. For three months, she worked with Dr. Timothy Nelson and his team, creating stem cells from other cells, looking for a solution for a disease that causes children to be born with half-developed hearts. The condition requires many surgeries at a young age, and ultimately, a heart transplant.

She returned to the Mayo Clinic in July 2016 for a post-bachelor’s degree graduate research program, where she managed her own projects and conducted experiments on genetic mutations. She also worked with middle school students, guiding them through experiments and building their interest in science.

“Having had a very, very good relationship with the Ohio Wesleyan students,” Dickson said. “And my work there gave me a broader understanding of the world and what might be available to me — there aren’t just three paths of scientist, doctor, or teacher; you can do a culmination of two or all three.”

After leaving the Mayo Clinic, she went on to earn a graduate degree in chemical engineering from Columbia University. This past winter, she accepted a full-time position with Celgene, a biopharmaceutical company in Summit, New Jersey.

Eric Baughman ’17

In the summer of 2016, Eric Baughman was a rising senior at OWU and traveled to Rochester, Minnesota, to conduct research with Dr. Nelson. He spent eight weeks helping Nelson and his research team try to understand the same disease Cook researched.

“Before then, I knew that I wanted to go into medicine,” Baughman says. “So this was a really good opportunity for me, because it was research, and I got to do some shadowing in the clinic. I really got to see both sides of medicine.”

Now, Baughman is in his second year of medical school at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine in Dublin, Ohio.

“The internship really affirmed my commitment to medicine,” he says. “And I think it helped me get into medical school.”

Curry calls Arendt’s combination of passion and expertise rare, even at Mayo. “Even in (this) kind of environment, at our institution, she stands out. And that’s impressive,” he says.

Last fall, Arendt returned to campus to speak at the Women of Ohio Wesleyan biennial leadership forum, where she connected with other alumnae who are leaders in their fields. Her career has been gratifying, challenging, and rewarding, but Arendt says she was humbled to see the impact Ohio Wesleyan women have had on the world.

“There are graduates from OWU teaching in low-income areas, working to provide healthcare to people in impoverished countries, and doing social work, ministry, and nonprofit work for which they are poorly paid while providing invaluable services to others. They are working to fix the social issues, education lapses, racial disparities, and income disparities that are at the heart of poor prenatal and newborn care,” she says.

“In contrast, I work for the best employer in the world, the Mayo Clinic, with a primary mission that is completely consistent with my values: ‘The needs of the patient come first.’ Combine that with my incredible family, I think I may be the luckiest OWU graduate ever. I still have a lot I need to give back.”

— Laura Arenscheid is a freelancer writer from Worthington, Ohio.
Andrew Busch ’07, assistant professor of health and human kinetics, published “Relationship of Movement Screens with Past Shoulder or Elbow Surgeries in Collegiate Baseball Players” in the International Journal of Sports Physical Therapy. The study assessed relationships between shoulder or elbow surgeries and Functional Movement Screen® shoulder mobility scores or Selective Functional Movement Assessment upper extremity patterns in collegiate baseball players.


Andrea Colvin, associate professor of Spanish, published an article in a special edition of alter/nativas, the Latin American cultural studies journal published by Ohio State University. The special edition was titled “Memoria de la ficción, ficción de la memoria: entre el ritual y la crítica.” Colvin’s article offers a reading of the 2011 novel El Espíritu de Mis Padres Sigue Subiendo en la Lluvia by Argentine author Patricio Pron, a member of the post-dictatorship generation in Argentina. The piece focuses on the impact of the previous generation’s inability or reluctance to transmit their memories of the dictatorship to the second generation. Colvin’s work shows that the only way to escape the inevitable repetition of trauma is through a deliberate confrontation with the past, including working through painful memories.

Rich Edwards, associate professor of music, will serve as camp director for the Music Department’s OWU 2019 Summer Music Camp for middle school students in band, choir, and orchestra. The camp will take place July 8-12. For more information, visit owu.edu/SummerMusicCamp.


Frank Hobbs, associate professor of fine arts, presented his work in a symposium on American painters in Umbria, Italy, in March. The symposium, an annual international event, was organized by the Luigi Bonazzi Cultural Association in Perugia, Italy. This year’s symposium questioned why central Italy is still a source of artistic inspiration (or is it?), the significance of place in a global artistic context, and how to grow the potentialities of cultural exchanges with the United States.

Juan Armando Rojas Joo, chief diversity officer and professor of Spanish, traveled to Egypt recently, where an Arabic printing of one of his poetry books, Santuarios desierto mar / Sanctuarios Desert Sea, sold out. One thousand copies of the book were printed and sold.

Sarah Kaka, assistant professor of education, along with Christopher T. Dobeck ’18, published “Using Music from the Past Century as a Primary

David Johnson, Allen Tramble Professor of Botany/Microbiology, and Nancy Murray, professor of botany-microbiology, published “A revision of Xylopia L. (Annonaceae): the species of Tropical Africa” in PhytoKeys. The article features a map made by Kathleen Vonderembse ’19 and a pen-and-ink illustration (above) by Catherine Beach ’16. Johnson and Murray also co-authored an article titled “New Records and Rediscoveries of Plants in Singapore” in Gardens’ Bulletin Singapore with 13 other authors. Johnson and Murray co-authored an article titled “Plastid and Seed Morphology Data Support a Revised Infrageneric Classification and an African Origin of the Pantropical Genus Xylopia (Annonaceae)” in Systematic Botany with Gregory W. Stull ’10, Thomas L. P. Couvreur, Jenna E. Reeger ’14 and Caroline M. Ray ’14.
Source in the U.S. History Classroom in the January issue of History Matters. Kaka also presented “Social Studies Preservice Teachers’ Abilities to Create Student-Centered Environments” in November 2018 at the College and University Faculty Assembly of the National Council for Social Studies’ annual conference in Chicago.

Donald Lateiner, emeritus professor of humanities-classics, published and presented “Olfactoring Ancient Fictions: Fair and Foul Fragrances in Ancient Novels” in Re-Wiring the Ancient Novel, Vol. 1: Greek Novels (Barkhuis, 2018). He also published “Recognizing Miracles in Ancient Greek Novels,” in Recognizing Miracles in Antiquity and Beyond (de Gruyter, Berlin and Boston, 2018) and was a respondent to a lecture on “Solon the Lawgiver, Myth and Reality” for the Washington Area Mediterranean Society. Lateiner’s review of Sean Sheehan’s A Guide to Reading Herodotus’ Histories (Bloombury Academic, 2018) was published in the online reviews section of the Ancient History Bulletin.

Michele Nobel, director of the special education program and assistant professor of education, presented “How Do I Know if My Students Are Getting It? Embedding Formative Assessment Technology-Based Tools Into Your Teaching” at the 2019 Council for Exceptional Children annual conference and expo in Indianapolis in January. Nobel was also selected to be a site team visitor and annual report reviewer for the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and trained for the position in Kansas City, Missouri, in July 2018.

Eva Paris-Huesca, assistant professor of Spanish, along with Dosinda Alvite (Denison University) and Eugenia Romero (Ohio State University), was awarded the Ohio Five Mellon Language Grant to complete the project “Representations of Gender Issues in Contemporary Spain: A Collaborative Teaching Approach” during spring semester. The project supports a one-semester team-teaching effort on contemporary literature, film, and popular culture from Spain and promotes and enriches cultural literacy at the advanced language level across three Ohio Five institutions. Paris-Huesca also recently joined the Spanish online film magazine Macguffin007.com, where she writes articles about Spanish women’s cinema. She attended the Sundance International Film Festival in January and wrote daily chronicles about the festival and film reviews of selected films. Along with Diane Marting (University of Mississippi) and Yamile Silva (University of Scranton), Paris-Huesca coordinated and edited the volume titled Agencia, Historia y Empoderamiento Femenino (Agency, History and Feminine Empowerment), which includes 22 critical studies about the works of women authors from the Spanish-speaking world.

Justin Kronewetter, emeritus professor of fine art, has 33 photographs on display from his “Seen with one eye” body of work as part of the juried GLCA show at Allegheny College titled “Challenging Borders: A GLCA Art Exchange.” This image was made in Granby, Colorado, in 2018. Kristina Bogdanov, associate professor of fine arts, and Jim Krehbiel, professor of fine arts, also have works included in the exhibition.
Holiday parties
owu.edu/alumni | Facebook | LinkedIn | Twitter | Instagram

Annie Seiler '75 has had six professional roles at Ohio Wesleyan, seven if you count her time as a student. She just celebrated 35 years of service for OWU, now working remotely from Baltimore as a senior executive gift officer. Congrats, Annie!

Members of the Class of 1977 gathered at the Philadelphia party, including (from left): Deborah McColloch, Meg Hagenbuch, Mary Eilen Trent, Alice Ughetta Bussiere, and Ellen Simpson.

San Francisco (from left): OWU President Rock Jones, Melissa Lollar Jones, Cheryl Wilson, Andrew Wilson ’13, and Anne McComas ’12.

Columbus (from left): Brian Mengerink, Alison Mengerink ’08, Samantha Sharpe ’09, Dan Sharpe ’06, Wes Goodman ’06 and Joe Rosato ’06.

Cleveland (from left): Eric Kickhoff ’00, David Livingston ’94, and Sara Schneider ’16.

New York City (from left): Oore Ladipo ’14, Vinay Raj ’16, and Jimmy Sanzone ’16.

Boston (from left): Nancy Seiwerth Williams ’72, Tom Williams ’72, Sarah Bruno ’10, Hillary Panas Pember ’85, Rich Karban ’14, and Andy Morrison ’88.
The following is a listing of OWU alumni events around the country. These events offer alumni, families, and friends opportunities to network with fellow Bishops and to reconnect with OWU close to home. To RSVP for an event, visit owu.edu/alumni or call (740) 368-3325.

APRIL

April 27 | Various locations
OWU vs. Denison lacrosse viewing parties

April 27 | Scioto Country Club
Monnett Club meeting

MAY

May 17-19 | On campus
Reunion Weekend (celebrating classes ending in 4 and 9)

JULY

July 13 | Northern Michigan
Red & Black Luncheon

AUGUST

August 5 | Scioto Reserve Country Club
Team OWU Golf outing

SEPTEMBER

September 12 | Various locations
Welcome to the City

OCTOBER

October 18-19 | On campus
Homecoming & Family Weekend

Greek Alumni Award winners announced

The David Hamilton Smith Greek Alumni Award celebrates our Greek alumni who contribute to the OWU fraternity/sorority community. The 2018-19 honorees are Richard Jackson ’53 (Alpha Sigma Phi) and Joni Manos Brown ’78 (Kappa Kappa Gamma). They will be honored during Homecoming & Family Weekend in October. Nominate a great Greek at owu.edu/greekawards. The deadline is June 1.

Let a Bishop Box bring OWU to you!

Are you hosting a gathering with OWU friends in your town and in need of some spirit swag? The Office of Alumni Relations is ready to help get your party (or educational or networking event) started. Visit owu.edu/bishopbox to request a Bishop Box today and we’ll help with marketing. Be sure to submit your photos to OWU Magazine after your event at classnotes@owu.edu.
1940s

Ralph Draves ’49 attended OWU after World War II. He had several different careers and ended up teaching on Long Island, N.Y., for more than 25 years. Upon retirement, he and his wife moved to Asheville, N.C. He became active in the local bicycle club and was renowned for his cue sheets. Bicycling took him touring in Europe, particularly the Netherlands. In his early 90s, health problems forced him to give up strenuous activities, and he has concentrated his attention on his daughter Kyra and grandchildren Alexandra and Camden. Overall, he has enjoyed his twilight years and has no regrets.

Catherine Winkler Olds ’49 made an acquaintance in Dr. Roy Bossert’s organic chemistry lab that resulted in a marriage of almost 68 years to Bob Olds ’50, who died in March 2018. She continues to live in their home in Brigham City, Utah, where they raised four successful citizens: an attorney, a CPA, a computer engineer, and a college professor. They added eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Olds worked in public education for 36 years and has conducted handbell choirs for adults and youth for 21 years. She says attending OWU was one of the best decisions of her life.

1950s

Pat James Simpson ’54 reports from Tucson, Arizona that all is well in the desert. She’s sure most of her classmates are probably confronting some age-related issues but doing the best they can. Her kids are doing well, and the grandkids are doing amazing things in college and beyond, which is what really counts. Cheers to those still here and best wishes to all!

Patricia “Pat” Cochran Davis ’59 married Bob Davis in 1960. She taught second grade for three years and then was a stay-at-home mom for three boys, who went on to give her seven grandchildren. Pat volunteered for many service organizations, enjoyed trips to many countries, and is now focusing on visiting our national parks. She spent 27 years living in an 1853 stone farmhouse on 100 acres — “a dream come true.” Her husband retired from his plastic surgery practice in 2002, and they downsized to a townhouse in 2003. Their hometown has been York, Pa., for 46 years.

Marcia Van Scoy Davis ’59 is retired from college counseling at...
**Arai shares experience at World War II internment camps**

Last December, on the 77th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, **Harold Arai ’57**, a Japanese-American who was interned with his family by the U.S government during World War II, gave a presentation about his experiences to an audience of 100 people at the historic Mercantile Library in downtown Cincinnati. Arai provided eye-opening detail about the context of the attack on Pearl Harbor — political, military, and legal. He showed photos of internment camps, mess halls, latrines, living quarters in horse stalls, documents families had to complete, and — at the evacuation — old men playing poker who didn’t want to leave the camp. He is pictured here with **Jo Anne Chrisman Warren ’57**, who invited him to speak in Cincinnati after hearing him on campus during OWU Reunion Weekend 2017. Arai is willing to travel and make this presentation to other groups.

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**Fred Fulmer ’59** and his wife Judy have enjoyed retirement for the last 20 years on the 47th floor of a highrise condo overlooking Lake Michigan in downtown Chicago. They enjoy cooking, walking the lakefront, and visiting Chicago’s restaurants and cultural attractions. Fred’s hobbies include photography, reading, and fishing. The Fulmers travel extensively, having visited all continents except Antarctica. Fred has enjoyed trekking with a Denison buddy in England, Scotland, Switzerland, and New Zealand. He also participates in a peer learning program at Northwestern University, belongs to a writing group, and has had photographs and articles published in *Northwest Journal*.

**Ann King Gunsalus ’59** married her high school sweetheart Jim after graduating from OWU and lived in Larchmont, N.Y. They have three sons, including **Curtis Gunsalus ’89** and **Eric Gunsalus ’87**. She had two careers: teaching in public school and a home business.

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**Joanne Hlavin Ritter ’59**, a lifelong gardener and reader, now devotes her time to a volunteer with Meals on Wheels and the Area Agency on Aging. Four years ago, she and **Carol Kraus Kepner ’60** moved into an active older-adult living community in Dallas and are loving it; it has everything they need including an on-site medical center. Forty years ago, Carol was a Texan.

**Diane “Dutch” Mulvihill Millard ’59** and her husband **Bob Millard ’60** are enjoying their retirement years in San Diego. Their three children and six grandchildren bring them much joy. Diane volunteers in a first-grade reading program, and they enjoy serving their church. Diane is currently the chaplain for her P.E.O. (Philanthropic Education Organization) chapter, which supports women’s opportunities to pursue their dreams for further education, and she has been attending community Bible studies for the past 15 years. Playing in a bridge group and her love for reading as a member of a book club help to keep her mind active. Bob and Diane are so grateful for meeting at OWU over 60 years ago!

**Jan Root Peak ’59** taught school for several years in Euclid and Elyria, Ohio. In 1961, she married **Jim Peak ’59** (Sigma Tau Epsilon). They had three sons and a happy 51-year marriage. He died at 75 after a long illness. Peak earned an accounting degree and pursued various related jobs. She also became a potter and did folk-art pieces in the north Georgia mountains. In 2013, she moved to Carlyle Place, an active older-adult living community in Dallas and are enjoying it; it has everything. Forty years ago, they moved into an active older-adult living community in Dallas and are loving it; it has everything they need including an on-site medical center. Forty years ago, he and **Carol Kraus Kepner ’60** moved into an active older-adult living community in Dallas and are loving it; it has everything they need including an on-site medical center. Forty years ago, he and **Carol Kraus Kepner ’60** moved into an active older-adult living community in Dallas and are loving it; it has everything they need including an on-site medical center. Forty years ago, he and **Carol Kraus Kepner ’60** moved into an active older-adult living community in Dallas and are loving it; it has everything they need including an on-site medical center. Forty years ago, he and **Carol Kraus Kepner ’60** moved into an active older-adult living community in Dallas and are loving it; it has everything they need including an on-site medical center. Forty years ago, he and **Carol Kraus Kepner ’60** moved into an active older-adult living community in Dallas and are loving it; it has everything they need including an on-site medical center. Forty years ago, he and **Carol Kraus Kepner ’60** moved into an active older-adult living community in Dallas and are loving it; it has everything they need including an on-site medical center. Forty years ago, he and **Carol Kraus Kepner ’60** moved into an active older-adult living community in Dallas and are loving it; it has everything they need including an on-site medical center.
2002, she has led a group of 14 women, "elves," in decorating the downtown for the holidays. Using her art degree, she designed the arch commemorating the “First Concrete Street in America,” Court Street. Most of all she is a wife, mother, and Nanna.

Don Saliers ’59, of Atlanta, has taught theology, liturgy, and music at Yale and Emory universities — with many guest lectureships in between — for more than 50 years. One of the great joys of his life has been combining church music, scholarship, and engagement with social issues. Writing a book and giving concerts around the country with daughter Emily have been rare privileges. Fifteen books and hundreds of essays later, it is still the act of working with students and anyone eager to learn that animates his life. Oh, then there is hiking, jazz, and a bit of golf thrown in.

Judy Sanders Selby ’59 enjoys life with her partner, Reid Spencer (Amherst College ’55). She is retired as marketing professor at the College of Charleston and was principal at Selby and Associates, a marketing consulting firm. She is now an active volunteer. She has two daughters, one in Los Angeles and one in New York, and one granddaughter, age 15. A rescue dog named Bonnie is now Judy and Reid’s faithful companion. She’s afraid of everyone but them. Reach Judy at judy.selby@gmail.com.

Carol Smith Simpson ’59 and her husband spend half of the year at their condo in Louisville, Ky., and the rest of the time at their condo in Bradenton, Fla. They still consider Louisville their home.

Beryl Mullen Whaley ’59 retired from teaching from the Murray, Ky., school system in 2001, and Peter Whaley ’59 retired from Murray State University in 2003. They relocated to Salisbury, Md., in 2007. Daughters, sons-in-law, and nine grandkids keep them busy. Daughter Sharon will become an empty-nester. Sandra teaches. Janet works for Easter Seals. Two sons-in-law are enjoying new jobs, the third received a major promotion. Two grandsons are employed. An employed granddaughter was married; another will graduate with a job. Five other grandkids have had successful school years. Collectively, the families spent a week at Beryl and Peter’s beach house in Fenwick Island, Del. Beryl has had a good year. Heart rehab, cataract surgery, and removal of two melanomas have helped Peter’s doctors keep their skills sharpened. The Whaleys have been very blessed.

David Yoder ’59 and his wife Elizabeth moved to Portland, Ore., in 2015 to be closer to their daughter’s and son’s families. While they lived in San Francisco for 50 years, they also called New York and Los Angeles home. Yoder spent his career in advertising, starting out with Campbell Soup as a “normal” client and ending up sprinting with Apple, Intel, Microsoft, Dell, and other roller coaster technology firms. The goal was to stay one day ahead of them.

Priscilla Davis Moon ’69 has always been proud to have a degree from OWU. God has been extraordinarily good to her and her husband Nick. They were able to provide their children a deliriously happy childhood growing up on the Gold Coast of Long Island, N.Y. Nick (BS Cornell, JD Georgetown Law) was in private practice there until they moved to Washington, D.C., in 2001. The energy of city living propelled them into second careers. Priscilla is a flight attendant for American Airlines and Nick is an attorney for Mercedes Benz. They have four wonderful, well-educated children; four wonderful, well-educated in-law children; and 17 wonderful grandchildren, one of whom Priscilla is hoping will attend OWU!
Yoder was a media specialist or a director for nine (often crazy) advertising agencies. His wife was a medical social worker.

**1960s**

Sue Aikman Alperin ’64 worked for the American Red Cross for five years, and she met her husband, an Air Force dentist, in the Philippines. They were married in 1970, moved to his hometown of Miami and one year later moved to Portland, Ore., where they still reside. They have two children, Scott and Mandy, and two grandchildren. Sue worked mostly in the mental health field but pursued her interest in interculturalism through a master’s degree in intercultural relations. Her last job was at Destinations Services, helping corporate clients temporarily moving to Portland. She loves to travel and has been to five continents. She also gardens, cross-country skis, hikes, and volunteers.

William “Bill” Barton ’64 is enjoying the benefits of retirement: more time to enjoy the journey and appreciate life, family, get-togethers with friends, travel, and those special times with his granddaughter. Bill and his wife Carol (Duquesne ’66) recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with OWU friends in attendance, followed by a trip to China and Vietnam. They live in McLean, Va., where they raised their family and enjoyed professional careers; now it is a center for connection to old friends and family. Remembering the OWU experience never gets old, and Bill can’t wait for the next 50 years. Reach him at wbbarton2@gmail.

Sue Wilson Bynum ’64 lives in New York City and is retired after 50 years working in nonprofits, government, and business, as well as her own consulting firm, dealing with public relations, marketing research, and planning. After getting an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School, Bynum has continued her commitment to nonprofits, tutors English, serves on several boards, and has been actively involved in the United Methodist Church for the past 20 years. She’s married to Bob Kimtis, who is retired after a Wall Street career, and she has two children and four wonderful teenage grandchildren (visit owu.edu/magazine for a photo). In addition to enjoying family and all that New York has to offer, they love to travel the world.

Tom Fenton ’64 and his wife Sharon still live in historic Marietta, Ohio, overlooking the confluence of the Ohio and Muskingum rivers. So far, the rivers have been kind to them, allowing them to view them from above and never from within or below. Recent events: text grandkid, gym workout, archaeological dig team volunteer (Sharon), pickleball, Transatlantic by Colum McCann, volunteer (Tom) for student drug-screening, hiking Colorado, and luck.

Nancy Nail Molitor ’64 has lived in Atlanta most of her married life (52 years), migrating after the Navy years to Delta Air Lines with

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**Annie Roetzel Hess ’79 and friends through the years**


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**Phi Psi alumni gather in New York City**

Phi Kappa Psi alumni got together (no reason, except they decided the time was right) on Dec. 7 at O’Lunney’s Times Square Pub in New York. Pictured from left: (front row) Matthew Schoengood ’78, Pete Kaestle ’77 (seated), John Green ’79 (seated), Jim Newman ’80, Les Kaciban ’80, Joe Angel ’79, Rob Shaw ’80, Mark Rodan ’80; (middle row) Tom Kane ’81, Clay Miles ’80, Jeff O’Sullivan ’81, John Whitaker ’81, Robert Fishman ’79, Sam Adams ’82, (back row) Steve Kjellman ’82 (standing on bench), Dave Griffin ’80, Tom Benton ’82, John Berger ’81, Scott Bedson ’81, and Doug Brown ’81.

Not pictured: Tom Jolly ’77.

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2012 mini OWU reunion at Beans In the Belfry, Brunswick, Md. From left: Berg, JaneEllen McLaughlin Saums ’80, Geyer and Hess.
her pilot husband Art. Retiring from the workforce early to be a stay-at-home mom, she has made time to volunteer with no shortage of travel and recreation, with boating and outdoor pursuits a common thread. They try to keep up with their two delightfully different grown children and their families, a son in Savannah, Ga., and a daughter in the Dominican Republic.

Michael Murphy ’64, Sigma Chi, married his wife Chris in 1970 and moved to Aurora, Ohio. Mike worked as a general dentist and Chris owned a physical therapy practice. Now they are retired and living in Charleston, S.C. Mike and Chris carry and walk 18 holes three times a week, go dancing weekly, and typically close down the bar. Mornings when Chris is outside running 7 miles, Mike is indoors watching Fox News and old movies, sometimes with a bloody mary. They have made great new friends. Despite the distance separating them from old friends, they have kept in close contact by attending each other’s celebrations and traveling together. They know how to retire!

Ron Pierre ’64 and Barb Hites Pierre ’64 are “retired” in LaGrange, Ohio, yet continuing their usual activities: serving the Lord in their church and ministries in Italy, Haiti, Africa, and the U.S., plus business involvements in commercial real estate, a biomedical company, and Sorrento Ristorante, while traveling and keeping up with their family of six, their spouses, and 24 grandchildren. They thank God daily for His undeserved grace: for both present and eternal blessings through the faith He gave us to believe in Christ, our Savior (Ephesians 2:8-10), for giving them each other, their family and friends, and for energy to enjoy all!

Janet Ahner Rubinoff ’64 finally decided last fall at 76 to retire from teaching at York University in Toronto. She is enjoying her “freedom” and trying to get some long-postponed writing done. Her address is 92 Maplewood Ave., Toronto, ON, Canada M6C 1J5. Maeve Murphy Shapiro ’64 recounts that recently, after asking her husband for the umpteenth time, “Where is...?” he casually remarked, “You’ve got five good years left.” “Oh, no,” she shuddered, “I’ve caught a case of the olds.” Thankfully that thought prompted her to reflect on her life’s journey — definitely a fun one. After graduation she headed to the East Coast with classmates. Fourteen years later and nine months pregnant, she drove to the West Coast with a master’s, a Siamese cat, and a husband. She started a psychotherapy practice in Tustin, Calif., where she still resides, and had two children, both of whom followed their father’s career in medicine. At this stage of life, her favorite activities are coffee with friends, duplicate bridge, and entering the digital world. She does not have a bucket list. However, she still has wanderlust and would go on an interesting trip any time. And although she only has five good years left, she knows who she is!

Washington inaugurated as Kalamazoo Valley Community College president
Dr. L. Marshall Washington ’91 was inaugurated as the third president of Kalamazoo Valley Community College in Kalamazoo, Mich., on Oct. 19. A communitywide celebration was held to honor the occasion. Washington is pictured here with his wife, Tonja Embry Washington ’89, and three children, Lauren, Ethan, and Jordan. (Photo courtesy KVCC)

Melissa Cruz ’04 and Jeff Donaldson ’04 were married in the fall of 2004. They taught in New York City for five years, earning their masters’ degrees in teaching. In 2012, Jeff was accepted to medical school, and they moved to Syracuse, N.Y. Their incredible daughter Sofia (5) was born in 2013. When Jeff joined the Cleveland Clinic in 2016, they moved to the wonderful town of Hudson, Ohio. They were blessed by their sons Eli (2) in 2016 and Caleb (1) in 2018. While Jeff completes his radiology residency, Melissa stays home and takes care of their children.

Claire Hogan Daubney ’99 lives in Powell, Ohio, with her husband Rich and their two children, Benjamin (4) and Lily (3). She is an elementary music teacher for Worthington City Schools and is fortunate to have been working at Bluffsview Elementary School for the past 12 years. Daubney also sings with Capriccio Columbus, a semi-professional community choir that maintains an active performance schedule throughout central Ohio. Several times since graduation, Capriccio Columbus has performed with the Central Ohio Symphony Orchestra, and Daubney has enjoyed her chances to visit OWU and sing in Gray Chapel again.
Betty Bright Stallings ’64 earned an M.S.W at the University of Wisconsin in 1966. She founded a nonprofit organization and served as its executive director for 14 years. This led her to write six books and travel the world speaking on issues related to nonprofit groups for 20-plus years. Retired at age 75, she is now active as a volunteer with Asante Africa Foundation after two amazing trips to South Africa. She’s been a volunteer with Asante Africa at age 75, she is now active as groups for 20-plus years. Retired on issues related to nonprofit and travel the world speaking This led her to write six books executive director for 14 years.

In early 2019, he was in rehearsal with Seattle-based director Rosa Joshi for OSF’s production of As You Like It, but still finds plenty of time in retirement to enjoy hiking, kayaking, fly-fishing, and skiing — as well as four grandchildren nearby in Corvallis, Ore., and Walla Walla, Wash.

Ben Barnes ’69 married Susan Carter Barnes ’69 three days after OWU graduation. He reported to Navy Officer Candidate School a month later and spent three years as a supply officer on a nuclear submarine. After the Navy, he earned his master’s in mathematics at the University of California, Davis. He worked in information technology for 37 years, holding positions of systems analyst, programmer, systems engineer, manager of applications development, and vice president of information technology. Sue spent 23 years in financial services. They retired in 2010 and live in Petaluma, Calif., and enjoy spending time with their two daughters and four grandchildren, singing in a chorus, traveling, walking, bike-riding, and being outdoors. They belong to several wine clubs, a gourmet group, and a book group, and attend classes at nearby Sonoma State University.

Robert Beard ’69 jokes he has reluctantly taken on a second career as a farmer after retiring as a strategic planning analyst for the Port Authority of New York/ New Jersey. He moved with his wife, Donna Pennington, to her family’s farm near Plains, Ga. After OWU he got a master’s in transportation from the University.

Lauren Smith ’09 worked as a field biologist (mainly with birds) and environmental educator after leaving OWU. In 2016, after deciding to focus on writing and science communication, she earned a M.Sc. in environmental studies with a focus on environmental writing at the University of Montana. Her essays have appeared in Alpinist and Entropy, among others, and links can be found at TalesFromAWanderingAlbatross.com. Currently, she is a knowledge translation associate at the Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities. She lives in Missoula, Mont., where she spends as much time as possible outside, mainly climbing on rocks and sharing unsolicited bird information.

Emily Turner ’09 is living in Columbia, Tenn., with her husband, Dennis O’Brien, and their dog Marilyn. She works as an OB/Gyn at Maury Regional Medical Center and loves every minute! She completed her residency program in Cincinnati (where she met Dennis) in June 2017 and took a three-week tour of Europe to celebrate. Married in April 2018, the couple loves their new small-town life in Tennessee.

Alumni run Glacier Park half marathon
Jenna Narwicz ’08, Ruthie Goodell ’09, and Chaz Narwicz ’10 completed the Glacier Park half marathon in Montana last June.

Hinkle and Pitts connect at housing conference
Casey Dobbins Hinkle ’04 met fellow alumnus Byron Pitts ’82 in November at the 2018 Housing Conference in Columbus, where the ABC newsmen was the keynote speaker. Hinkle says Pitts was an incredible speaker who made her laugh, cry, and leave inspired.

Alumni run Glacier Park half marathon
Jenna Narwicz ’08, Ruthie Goodell ’09, and Chaz Narwicz ’10 completed the Glacier Park half marathon in Montana last June.
University of Alabama and spent 40 years in freight transportation management. Beard and his wife have been married 35 years. They have two children, Penn and Erica, and two grandchildren, Josie and Charlie. In the summer they live in the mountains of North Carolina, two hours away from their daughter in Charlotte.

**Julie Wiegel Brust ’69 and Bob Brust ’67** will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this June. They were married one week after Julie’s graduation from OWU. They have three children and six grandchildren. Julie retired from teaching after 36 years in Bellbrook, Ohio. She is active in the Dayton Delta Gamma Alumnae Chapter, and she and Bob enjoy family vacations, Delta reunions, and travel frequently — Diana in the Midwest for Willis Towers Watson and Erin in the U.S. and Europe for the Go Game, the real world gaming company. Son Philip, national correspondent for The Washington Post, and his wife China have a son, 2-year-old Thomas.

**Lary Bump ’69** has lived in McKinney, Texas, for 13 years. He’s a freelance sports writer and an official scorer for the Texas Rangers. He spent three eventful, rewarding years as an elementary school special-education aide. His wife Margaret remains the orchestra director at McKinney North High School. Their daughter Samantha, a Hendrick College junior, is studying in London for a second semester. Their older daughters travel frequently — Diana in the Midwest for Willis Towers Watson and Erin in the U.S. and Europe for the Go Game, the real world gaming company. Son Philip, national correspondent for The Washington Post, and his wife China have a son, 2-year-old Thomas.

**Steve Clay ’69**, of Easton, Mass., retired from a 37-year career as a teacher, coach, and YMCA CEO in 2007, and now lives with his wife Mary Beth (Georgetown ’73, M.A. Smith ’74) in Falmouth, Mass., on Cape Cod. They have two grown children and five grandchildren, all within driving distance! Steve and Mary Beth, a retired public school speech pathologist, now run a residential real estate business.

**Joanne Noble Crawford ’69** finds it hard to believe that 50 years have passed since her OWU graduation. Since then, her life has been spent in Chicago, where she worked for Marshall Field’s, met her husband, Bill Crawford ’61, and raised three daughters. After years of volunteering and PTA, she earned a degree in registered nursing. Her focus quickly became hospice care, and she retired in 2009. Her time is now spent spoiling her four grandchildren, traveling to their family beach house in North Carolina, playing golf and pickleball, and finally trying to learn bridge (she wishes she had learned at the DG house!).

**Nancy Githens Crocker ’69** moved to Spain three months after graduation, inspired by a summer trip to Europe while at OWU. She stayed for seven years, living in Madrid and Paris, before returning to the U.S. to replenish her bank account. The love of languages, different cultures, and travel, however, stayed with her. Denver became her new home. She met her husband, raised a son, and worked for 40 years as a

**Murphy and Lear weddings**

Four-year OWU roommates **Sarah Murphey ’11** and **Kristen Lear ’11** served as each other’s maid of honor in their recent weddings. Murphey married Andrew King on June 30 in Mentor, Ohio, where they met at Mentor United Methodist Church. Lear married Tom Prebyl on Sept. 30 near Athens, Ga, where they met in graduate school at the University of Georgia.

**Gregory-Wasserman wedding**

Erin Gregory ’14 and Matthew Wasserman ’14 were married in the company of many cherished OWU alumni on Dec. 1 in Warwick, R.I. Cheers to their OWU memories, and here’s to their future! Pictured from left: (front row) Adam Dettra ’13, Brian Williams ’15, Abby Bennett ’15, Michaela Kim ’14, Ben Veaver ’14, Morgan Treni ’12, Emily Scott ’16, Sarah Groendyk ’15, Gnova Gumanow ’14; (middle row) Elizabeth Parker ’14, Myriem Ibourek ’14, Ryan Klein ’14, AJ Alonzo ’13, the groom, Gloria Clark Alonzo ’11, Lauren Foote ’14, Amy LeFebvre ’14, Madeline Miguel Dash ’14, Chris Williams ’12, Eric Charette ’12, (back) Yushan Hayman ’13, Dominic Strippoli ’12, Kelly Crunkilton ’12, Prabjot Kaur Virk ’14, the bride, Oore Ladipo ’14, Jordan Grammer ’14, Derek Smith ’14, and Misa Farslow ’12.

Not pictured: Priyanka Venkataraman ’14, Hannah Appelbaum ’14, Jon Rux ’12, Nicholas Oleski ’12, and T.J. Dasch ’14.
software developer and systems analyst. As a retiree, she loves her new life volunteering as an ESL teacher, taking classes at CU-Denver as a lifelong learner, and traveling with her husband… everywhere.

Dick Cromwell ’69 has returned to full-time employment after two years in semi-retirement. He’s now athletic director of Cardinal Stritch Catholic High School in Oregon, Ohio, near Toledo. He loves the challenges of working with youth (things are different from 1969 and yet they aren’t). His wife Kathy is still delighting people with her expertise in hairstyling. His son Brian Cromwell ’02 and daughter-in-law Talia Brader Cromwell ’02 are busy raising three boys; Brian coaches and teaches at DeSales High School in Columbus. His daughter Jenna (a registered dietitian and son-in-law Nick live in Perrysburg, Ohio, with their daughter and son. Forty-three years of teaching math, coaching football (including two Ohio state championship teams), and serving as a dean of students, athletic director, and principal have been FUN (a bourbon manhattan or two helps).

Cecily “Ceci” Campbell Eldridge ’69 and her husband John have called Merrimack, N.H., home for the last 40-plus years. They raised two daughters and enjoy keeping up with four nearby lively grandkids. Eldridge is four years into retirement from a satisfying career as an English, reading, and later ESOL teacher, and she’s still volunteering with her former high school program. As a cancer “thriller,” she’s relishing more time for various pursuits, not the least being her book bucket list!

Tom Eshelman ’69 had a 40-year career in IT in central Ohio, where he and his wife of 45 years still reside. They have been blessed with three lively kids and five grandkids.

Dave Eyrich ’69 and Toni Fingland Eyrich ’69 were married shortly after their graduation and moved to Cincinnati, where they have lived since. Toni retired 10 years ago from teaching at various grade levels. In April, Dave retired from his law practice but finds himself doing work for charities and friends. They have two children:

Jen (and hubby Dan) live in Washington D.C.; Nick (and wife Kara and 7-year-old son Owen) live in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, where they work for the U.S. State Department. Dave loves fishing and Toni enjoys biking in Sanibel, Fla., where they own a condo. They invite you to contact them if you’re ever in one of their neighborhoods — they always love catching up with OWU friends!

Harry Flannery ’69, of New Castle, Pa., retired in January after more than 41 years as senior corporate counsel at FirstEnergy in Akron, Ohio. Prior to that, he was the trust legal officer for the Pittsburgh National Bank and engaged in private practice. Flannery is currently counsel of the law office of Flannery, Seltzer,

Platt-Meisterman wedding
Ellen Graham Platt ’12 and Samuel Isaac Meisterman ’12 were married in Columbus on Sept. 2.

Scinto-Madonich wedding
Sara Scinto ’16 and Nathan Madonich ’16 were married on Oct. 13 in Kirtland, Ohio. Members of the wedding party included Courtney Austin ’16, Kevin Ford ’15, and Forest Dearing ’17. Also in attendance were Hannah Sampson ’15, Emma Sampson ’18, and John Sotos ’17.

Londot-Pappa wedding
Tamra Londot ’14 married Cameron Pappa ’16 on Aug. 14 in Utica, Ohio. OWU classmates, alumni, and coaches joined in the celebration. Londot played volleyball, basketball, and softball at OWU. Pappa played football. Pictured from left: (front row) Kristen Henning ’15, Stacey Lobdell (current OWU women’s basketball coach), Nan Carney-Debord (former women’s basketball coach), the bride and groom, Devon Fisher ’16; (middle row) Boo Kuchers (Athletes in Action leader), Sarah McQuade ’15, Katie Fain ’14, Tyler Jenkins ’16, Amanda Barker Richards ’13, Danielle Haley ’14, Chelsea Denman ’15, Rachael Carter ’16, Brooke Warner ’15, Morgan Hall ’13, Brooke Nethers ’13, Allisha Ferguson ’16, (back row) Sean Miliner ’15, David Males ’17, Matt Kuchers (Athletes in Action leader), Ben Pelkey ’16, Bryan Ansel ’16, Ryan Ehrhardt ’19, Chase Culbertson ’16, Erica Bryan ’14, Aaron Port ’16, Erika Reese ’13, Pat Huber ’62, Amanda Hatfield ’14, Jake Sanders ’17, Sarah Flint ’16, Roger Ingles (former OWU athletic director), and Jo Ingles (OWU newspaper advisor).
Harper & Palmer (hflannery@flanneryseltzer.com) and owns Castle Security, LLC. He will be married 50 years this June to Maureen Flaherty and has two children, Preston (Jennifer Jackson) and Courtney (Michael Scalzo), and four grandchildren, Connor, Payton, Miley, and Bentley. His most recent book is titled Rape: The Whole Truth and Nothing but the Truth, So Help...! (2017 Edgewood Press). Flannery holds law degrees from Ohio Northern University College of Law and Boston University School of Law. (See an additional OWU memory from Flannery on page 36)

Marti Bond Hardy ‘69 lives in Pepper Pike, Ohio, with her husband, Mike (University of Michigan Law School ‘72). She continues to teach Spanish, direct the service-learning program, and coach the varsity golf team at Laurel School, a girls college prep independent school in Shaker Heights. She says, “Thanks, OWU, for the wonderful preparation that has allowed me to follow my passion for the past 50 years.” She loves spending time with her two sons, Brian Hardy ’98 and Kevin (Wesleyan University, Conn., ’00), and their families in Boston, where she can watch her four grandchildren play sports. She also loves visiting her OWU Kappa and Theta friends in Westhampton, N.Y., every summer for the past 15 years.

Steve Heisel ’69 attended Ohio State University Medical School and moved to Boston for his psychiatric residency. He says practicing general psychiatry was delightful and never boring. Academically, he’s served at Boston University, the University of California Los Angeles, and the University of Auckland, New Zealand, but mostly at Harvard, supervising resident physicians and tutoring new students. He loves book-rich Boston but doesn’t give a damn about the Red Sox. He has two children, Andrew (32) and Ruth (29), the fruits of his 20-year marriage to another physician. The marriage ended in 1999, but together they’ve seen the kids through festive weddings and raucous graduations. Since retiring in 2014, Heisel has renewed his OWU liberal education at the Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement.

Kathie Hepler ’69 and her husband Rich Field live in beautiful Ann Arbor, Mich. They are minutes away from their family. Mike and Sara Bachman and two beautiful granddaughters, Abbi and Josie. They love living in Ann Arbor and take advantage of everything that the city and University of Michigan have to offer: music, free concerts, summer festivals, famous winter weather, wonderful neighbors, and great friends at their local gym (they are there four days a week!). Hepler treasures her OWU years and can’t wait to see everyone at the reunion!

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McClure (second from left with sunglasses on) with his Delt brothers.
Engagement ‘show and tell’

When the time came for Kieran Robertson to propose to his girlfriend Anna Massara ’18 in December, Robertson colluded with Massara’s class of third-graders to ensure everyone got points for participation.

Robertson also enlisted Massara’s school principal and a fellow teacher at St. Peter Catholic School in Upper Sandusky, Ohio, to surprise her on the last day of class before winter break. Her students, who already knew the Navy man Robertson from community events like Veterans Day presentations, were crucial co-conspirators.

“Because this is my first class I’m teaching out of college and he’d already established a relationship with them, it was perfect for me,” Massara says.

The principal distracted her by calling her to the school office, claiming Massara needed to fill out an emergency medical form before the end of the year. Upon returning, Massara found her 12 students and Robertson holding up signs spelling “Will you marry me?”

“I had no idea. They tricked me!” she says. “It was only about 9:55 a.m., and the students were so excited and kept talking about it the rest of the day. We are from a small town of Upper Sandusky, and it was very special to us all.”

Both Massara and Robertson graduated from Upper Sandusky High School in 2014. They connected after Robertson was honorably discharged from the Navy while Massara was a senior at OWU. “And of course when he proposed, I said yes,” she says.

He and his wife Joani play golf, pickleball, and tennis in addition to all the grandkids’ activities. He has lunch with four Delt brothers about every six weeks and gets back to OWU fairly often now that he is close.

Patricia “GG” Hawthorne Howard ’69 was born and raised in Elyria, Ohio, and has spent her life in education. Sharing the belief that travel is one of the best forms of education, GG travels extensively with her husband and two children. She also trains service dogs for Canine Companions for Independence. She’s taught art in Columbus, creative dramatics in Auckland, New Zealand, art history in Geneva, and art education at Ohio State and Kent State. She founded the Arts & College Prep Academy in 2002, artcollegeprep.org. Connect with her at howard@artcollegeprep.org. Retirement is not on her horizon.

Dana Jackson ’69, a member of Chi Phi fraternity, has lived in Newton, Mass., since 1974. He earned his M.Ed. from Boston College in 1974. He taught history in Vermont and special education in Boston public schools from 1971 to 2004. From 2004 to 2015, he was an administrative assistant at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, from 2015 to present, he has volunteered at the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center in Boston. He has been active in Freemasonry since 1976. He has two children: Greg Jackson ’06 and Arielle Jackson (University of Massachusetts ’08).

Pamela Turner Kane ’69 is happily retired in West Bloomfield, Mich., where she and her husband Steve enjoy lake living in their new home. After a long hiatus, she returned to college to earn a graduate degree in accounting at Walsh College (Troy, Mich.), which she utilized in the healthcare industry for 30+ years. Her blended family includes her son, Charles Draper, and daughter Dr. Emily Draper ’01, stepdaughter Nancy Olsen, and beloved labrador retriever Reilly. Leisure time involves a return to studying French, playing duplicate bridge, and travel. Four grandchildren are the frosting on the cake of life!

Ken Kinney ’69 worked as a newspaper editor after graduating from school and then as a strategic planner in both the private and public sectors, living primarily in Milwaukee and Chicago. For the last 25 years of his career he was a project manager for the planning and design of public transportation systems in major American cities. He retired in 2018. He has lived in Strasbourg, France, since 2014. His older daughter lives in Minneapolis. Her sister and her husband and three children live in Tubingen, Germany, about 80 miles from Ken.

Margi Geisler Leonard ’69 moved from Madison, Wis., after graduation to the Philadelphia area to teach. She married John Leonard ’67 in 1970. John practiced dentistry, and Margi taught French and ESL and went to grad school. They have
two children, Karen and Jay, who now live in Connecticut and Illinois with their families. A few years ago, Margi published *Remembering the Akamatus*, a true story about family friends who were interned during World War II in a Japanese-American camp in Utah (Topaz). Margi and John love to visit their kids, travel, sail, sing, learn, and hang out in Avalon, N.J. Come and see them in America’s Birthplace or “down the shore.”

Catherine “Cathy” Overhulse Lewis ’69 had a 43-year career in finance at General Electric Co. Married to Bradley Lewis, an economics professor at Union College in Schenectady, N.Y., she is busy as a board member of many area and community groups, including Habitat for Humanity, the Girl Scouts, and the YWCA of Northeastern New York. She has been on the Schenectady City Council and is serving in her ninth year on the local school board and her second year as a director on the New York State School Boards Association. Brad and Cathy enjoy traveling and visiting family, and both look forward to moving back into their newly remodeled home before their respective 50th reunions this year.

Jeff MacDonald ’69 and Debbie Guynn MacDonald ’70 live in Oxford, Ohio. They have two children: Ryan, a nurse at UVA Medical Center Hospital in Charlottesville, Va., and Erin, in QA and IT with Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati. Jeff’s career since OWU has included: government and trade association work in Washington, D.C. (1969-81), association work in Oxford (1981-85), and owning the Ace Hardware store in Oxford (1985-2017). Now retired, they are figuring out the freedom ahead of them. Travel, local organizations, and home improvements are current activities. Reconnecting with old friends is a priority.

William Nix ’69 is retired after a long career as a pediatrician with Texas Children’s Pediatric Associates. He and his wife Peggy, a retired nurse, live in The Woodlands, north of Houston. Their three children and grandchild live in Houston. They travel a lot, and William does locum tenens work for Texas Children’s Hospital to keep busy. Life is good.

Robert Nuner ’69 of Montpelier, Vt., notes that performance has been a persistent — but not controlling — theme in his life. After three years in New York City, followed by two years as a laborer or on-staff with traveling circuses, he trained and performed with a commedia dell’arte/clown troupe, touring throughout the Northeast. Decades later, following several years of parental elder care, he resumed performing, including work in plays by Vermont poet David Budbill. Among his side interests is growing wheat. Since the late ’90s, he’s searched for customers in the energy sector for a power system integrator, a carbon accountancy, and a fuel cell manufacturer.

Ann Seiler O’Brien ’69 married Daniel Patrick O’Brien ’69 one year into his four and a half years of Navy submarine service and they moved to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and then to Virginia two years later. In 1973, Dan concluded his active service and they moved to Philadelphia. He received his M.B.A. from Wharton in 1975 and began his civilian career with FMC Corp. Dan, Ann, and their two sons moved to Chicago in 1980. Over the ensuing 40 years, Dan worked at five companies. He retired in 2012 after 37 years in corporate finance. In retirement, he golfs, travels, studies Spanish, reads, and hangs out with friends. After graduation, Ann worked in Detroit as an interior designer for J.L. Hudson’s downtown studio. She got her master’s degree in Chinese art history. In Chicago, she was president and art director of the advertising firm Rubin and O’Brien for 25 years. After retiring, she became president of a local co-op art gallery and then PR/advertising director for a women-owned gallery. She enjoys traveling, making art, visiting her sons’ families in Chicago and California and her four grandchildren, and studying French.

David Owens ’69 and Cathy Czarniak Owens ’68 of Westfield, N.J., served in the U.S. Peace Corps in Jordan from 2012 to 2015. David is now a substitute teacher with the Westfield School District and volunteers as an international student liaison with AFS, a prominent international student exchange organization.

Don Paterson ’69 earned his M.B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis and married his college sweetheart, Bonnie Greenwood ’71, then embarked on a financial career in Washington, D.C., with Price Waterhouse. He transferred to Seattle in 1975 and 30 years, and two children later he moved back to Ohio (Vermilion) in 2005 to help care for Bonnie’s mother. He stumbled into the nonprofit world and spent 20 years on the board of ACT Theatre, then as CFO of ballets in Seattle and San Francisco, and finally as chief executive officer of Seattle Ballet. Don resides in Seattle with his wife, Bonnie, and their dog, boobs.

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Editor’s Note: In the fall of 1965, an increase in enrollment lead to a housing crunch with some unique solutions.

Harry Flannery ’69, of New Castle, Pa., fondly recalls his first term at OWU in 1965, when he was among 34 freshman students housed at the Delaware Inn (pictured below). Flannery recalls only eight “livable” rooms in the former hotel, built in 1845, with air conditioners, carpet, bunk beds, bathrooms, showers, and some furnishings supplied by the University. Flannery and his roommate Phil Tulin ’69 were among the 16 lucky students to be assigned to such a room. The remaining rooms lacked basic amenities such as bathrooms or showers and had very poor lighting. On a hot night, it was not unusual to find as many as eight mattresses in some of the air-conditioned rooms. The advantages, however, included that students were close to the Hamburger Inn and entertainment. And of course, the walk to class was closer.
operating officer and president of the Great Lakes Science Center in Cleveland. Bonnie died in 2009, and he retired and moved back to the Northwest in 2013. He now lives in Bellingham, Wash., near his son, daughter-in-law, and rambunctious 3-year-old granddaughter, Iris Ann Paterson.

Tom Poole ’69 retired in 2016 and moved from California to Tempe, Ariz. His wife is a graduate and former faculty member of Arizona State University. The Southern California Association for Health Care Development chose Poole for its Outstanding Leader of the Year Award a month before he retired from Long Beach Memorial. Poole and his wife enjoy a very active life in Arizona with many activities and friends. His wife’s grandchildren live nearby. Poole appreciates the foundation that Ohio Wesleyan gave him, without which he could not have had such a wonderful and fulfilling life.

R. Brooke Porch ’69 finally retired in 2017 after a rewarding career of public service — teacher, director of special education, and consultant. He and Linda Lane (Vassar ’69) have two daughters and a 5-year-old granddaughter, all of whom live close to Brooke’s home in Swarthmore, Pa. Brooke and Linda have traveled extensively (Japan, Peru, Portugal, Patagonia) and will continue doing so as long as they both can walk. Reach him at porch4747@gmail.com.

Bruce Purdy ’69 sends greetings to all his OWU classmates from sunny Palm Springs, Calif., where for the last 18 years he and his husband, Barrett Shepard, have spent the winter months. Now both semi-retired, they work on philanthropic endeavors as board members of several desert organizations, travel the world, and build their contemporary art collection. Mentored by Dr. Butler Jones at OWU, Purdy then went to graduate school at the University of Maryland and built his career working internationally on urban development and planning initiatives in developing economies. Currently, he is building an Academy for Global Urban Leadership at the University of Maryland and restoring a historic home in Easton, Md., on the Chesapeake Bay.

Susan Phillips Read ’69 graduated from the University of Chicago Law School in 1972, married Howard J. Read (Johns Hopkins University ’66; University of Chicago Law School ’69), and followed him to upstate New York. After 20-plus years practicing law in the private sector and three years in the Governor’s Counsel’s Office, she joined the judiciary, where she served more than 12 years as associate judge of the New York Court of Appeals, the state’s highest court. She has now returned to private practice and serves on the boards of performing arts-related organizations. Howard and Susan live with their cat, Betty, and have, through the years, supported many other cats and thoroughbred racehorses (no children).

Ann Russell ’69 earned her master’s in physical therapy from Case Western Reserve University in 1971 and her Ph.D. in exercise science from the University of Iowa in 1989. She also completed a two-year post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Washington in Seattle. She taught physical therapy at several universities, including Cleveland State University, Cannon University, and Walsh University. She has practiced physical therapy in a variety of areas: acute care, cardiopulmonary rehabilitation, skilled rehabilitation, seating specialist, nursing homes, orthopedics, and neurology. She has traveled to a variety of places, including Alaska, Egypt, Europe, and South America, including Machu Picchu in Peru.

S. Michael Scadron ’69 is a retired senior trial counsel with the U.S. Department of Justice with a background in civil rights and tort law. Since his retirement in 2006, he has turned to writing. An avid runner and hiker, Scadron was struck with a neurological condition that rendered him quadriplegic at age 52. The story of his illness and struggle toward recovery is the foundation of his recent memoir, Two Mountains: Kilimanjaro to Quadriplegic and Back. He lives in Silver Spring, Md., with his wife, Terri.

Rick Shale ’69 earned a master’s and Ph.D. in American culture from the University of Michigan and then spent 35 years in the English Department of Youngstown State University teaching some composition but mostly film studies and screenwriting. He retired in May 2011. He has published three books on the Academy Awards, one on the Disney Studio, and two on parks in Youngstown, Ohio, where he lives. In 2018, he received the Heritage Award, the highest honor YSU gives to retired faculty. His retirement hobbies are painting, genealogy, and volunteerism. (He serves on four boards and too many committees.)

Tim Smith ’69 and his wife Jolee live in Houston. Smith recently retired (for now, looking for contract work) from BHP, concluding a 41-year career as a geophysicist in the oil exploration industry. He worked for Gulf, BP, Unocal, and BHP, and participated in discovery of the Atlantis, Mad Dog, Shenzi, and Stampede oil fields, along with input to Thunder Horse, St. Malo, and Shenzi North, all in the Gulf of Mexico. He’s now tutoring high school chemistry and designing/building hi-fi and guitar amplifiers and speakers.

Jane Ayres Welsheimer ’69 and George Welsheimer ’66 moved to the Cincinnati area to teach after graduation. From there they moved back to Jane’s hometown of Bellefontaine, Ohio. George continued to teach while Jane stayed home with their two boys, Brett and Ty. Eventually they bought her father’s insurance agency, which they ran for six years. Then they went back to teaching, from which they retired. They are now enjoying many activities that they did not have time for before. They have moved to Westerville, Ohio, to be near their sons and grandchildren.

Geoffrey Greif ’71, professor at the University of Maryland Baltimore School of Social Work, was named UMB Teacher of the Year for 2018. He is the longest-serving faculty member at the School of Social Work and thanks Tom Brittenham at OWU for encouraging him to go into the profession.

Cheryl Smith Benefield ’74 retired in 2006 after 30 years of service as an educator in the DeKalb County School System in Georgia. She wrote her first book, Nathan’s Story, in 2009, which chronicles the medical miracles, life transitions, and lessons learned from her beloved son Nathan, who was born in 1994 with Down syndrome and was initially diagnosed as profoundly deaf. She’s also the CEO of Miracle Belivers Inc., and believes her mission is to encourage, equip, and empower the brokenhearted and disenfranchised. Currently she serves as the minister of congregational care and women’s ministry coordinator at her church and resides in Atlanta.

Lise Uptegrove Chase ’74 was married to Peter Chase ’74 for 25 years. During the next 19 years, Lise worked as an intercultural specialist, coaching executives prior to their international assignments. For 10 years, she volunteered many hours in the community of Darien, Conn., while her world travels continued. In 2016 she remarried and was widowed in 2018. She currently lives in Millbrook, N.Y., and her retired life revolves around family, friends, travel, and hobbies.

Peter Chase ’74 earned a master’s in international business studies from the University of South Carolina. His 25-year marriage to Lise Uptegrove Chase ’74 resulted in three sons: Matthew, Timothy, and Andrew Chase ’07, and five
Class Notes

grandchildren. Chase spent 32 years at the Colgate Palmolive Co. in international marketing, living with his family overseas for 16 years. In 2009, he married Dan Robinson of Scotch Plains, N.J. They are enjoying retirement with summers in East Hampton, N.Y., and winters in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. They travel extensively and enjoy their growing families. Chase joined the Alumni Board in 2017 as director. In 2007, he established a scholarship endowment in the name of his late father, Dr. John N. Chase ’49, who taught zoology at OWU from 1955 to 1974 and served as provost from 1975 until his untimely death in 1977.

Jim Diem ’74 has been a school bus driver for 28 years in Michigan, as well as a photographer, reporter, editor, and publisher of the weekly Newberry News since 1989. He and his wife Nancy live in the great white north in Newberry, Mich., where you have to travel 70 miles to find the nearest traffic light, next door to the second largest waterfall east of the Mississippi River, the Upper Tahquamenon Falls. They have three children.

Marie Eslinger ’74 and Robert (“Red”) B.G. Horowitz ’74 have been married for 43 years and live in Manhasset, N.Y. They have three sons. Marie received a master’s in psychology from the University of Miami in 1977. She is president of the education-focused Smalley Foundation, founded in 1965. The foundation was happy to establish two scholarships for OWU students. Previously, she was president of Eslinger Associates, a legal consulting company. Robert went to law school at the University of Miami, graduating with a J.D. degree in 1977. He practices intellectual property law in New York City and has been a partner with BakerHostetler for 11 years. Classmates may remember that he was very active in the OWU Music Department, and he continues his love of music as a classical tenor soloist in his church choir and in a choir he started 30 years ago that performs annual Christmas concerts. He still takes voice lessons, his teacher is Peter Maravell (who was an original, and the youngest, member of the Robert Shaw Chorale).

Lorraine Farquhar ’74 reports that retirement came too soon, as a career in medical center and college fundraising hit a wall in the 2005 recession. She enjoys living in Ardmore, a suburb of Philadelphia, and doesn’t get to Ohio much these days. She sends greetings and best wishes to her classmates.

Chris Knisely ’74 serves as president of the Athens City Council in Athens, Ohio. She’s been a City Council member since 2010 and council president since 2014. She is also involved in several Ohio University campus/community endeavors, including the Healthy Campus/Community Coalition and the OU President’s Commission on the Status of Women.

Tremper Longman ’74 retired in 2017 as the Robert H. Gundry Professor of Biblical Studies at Westminster College in Santa Barbara, Calif., and is now distinguished scholar and professor emeritus. He and his wife, Alice Scheetz Longman ’75, then moved to Alexandria, Va., to be closer to their three sons and six granddaughters. Tremper continues to lecture and write; his most recent book is *Old Testament Controversies: Pressing Questions About Evolution, Sexuality, History and Violence* (Baker: 2019). He has also written a series of books with Dan Allender ’74, a psychologist living in Seattle.

Jennifer Gross Peterson ’74 has lived in Eugene, Ore., for 43 years, where she moved from Minnesota shortly after her marriage to Kent D. Peterson in 1975. Kent was a commercial photographer who unfortunately passed away in 2010 from cancer. They were avid cyclists, racing and touring on single bikes and tandem. Jennifer received her master’s in library science in 1978 and spent her career at the Springfield, Ore., Public Library, retiring from full-time work in 2009 as adult services and reference manager. She enjoys traveling, power walking, yoga, dancing, volunteering, cat mothering, theater and sporting events, and a rich network of friends. Reach her at jgp51@comcast.net.

Christine Warburton Ramsay ’74 is still a partner with the recruiting firm Corporate Resources, where she specializes in automotive and pharmaceutical placements of mid- to upper-management candidates. She is still an active volunteer within her immediate community as well as at different organizations throughout the greater Cincinnati area, including raising money for Children’s Hospital, the Gamma Phi Beta Alumnae group, Wyoming Public Schools, and several charitable organizations and events.

Barbara McEachern Smith ’74, a college professor emeritus, and her retired husband Morton Pete Smith ’71 have been blessed by God with two sons and two beautiful grandchildren. Barbara has spent the majority of her retirement in service with Church in the Circle (formerly First United Methodist Church of Cleveland). The Children’s Defense Fund Freedom Schools has been a fantastic use of her energy as project director, consultant, and evaluator for a little more than 10 years. She is on the boards of the Jordan Community Resource Center and Lakewood College. Barbara lives in Shaker Heights, Ohio.

Helen “Cookie” Baker Sunkle ’74 is in her 31st year with Denison University in Granville, Ohio, where she is the assistant to the director of the Lisska Center for Scholarly Engagement, which oversees the summer research program and assists students applying for prestigious national and international fellowships such as Fulbright and Truman, among other things. She plans to retire in 2020 and spend time with her new grandson, Milo, who lives in Chicago, and do some other traveling.

Greg Wilson ’74 retired after 40-plus years consulting on financial services policy and regulatory issues. He serves as an independent director of LF Capital Acquisition and still plays in his high school band, F.O.G. Wilson has received three awards from the Fairfax County History Commission for his research and books on Civil War history; his most recent book is *The Adventuress of Jonathan Roberts: The Union’s Quaker Scout in Northern Virginia, 1861-1865*. He plans to pursue his passions for travel, corporate governance, history, and politics. Originally from Ravenna, Ohio, Greg lives with his wife, Barbara Buchanan, in Great Falls, Va.

Mary Wood-Constable ’74 lives with husband Jim Constable in Cincinnati, where she continues to see several OWU Music Department friends! She received a master’s in flute performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and spent a decade as a teacher and freelance flutist. After time at home with son Will and daughter Julia, she transitioned to the field of nonprofit fund development. Wood-Constable has spent many hours on various volunteer committees and boards, especially Women Writing for (a) Change. She continues to work part-time, writes a little poetry, and enjoys reading, music, gardening, and the outdoors.

Richard Kelley ’75 retired in March as president and general manager of KNSD-TV NBC 7 and KUAN Telemundo 20 in San Diego. Kelley’s career included 44 years in the broadcasting industry. He plans to remain at his Point Loma, Calif., home and do consulting and volunteering in the local community.

Michael Jordan ’76, of Jordan Resolutions, LLC, was named “Mediator of the Year” by “Best Lawyers in America” for 2019. Only one attorney in each specialty in each region is selected for the list. He was also designated as an “Ohio Super Lawyer.” His debut novel, The Company of Demons, was released in January 2018 by the Greenleaf Book Group.
Tracey Hooper Abby-White ‘78 was elected chairperson of the Brookdale Community College (Lincroft, N.J.) Board of Trustees. Her love for education and service grew expeditiously while attending OWU.

Kate Hahn Asbeck ‘79 retired in 2016 from the Cleveland Foundation, where she served as CFO for six years. Previously, she was senior vice president of finance at Corning Incorporated and lived and worked in Corning, N.Y., for 20 years. She currently is on the boards of directors of several nonprofit organizations, including Jumpstart and Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio. Kate and her husband Richard live in Brecksville, Ohio. She is the “goody aunt” to 14 nieces and nephews and enjoys travel, hiking, cooking, and reading.

Nadine Pastolove Baccellieri ‘79, of Roslyn, N.Y., got her master’s in judicial administration followed by her law degree. She practiced law for 10 years before becoming a stay-at-home mom. She is now a professional volunteer. She has two daughters: Emma graduated from Duke and is a writer for Sports Illustrated. Olivia is a junior at the University of Vermont and is studying in Sydney, Australia. Nadine’s husband Paul will retire in June, and they plan to move back to North Carolina. This time they’ll be in Holly Springs in 12 Oaks.

Allyson “Pookie” Stemad Hotz ‘79 lives in Devon, Pa., outside of Philadelphia. She is married with three girls and one son-in-law who are living in Seattle, Boston, and Philadelphia. She works with the Main Line Health System as a community health and wellness educator.

Julie Barnes-Weise ‘79, of Durham, N.C., was a lawyer and a businessperson in the pharmaceutical industry for decades, but made a change and started teaching at Duke University. Her experience at Duke led her to found a health nonprofit company, Global Health Innovation Alliance Accelerator (www.ghiaa.org), and to consult for the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovation. She travels a lot. Her husband is a retired European patent attorney, and they have three grown, married children. Their son lives five minutes away with his wife and their first grandchild, Ana. They love the beach, traveling, and seeing family and friends.

Joan Fuhrer Baxter ‘79 lives in Galloway, N.J., but has moved six times to six states since 1979. She met her husband Rick in Los Angeles in 1980 and they were married in 1985. They have two children, Alison (Queens, N.Y.) and Nick (Margate, N.J.). Joan spent more than 30 years in the retail industry, first as a buyer for the Broadway Department Store, then in managerial positions for specialty and department stores. She also spent 10 years as a retail coordinator for Ralph Lauren. She currently enjoys working in the records office of her local police department. She enjoys the Jersey shore, visiting her daughter in New York City, and joining her husband on his travels as a college bookstore salesman.

Jim Brown ‘79 is living the good life in Dublin, Ohio. He has been married to the same wonderful lady for 33 years this June. They are blessed with three great kids, and their first grandchild was born in February. After OWU, he received his master’s in statistics at Bowling Green State University, where he met his wife. Jobs and family required them to move to and from Chicago. He has had several careers in different industries, most recently at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. He still follows the Buckeyes and Browns and enjoys golf. He enjoys learning and making a difference every day.

Robert Cook ‘79 attended the Ohio State University College of Medicine, followed by postgraduate training at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis and the University of Colorado in Denver. After completing a research fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine, he served as an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Colorado until 1996. For the past 23 years he has been the medical director of the Mercyhealth Lung and Sleep Centers in Janesville, Wis. Most importantly, he has a son, Cass, and a daughter, Cameron, who make it all worthwhile.

Phyllis Hegeman ‘79 had an incredibly wonderful time traveling across the country with OWU friends in the fall after graduation, down the West Coast from Canada to Mexico and over the Rockies, camping and hiking in national parks. She felt most drawn to the ocean, so she went to live for 13 years in San Diego. During her last six years there, she ran a public jazz radio station and performed on flute. In the ’90s she spent quite a few years traveling around the world exploring. She landed in Nevada City, Calif.

John Joseph ‘79, a member of the Class of ‘79 reunion committee, lives in Naperville, Ill. After a career in marketing and operations, Joseph taught for two years at North Central College in Naperville and helped the school launch an entrepreneurial center. He is now semi-retired and provides consulting services to entrepreneurs and SMBs as well as career transformation coaching.

Candy Caldwell Kennedy ‘79 and her husband, Doug Kennedy ‘77, have lived in in Dublin, Ohio, since 1986. Doug is a partner in a law firm, and Candy keeps busy with three part-time jobs in insurance and finance. They became first-time grandparents to a little boy in March 2018, a milestone experience brought to them by their daughter Kate and son-in-law Ryan, who live in Haymarket, Va. Their son Connor, of Columbus, will wed his fiancee Hannah in September.

Sandra Hickson Noll ‘79, of Roslyn, N.Y., got her bachelor’s in psychology from Boston University and a master’s in education from the University of Colorado. She moved to Janesville, Wis. and helped the school launch an entrepreneurial center. She is now semi-retired and provides consulting services to entrepreneurs and SMBs as well as career transformation coaching.

Linda Meredith Winters ‘79 has lived in central Ohio since 1990 and recently downsized her living space when her husband retired. She continues working as a full-time nurse and plans to retire in 2022. She and her husband have four kids — the youngest two in Worthington and Bexley, Ohio. The older two live in Seattle and Jackson, Wyo. They have two grandkids: Maggie, age 5 in Seattle, and Nora, born Dec. 23, in Worthington.

Karen McCredie Zaretsky ‘79 and her husband Ron live in Mendon, Vt., and commute weekly into New York City for Ron’s job. Karen takes advantage of the arts in the city and attends weekly Broadway shows; after waiting nine months, she got a seat to the original Hamilton for $99! Karen runs a corporate gift and award company, working with Fortune 500 companies. She travels annually overseas to destinations such as South Africa, Japan, Vietnam, and Europe. New Zealand and Thailand are on her agenda for 2019.

1980s

Paul Golitz ‘84 headed back to Chicago after OWU. He lives with his wife and three daughters four blocks from historic Wrigley Field in a century-old greystone
flat they converted into a single-family home. It’s been fun raising three city girls; they’ve had a wonderful time taking advantage of all that Chicago has to offer. Working in the high-tech field his entire career has been intellectually challenging with every day being different. He has been fortunate to work with great people, travel the world, and enjoy a high quality of life.

Todd Griesman ’84 finds it hard to believe, but his oldest child is preparing to look at colleges, and the youngest isn’t that far behind. Both he and his wife Emily have new jobs, at LDI Color Toolbox and Equinix, respectively. Todd’s website, NYCCopierGUY.com, was recently updated with a new look and tons of information. The couple continues to live in New York City, but the next move is beginning to creep into the conversation. Life has thrown a few health scares into the mix, including cancer, gangrene, sepsis, and heart issues, but all seem to be resolved and Todd cannot complain. Suffering is optional!

Carrie Harris ’84 is serving on the committee for her 35th class reunion, which will be part of Reunion Weekend 2019 on campus May 17-19. She encourages her classmates to register now for all the fun events and class dinner at owu.edu/2019rw. She is a retired schoolteacher and a competitive ballroom dancer living in Worthington, Ohio. Her father, Bill Harris ’45, is among many of her family members who also attended OWU.

Sheila Fagan Plecha ’84 became a paralegal in 2013 after traveling the country for 20 years as a corporate wife in charge of relocation. She has served on the Alumni Board at OWU since 2006 and as president of the Alumni Association from 2016 to 2019. She’s been married to John Plecha ’86 for 31 years; they’re the parents of two daughters, and are planning one wedding for November 2019. They live in Oxford, Mich., but are considering moving to Chicago. Sheila still appreciates the gift of OWU that her parents gave her nearly 40 years ago. She is grateful for the opportunity to build relationships with students, staff, and alumni.

Tammy Fergus Harvey ’89 and her husband Scott recently relocated to Bethel, Maine, where their youngest daughter, Sadie, is a sophomore at Gould Academy. Their oldest daughter, Mia, will graduate from Washington & Lee in May, the same weekend as the OWU reunion, so they won’t be able to attend. Their son, Will, attends Northeastern University. After graduation, Tammy had a fun career in book publishing but put that on hold to raise the kids. More recently, she has worked at a local farm and now at a craft beer store. Scott and Tammy love to ski, hike, run, and mountain-bike.

Kimberly Crawford McConville ’89 still works in her major as a lobbyist and trade association executive. She represents Ohio’s non-alcoholic beverage industry. And she found time to get married, have a wonderful son who is now old enough to hear more of her college stories (“Mom, the ‘80s sound off the chain!”), and be single again. All while still listening to First Amendment music, rocking high heels, and making a life in Westerville, Ohio. Now, if only La Za still delivered and accepted her old ValaDine card.

Barbara Bredfeldt Meyer ’89, Ed.D., lives in Normal, Ill., and works at Illinois State University as associate dean for research and associate professor in the School of Teaching & Learning. She teaches secondary-teacher education issues and methods. Her son, Andrew, will be a freshman at Illinois State University in the fall, majoring in exercise science, and he has signed to play hockey for the ISU Redbirds. Barb serves on the executive board of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education and is co-chair of its International Committee. Her current research interests include laboratory schools and scholarship of teaching and learning.

Mana Nabeshima Tokoi ’89 went to Columbia University’s School of International & Public Affairs right after OWU, thanks to Hiroshi Matsui ’89. She got her master’s and M.R.S. and is blessed with three children. The last one just became a teenager, so Mana is still working in the banking industry. She has worked for Citibank, Goldman Sachs, and now at DBS.

1990s

Doug Pierson ’92 was promoted to brigade general in the Marine Corps in July 2018.

Emily Barber Bowman ’94 and her husband Edwin have lived in Suwanee, Ga. (just outside of Atlanta) for 17 years and don’t miss Ohio winters. They have three kids: Edwin IV (15), Justin (14), and Sydney (11). Emily left the corporate world in 2008 and now stays at home full-time. She keeps busy volunteering with the PTA and running their kids to baseball, basketball, and cheerleading. While they love to travel, they cherish family time in the summer on Lake Lanier.

Jennifer Montgomery Burgess ’94 says that despite menopause shenanigans and a touch of a midlife crisis, life is good and she can’t complain. Her husband Bob retired from his active duty USMC career, and they are now settled in Delaware (state, not town), where they are raising their 11-year-old son, Cooper. Jennifer’s contribution to the world at large is the occasional pretty photograph, sparkly piece of handmade jewelry, or a watercolor painting. And she survives it all thanks to her OWU Girls (they know who they are!).

Marcia Campo ’94 has remained in northeastern Ohio since graduation, working in sales for several industries, including advertising, lawn care, and tourism. Currently she is the national sales executive with a medical imaging company focusing on MRI and CT modalities. She also spends her time volunteering with her local hospice, writing legacy stories for patients and their families, which helps her utilize writing skills learned at OWU. She lives in Fairlawn, Ohio, with her husband of five years and their dog, Chewie.

Jennifer Erschen Chaggaris ’94 lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband Steve and son Peter. Chaggars earned an M.B.A. from George Washington University and began a career consulting for the federal government. Since October 2017, she has been managing director for a woman-owned small business providing management consulting services. She regularly sees many OWU friends and has an annual tradition of a summer weekend with Anne Snyder deLeeuw ’94, Jennifer Birkmeyer Sittason ’94, Coleen Nicol Gatehouse ’94, and Susan Hathaway ’94.

Shandelle Wertz Girdley ’94 and her husband Michael have lived in San Antonio since 2003. They have two children, Seth (13) and Drew (10). Before moving to Texas, Shandelle lived in San Francisco and Columbus. The OWU English and journalism departments launched her into several communications positions with nonprofit organizations and dot-com companies. After running her own e-commerce business for 12 years and selling it in 2016, Shandelle is now active with several nonprofit organizations, family, and travel. She especially looks forward to an annual girls weekend with eight other OWU Delta Zeta sisters!

Molly Kuhlman Haberbusch ’94 has moved around a lot since graduation and made several career and job changes. She is now settled into life in Clinton, N.Y. She works part-time at a community college in the Center for Corporate and Community Education and also teaches as an adjunct. Working part-time keeps her busy and provides time to cart her daughter around for after-school activities. The rest of the time she tries to figure out how much wine she can drink to survive the tween years and still fit into her pants.

Kimberly Boggs Hull ’94 has two daughters, ages 16 and 18. If you don’t see her at Reunion
Weekend, it’s because Ellie’s graduation is on May 18. Bad timing! She hopes to make it to campus from Dublin, Ohio, for some of the late-night gatherings. Her family has a great time traveling together. Yet, she always looks forward to her yearly gathering with her sisters from OWU. She teaches hot yoga two to three times a week and volunteers in the schools and at church. She’s finishing her duties as junior warden at church. She is just about ready for that next challenge, whatever it may be.

Shannon Marsh McClure ’94 lives in Morro Bay, Calif., with her 15-year-old daughter Madelyn and many pets. She owns a sweet shop in nearby Cambria. Stop in if you’re ever traveling on Highway 1 along the California coast.

Michael Palumbo ’94 continues his practice in allergy and immunology in the South Hills of Pittsburgh, where he lives with his wife and three children. He sees adult and pediatric patients and oversees an active research department participating in ongoing nationwide trials. He is currently president of the Pennsylvania Allergy and Asthma Association.

Katy Herron Piazza ’94 lives in Weston, Conn., with her husband, cat, dog, and two sons, ages 9 and 11. After earning an M.P.A. and working in Cleveland from 1994 through 2003, she attended seminary in New York City. From there she served as an Episcopal priest in Larchmont, N.Y., until the family’s move to Weston. For a couple of years she attempted stay-at-home parenthood with some stints doing interim and supply work for the Diocese of New York. Since 2015, she’s been the solo half-time priest for a small church around the corner from the home they bought five years before she even considered it as a place of employment. Overall, life is good!

Amy Prosenjak ’94 has lived in Oregon for the past 12 years with her husband Steve and their million-dollar dog. They love life on the West Coast, and she has the pleasure of running Oregon’s largest winery, A to Z Wineworks. In her free time, she loves to read and travel abroad, hitting Singapore, Iceland, and Paris last year!

Carrie Lippert Reinhardt ’94 spent 2009-14 in St. Andrews, Scotland, while her husband, Dave Reinhardt ’96, pursued his Ph.D. While there, they welcomed two girls, Molly (9) and Abigail (6). Since returning to the States in 2014, they’ve made Davidson, N.C., their home, and Carrie has returned to working with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship as a regional administrator in the Carolinas. She has also enjoyed being back at OWU more often as part of the Alumni Board.

Alison “Ali” Martin Turner ’94 and her husband Mike live in Powell, Ohio, with their two teen daughters. The past 25 years have included grad school, working during her 20s, and spending her 30s as a stay-at-home mom (her best days!). As an economics/politics and government major, she joked that her dream job was “Julie McCoy from The Love Boat.” That path took a few turns, but she is now very fulfilled as owner of Powell Travel and Tours. She helps clients plan vacations and host group trips, and she loves it. One of the best perks: reconnecting with OWU friends. And the family adventures: Europe, the Caribbean, Alaska, and Disney resorts. Mom/wife/travel agent…funny where the path of life leads!

Chris Tweddle ’94 is a member of the mathematics faculty at Governors State University in the Chicago area, where he was recently appointed associate director of general education. He and his wife Sara (University of Southern Indiana ’05) live in Oak Forest, Ill.

Jacquie Jones ’96 announced her candidacy for judge of the Common Court of Pleas of Delaware County, Pa. Jones is a defense and family law attorney in the private practice of Jones & Associates Law, PC. She has a master’s in government and J.D. from Georgetown University. The primary election is in May.

Rachelle Johnsson Chiang ’97 was appointed assistant clinical professor at the University of Texas at Austin, teaching in the public health program. She returned to school after years in the field to earn her doctorate of public health in health policy and management from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 2017. In a recent article for the University of Texas at Austin about first-generation students, she credits OWU for helping give her a new vision of the world, mentioning sociology Professor Akbar Mahdi as a particularly influential mentor and friend.

Alvin Conley ’99, originally from Cleveland, headed to Dallas after graduation to start his teaching career. He interviewed through a job fair and accepted a position over the phone without even visiting the school. His plan was to return home after a couple years; however, 20 years later he is still in Texas and loving it. He has since moved into education administration and serves as a school principal. This summer he will finally marry his partner of 20 years with whom he shares three beautiful daughters.

Karla Chipelo McClain ’99 is teaching vocal music at Irving Robbins Middle School and East Farms School in Farmington, Conn. She is also the director of Canticum Choir, part of the Connecticut Children’s Chorus at the University of Hartford Community Division. She has her National Board Certification in early adolescent and young adult music education. In addition, she is the assistant director of Laurel Music Camp. She lives in Cromwell, Conn., with her husband Scott and children Lori and Hunter.

Mary Rose Rice ’99 graduated from Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine in 2017. She is currently working in Indiana, and she married Agnes Wong in 2017. They love to travel and hike with their two dogs.

Sarah Ressler Wright ’99, 20 years later, is still spending all her time in a library as the Hayes High School librarian in Delaware. As alter-ego “Vocab Gal,” she shares strategies for teaching vocabulary and other English-related skills, because she doesn’t just want to edit her roommates’ papers but help everyone learn how to write accurately with big words. With husband Chad and their two kids, Huxley (11) and Rosalind (7), she goes on many adventures when not at home in Lewis Center, Ohio, where she loves to listen to audiobooks and organize; yes, she’s still a proud, nerdy Delta Zeta.

Corey Fesenmyer ’03 published her new book, Blessed, Beautiful Now, a heartwarming collection of essays compiled from a series of posts on her blog, “The Nostalgia Diaries.” The book follows her yearlong journey — with her daughter providing remarkable insight along the way — as she navigates the complexities of her unexpected life after divorce. Fesenmyer’s website is coreywheeland.com.

Jada Hamilton ’04, Ph.D., M.P.H., originally from New Philadelphia, Ohio, lives in New York City with her husband, Dr. Victor Luna. She is an assistant attending psychologist in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Department of Medicine at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, where she leads a program of behavioral research to translate advances in genetic and genomic medicine into improved cancer care. Having been a member of the Alpha Rho chapter of Delta Zeta while at OWU, Hamilton was recently recognized with the 35 Under 35 Alumnae Award from the national Delta Zeta Sorority.

Brenna Shull ’04 has lived in Annapolis, Md., since May 2014. She is head trainer and massage therapist at Kicked UP Fitness. She has been working in the health and wellness field full-time since moving to Annapolis five years ago. Shull is also the author of Nostalgia Diaries, the book that launched her career as a writer. She recently announced her candidacy for the 35 Under 35 Alumnae Award from the national Delta Zeta Sorority.

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years ago. She is a certified personal trainer, via the National Academy of Sports Medicine, licensed massage therapist, and certified fascial stretch therapist.

Amy Kreps Shreve ’04, from Cincinnati, has spent 13 years working for churches in Illinois and Kentucky directing youth, children, and family ministries. Much of that time was near the University of Illinois while her husband earned his Ph.D. in entomology. Currently, she works for a United Methodist Conference in Illinois coordinating college and young adult ministry. She will complete her master’s in nonprofit administration in August. She lives in Belleville, Ill., with her spouse (a biology professor), 7-year-old daughter, and 6-year-old son. In any free time, she’s a Girl Scout leader, explores local attractions, and gets outdoors.

Amanda Winter Covey ’09, of Dublin, Ohio, worked as a keeper with the pachyderms at the Columbus Zoo after graduation. Following an exciting trip to Sydney, Australia, she met and married James Covey in Columbus. They have three children, ages 2, 4, and 6. She’s currently in her second term as president of MOMS Club of Dublin, a support group for stay-at-home moms. A few years ago she opened an Etsy shop called Crafty Covey Designs for her mixed-media art pieces, and joined the Dublin Area Art League. Her photograph “Poulnabrone” won second place in the league’s juried Irish show in 2018.

Louisa Hoffman ’09 graduated from Indiana University with a master’s in library science in 2011 and has been employed in the Oberlin College Archives since then. She and Andrew Stewart ’09 were married in 2014 and bought a house in the Cudell neighborhood of Cleveland in 2015. Andrew has been employed at Oberlin College since 2018, working in printing services. They have a rescue dog and also enjoy the company of their parrot, chinchilla, and turtle. They enjoy living in Cleveland and seeing their old SLU housemates from OWU frequently.

Melissa Demarest Ruggiero ’09 moved to Spain for two years after graduation to teach English as a second language. She now lives in Denver with her husband, Mark Ruggiero. The two got married in their hometown of Amherst, N.H., in October 2015 and are expecting their first child this May! Melissa has been working as an admissions counselor at Regis University since moving to Denver, where she earned her master of arts degree in adult education and corporate training in May 2018.

Jenna Sroka Smith ’09 earned a doctorate in biochemistry from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland in 2015. During that time, she was also involved in STEM education outreach, working and volunteering with students in grade school, high school, and college. She has since relocated to central Illinois to teach biology to undergraduate students as an assistant professor at Millikin University. She and her husband, Trevor Smith, have been married for almost eight years and have a golden retriever named Rey.

Sarah Bonnet ’10 is engaged to Joel Paiko. Bonnet is completing a radiology residency at Ohio State University’s Wexner Medical Center and will begin a women’s imaging fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Magee-Women’s Hospital. An August wedding is planned.

Sarah Ingles ’11 is an attorney with Barkan, Meizlish, DeRose, Wentz, McNerny and Pfeifer in Columbus, where she has worked as a law clerk for the past couple of years.

Jason Bogdany ’14, who lives in Cleveland, completed the Cleveland Play House apprenticeship program in 2015. He spent the next three years working in development there to support its fundraising efforts. He launched the theater’s first 24-hour online giving day campaign and led a transition to a new database management system. In January, he accepted the position of development database coordinator at Playhouse Square, the country’s largest performing arts center outside of New York. He also serves on the board of YNPN Cleveland, the city’s chapter of the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network.

Alyssa Carothers ’14 spent about a year back home in Asheville, N.C., after graduation, interning at the WNC Nature Center while applying for zookeeper jobs. She now lives in Cary, N.C., and works as a laboratory animal technician at the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine, where she supports scientific research by providing husbandry for animals used in studies and for training veterinary students. She can’t think of a better job than working with a wide variety of animals, especially when she gets to do it alongside goofy co-workers who love critters as much as she does.

Olivia Gillison ’14 returned home to Philadelphia after graduation and started working for the city’s Office of Special Events. Over the past five years, she’s helped implement the Zero Waste Events Initiative and has had the opportunity to work on numerous large-scale events: the 2015 World Meeting of Families (the pope’s visit), the 2015 and 2018 Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts, the 2016 DNC Convention, the 2017 NFL Draft, and the 2018 Eagles Super Bowl LII Parade, to name a few. She’s excited to see what lies ahead as she looks for new opportunities to develop and share her knowledge with others.

Alex Lothstein ’15 and Jenny Ripper ’14 got engaged in May 2018 in Estonia. Ripper is the granddaughter of emeritus Professor Dick Smith and Betty Jackson Smith ’52. She is the granddaughter of David Smith ’53.
by four children and multiple grandchildren. Shepherd was a member of the OWU Tower Society and Delta Gamma sorority.

Emily Wendt Akerstrom ’41, of Granville and Macedonia, Ohio, Jan. 20, at the age of 99. She was predeceased by her husband, John Akerstrom ’41, and a son. She is survived by four children and multiple grandchildren. Akerstrom was a member of the OWU Tower Society and Delta Gamma sorority.

Sara “Peggy” Boyd Beard ’41, of Decatur, Ga., Sept. 20, at the age of 98. Boyd was predeceased by her parents and husband. She is survived by four children, including Jeff Beard ’72, and multiple grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

Harriet Gerstner Leland ’41, of Dayton, Ohio, Oct. 5, at the age of 99. She was predeceased by two sisters, one of whom was Charlotte Gerstner Campbell ’35, her husband, and a son. She is survived by a daughter. Leland was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Alice Hendricks Rohrer ’43, of North Vernon, Ind., Jan. 23, at the age of 95. She was predeceased by her father, mother Alice Truitt Hendricks 1921, husband, and two brothers, including Louis Hendricks ’49. She is survived by four children and multiple grandchildren. Rohrer was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Margaret “Peggy” Shaffer Schwoegler ’43, of Milwaukee, Dec. 6, at the age of 97. She was predeceased by her husband, parents, two brothers, and two half brothers. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Marjorie Jewell Brentlinger ’44, of Mansfield, Texas, Oct. 2, at the age of 96. She was predeceased by her husband, Robert Brentlinger ’44, mother, father Arthur Jewell 1918, and a sister, H. Josephine Jewell Gantt ’41. She is survived by a brother, five children and multiple grandchildren, and was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Janet Beam Detmer ’44, of Mount Vernon, Ohio, Oct. 15, at the age of 96. She was predeceased by her father and her mother, Vesta Stephen Beam 1909. She is survived by two daughters and multiple grandchildren and was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

Mary Alice Wright Burwell ’45, of Louisville, Ky., Oct. 21, at the age of 95. She was predeceased by her husband and her parents. She is survived by her sister, Doris Wright Krigbaum ’41, four children, and multiple grandchildren. Burwell was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Barbara Hansen Cummings ’45, of Woburn, Mass., Dec. 6, at the age of 95. Cummings was predeceased by her husband and a daughter. She is survived by two sons and multiple grandchildren. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Sally Coleman Stubbins ’45, of Creston, Ohio, Jan. 7, at the age of 95. Stubbins was predeceased by her parents, her husband, and a grandson. She is survived by five children and multiple grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Janet Lynn McCoy ’44, of Seminole, Fla., Nov. 11, at the age of 95. She was predeceased by her husband E. Jason McCoy, a V-12 student at OWU in 1943, a brother, and parents. She is survived by three children, including Marjorie McCoy Mapes ’70 and Rick McCoy ’72, and multiple grandchildren. McCoy was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Mary Alice Wright Burwell ’45, of Louisville, Ky., Oct. 21, at the age of 95. She was predeceased by her husband and her parents. She is survived by her sister, Doris Wright Krigbaum ’41, four children, and multiple grandchildren. Burwell was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Nancy Wright Wilson ’45, of Dallas, Dec. 30, at the age of 95. She was predeceased by her husband, Thomas Wilson ’47, and a granddaughter. She is survived by three children and multiple grandchildren. Wilson was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

William Dykins ’46, of Sebring, Ohio, Oct. 27, at the age of 94. He was predeceased by a son, his parents, and a sister. He is survived by his wife and a son.

Doris “Dee” Weber Stewart ’46, of Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 8, at the age of 93. Stewart was predeceased by her husband and multiple grandchildren. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

John Estepp ’47, of Rosemount, Ohio, Oct. 5, at the age of 94. Estepp was predeceased by his wife. He is survived by two children and was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Betty Lee Langhout ’47, of Huntsville, Ala., Oct. 13, at the age of 93. She was predeceased by her husband and son. She is survived by three children and multiple grandchildren. Langhout was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Doris Hunter Mauck ’47, of Sebring, Ohio, Dec. 10, at the age of 93. Mauck was predeceased by her husband, Donald Mauck ’49, and a brother, Harold Hunter ’45. She is survived by a brother, Robert Hunter ’43, three daughters, including Marilyn Mauck West ’72 and Martha Mauck Hunter ’76, and multiple grandchildren. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Virginia “Jinny” Mae Allen Warner ’47, of Venice, Fla., Jan. 15, at the age of 93. She was predeceased by her parents and a brother. She is survived by her husband, three children, and multiple grandchildren.

Jack Cox ’48, of Cridersville, Ohio, Oct. 8, at the age of 93. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary Jo “Jodie” Miller Cox ’49, and a sister. He is survived by a brother, four children, and multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Cox was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

Edward Rosino Jr. ’48, of Sandusky, Ohio, Jan. 2, at the age of 95. He was predeceased by his parents, wife, sister, and two children. He is survived by two children, including John Rosino ’74, and multiple grandchildren, including Michael Rosino ’08. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Patricia Snyder Held ’49, of Largo, Fla., Jan. 4, at the age of 92. She was predeceased by her husband and is survived by two daughters and three grandchildren.

Helen Kepner Maurer ’49, of Dublin, Ohio, Nov. 14, at the age of 91. She was predeceased by her father and mother, Martha Nay Kepner 1923. She is survived by her husband, Richard Maurer ’50, a sister, Elizabeth Kepner Hardesty ’51, a brother, two children, and multiple grandchildren. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Donald Jack Watkins ’49, of Upper Arlington, Ohio, Jan. 18, at the age of 94. He was predeceased by his mother and father, Donald Watkins 1918, his wife, Dorothy Gerlach Watkins ’49, and a brother, William Watkins ’43. He is survived by a daughter and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

William Dykins ’46, of Sebring, Ohio, Oct. 27, at the age of 94. Estepp was predeceased by his wife. He is survived by two children and was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

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Virginia “Jinny” Mae Allen Warner ’47, of Venice, Fla., Jan. 15, at the age of 93. She was predeceased by her parents and a brother. She is survived by her husband, three children, and multiple grandchildren.

George Poh ’50, of Dallas, Nov. 11, at the age of 94. He was predeceased by his wife, Margaret Luthy Poh ’49 and is survived by three daughters and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.
Rachel Nincehelser Stockwell '51, of Sunbury, Ohio, Nov. 18, at the age of 90. She was predeceased by her father and mother, Helen McCormick Nincehelser '24, her husband, and a sister, Carol Nincehelser Wirick '52. She is survived by three children, including Amy Stockwell '74, and a granddaughter.

John Barclay '52, of Westfield, Mass., Dec. 23, at the age of 90. He was predeceased by his parents and a brother. He is survived by his wife, four children, two brothers, and multiple grandchildren. Barclay was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Betty Chambers Cramer '52, of Anderson, Ind., Dec. 10, at the age of 90. She was predeceased by her parents and is survived by her husband, three children, a sister, three stepchildren, and a granddaughter.

Phyllis King Fellabaum '52, of Findlay, Ohio, Oct. 6, at the age of 88. She was predeceased by her husband and two sons, and is survived by a son and multiple grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

Jesse Uppercro '52, of Wilson, N.C., Dec. 3, at the age of 88. He is survived by his wife, two children, a sister, and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Beta Sigma Tau fraternity.

Celeste Youker Ferrell '53, of Tucson, Ariz., in January at the age of 86. She was predeceased by her parents and husband, Charles Ferrell '52. She is survived by three sons; three sisters, Betsy Youker Taylor '57, Marjorie Youker Hall '61, and Sarah Youker Seaman '66, and a grandson. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

James Roos '53, of Wauseon, Ohio, Nov. 8, at the age of 87. Roos was predeceased by his parents, a son, two granddaughters, and a brother, Thomas Roos '55. He is survived by his wife, two children, and two siblings, Philip Roos '60 and Kathryn Roos Meuth '65. Roos was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity and the OWU Acapella Chorus.

Martin Sommer '53, of Metuchen, N.J., Oct. 27, at the age of 87. Sommer was predeceased by his parents and his first and second wives. He is survived by a brother, four children, and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Delta Sigma Tau fraternity.

John Stewart '53, of Columbus, Oct. 1, at the age of 87. He was predeceased by his parents, Eleanor Quass Stewart '27 and W. Rolland Stewart '26. He is survived by his sister, Thomsa "Tommy" Stewart Haas '56, and a son, Michael Stewart '79. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Richard Tice '53, of Upper Arlington, Ohio, Oct. 7, at the age of 87. He was predeceased by his parents. He is survived by his wife and five children, including Phyllis Tice Brown '86 and Ralph Tice '79 as well as daughter-in-law Nancy Crump Tice '78, and grandchildren, including Mason Tice '12. Tice served on the OWU Board of Trustees, and was a member of the OWU Tower Society and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

Arthur C. Mussman '54, of Kirkland, Wash., Dec. 13, at the age of 86. He was predeceased by his parents and is survived by a daughter, a son, and two half sisters. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Robert Hathaway '55, of Akron, Ohio, Dec. 17, at the age of 86. Hathaway was predeceased by his wife, parents, and a grandson. He is survived by four sons and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Carolyn Angilly Herr '56, of Ridgefield, Conn., Oct. 23, at the age of 84. She was predeceased by her husband and is survived by three sons and multiple grandchildren. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Wesley Hostetler '56, of Hertford, N.C., Oct. 7, at the age of 84. He is survived by his wife, Carol Hostetler '56, a sister, four children, including Susan Hostetler '82, four stepchildren; and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Dwight McBride '56, of Kannapolis, N.C., Jan. 19, at the age of 85. He was predeceased by his parents, brother, and sister. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

William Miller '56, of Ozark, Mo., Dec. 9, at the age of 84. Miller was predeceased by his parents and is survived by his wife, three brothers, two children, three stepchildren, and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Lanning Porterfield. Class of 1956, of Huron, Ohio, Nov. 25, at the age of 85. Porterfield was predeceased by his parents and a grandson. He is survived by his wife, Judith Speers Porterfield '56, two children, and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Craig Proctor '56, of Flemington, N.J., Dec. 9, at the age of 84. He was predeceased by his parents and is survived by his wife, Jo Lynn Watts Proctor '57, four children, and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Nancy Straub '56, of Westlake, Ohio, Nov. 4, at the age of 84. Straub was predeceased by her parents and a brother. She is survived by her sister, Verna Ferrante (John), and several nieces and nephews, as well as 11 great-nieces and great nephews. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority. She spent her entire career as a medical technologist in microbiology at University Hospitals, most of those years in a supervisory position. Straub was an active member of College Club West and Rockport United Methodist Church.

Diana Cottle Gleasner '58, of Newton, N.C., Oct. 30, at the age of 82. She was predeceased by her parents. She is survived by her husband, G. William Gleasner '58, two children, brother Ed Cottle '68, a sister, and multiple grandchildren. Gleasner was a member of the OWU Athletic Hall of Fame.

Patricia Wright Blakely '59, of Pennsville, N.J., Dec. 27, at the age of 81. She was predeceased by her parents and is survived by two children, including Jonathan Blakely '86, and three granddaughters. Blakely was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority.
Graham “Jerry” Craig ’59, of Rochester, Minn., Oct. 23, at the age of 81. He was predeceased by his parents and a brother, and is survived by a brother and a sister.

Lois Bulkowski Harmon ’59, of West Hartford, Conn., Dec. 15, at the age of 81. She is survived by a brother. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

Russell G. Pipe ’59, of Bangkok, Thailand, Dec. 11, at the age of 81. He is survived by two siblings and his partner. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

Anita Parrish Emery ’60, of Daytona Beach, Fla., on Dec. 25, at the age of 80. She was predeceased by her artist husband. She is survived by brother Donald R. Parrish ’57 and sister-in-law Molly Spring Parrish ’58 and her beloved cats. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

Anthony Kidd ’60, of Columbus, Nov. 26, at the age of 80. Kidd was predeceased by his parents and a brother. He is survived by two children and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

William Gigax ’61, of Rockville, Md., Jan. 2, at the age of 79. He was predeceased by his wife and is survived by his children and grandchildren. Gigax was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

Kyle Phillip Taylor ’61, of Winter Park, Fla., Dec. 18, at the age of 79. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity. He was a professor of communication for 35 years at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. He is survived by his wife and children, as well as his brother.

Janet Allen Esch ’62, of Maumee, Ohio, Nov. 11, at the age of 78. She was predeceased by her husband, Raymond Esch ’62, and sister Judith Allen Foster ’59. She is survived by several siblings, including Jerry Allen ’61, her three children, and multiple grandchildren. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Mary “Kathy” Leshy Kelley ’64, of Monrovia, Calif., Jan. 20, at the age of 76. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and the four-student team that trounced five colleges on the popular TV quiz show College Bowl and retired undefeated. She pursued graduate study in medical science at Harvard Medical School, where she met her husband of 44 years, Jonathan Kelley, M.D.; they divorced in 2011 and parted without rancor. Kathy also studied law at George Washington University, finishing at Stanford Law School in Palo Alto, Calif. As she moved around, she remained active on the boards of local nonprofits, including the YWCA in San Jose and the Community Foundation of Sierra Madre.

Kathy is survived by her sister DeDe Leshy ’73 of Los Angeles, and her brother, Hastings Law Professor John Leshy of San Francisco; her daughter Sarah; and granddaughter Winifred, as well as numerous nieces and nephews and extended family across the United States. The family requests that memorial gifts be made to the John and Dolores King Leshy Family Adam Poe Endowment at OWU.

Sharon Fairchild Soucy ’64, of Oberlin, Ohio, Oct. 7, at the age of 76. She is survived by sister Nancy Fairchild Puleo ’63, her husband, two children, and a grandson. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Thomas Fannin ’65, of East Liverpool, Ohio, Dec. 5, at the age of 75. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister-in-law and is survived by his wife and a brother. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

James Goodrich ’65, of Westport, Conn., Nov. 1, at the age of 75. Goodrich is survived by his wife, stepsons, daughter, sister, and grandson. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Eric Johnson ’66, of Chapel Hill, N.C., Nov. 7, at the age of 74. Johnson was predeceased by his parents and a sister. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Moyer Johnson ’66, two children, two siblings, and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

Judith Schultz ’65, of Las Cruces, N.M., Oct. 3, at the age of 75. She is survived by her partner of 35 years and was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. Schultz was also a member of the OWU Tower Society.

Marilyn Patrinka Federoff ’67, of Elyria, Ohio, Dec. 31, at the age of 73. She was predeceased by her husband and her parents. She is survived by two sons and multiple grandchildren.

Susan Stevenson MacNab ’68, of Payson, Ariz., Nov. 24, after a valiant battle with cancer. She was 72. MacNab was a Delta Delta Delta at OWU and went on to receive a M.Ed. in counseling at the University of Arizona. She was a behavior specialist at the Scottsdale Unified School District. She is survived by two brothers and their families, four nieces and nephews and their families.

Cuthbert “Tubby” Thambimuthu ’70, of Columbus, Jan. 30.

Michael Adams ’72, of Providence, R.I., June 26, at the age of 67. He was predeceased by brother Jeffrey Adams ’74 and is survived by sister Cynthia Adams, mother Kathryn West Heiskell ’47, stepfather Ted Heiskell, uncle William West ’52, a son, a daughter, and grandchildren, along with other friends and family. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity. Incorrect information was included in the Winter issue; we regret the errors.

Glenn “Chip” Dahike ’73, of Lyme, Conn., Dec. 11, at the age of 67. Dahike was predeceased by his father. He is survived by his mother, two siblings, five children, and one grandchild.

Nancy Fong-Farmer ’78, of Lakewood, Ohio, Nov. 27, at the age of 62. She is survived by two children, seven siblings, and multiple grandchildren.

Charles Hartigan ’75, of Canton, Conn., Jan. 21, at the age of 65. He was predeceased by his parents and is survived by his wife, three sons, two brothers, and multiple grandchildren. A lacrosse player at OWU, Hartigan was instrumental in the formation of the OWU Legends, an alumni lacrosse program, in 2001. Playing competitive lacrosse until his death, Charlie led four teams to the World Games, and was recognized as one of the outstanding players for years at national tournaments in Lake Placid and Florida, where he became deeply close to his teammates and their families. He will be greatly missed by his fellow lacrosse alumni and Legends team members, for whom he was a model of kindness and leadership. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity. Visit the Facebook site “OWU Lacrosse Past and Present” to read or leave a tribute to Charlie.
**1980s**

A. Kevin Culp '82, of Columbus, Nov. 7, at the age of 58. He is survived by his wife, two sons, parents, and four siblings, including Scott Culp '83.

**2000s**

Joshua Fortkamp '06, of Delaware, Ohio, Dec. 13, at the age of 36. He is survived by his parents.

**Faculty/Staff**

Evelyn Baker, of Richwood, Ohio, Nov. 11, at the age of 89. She worked at OWU as a secretary to the vice president in business affairs. She is survived by three children, including Rosie Bell, who retired recently after more than 25 years of working at OWU, and multiple grandchildren.

Joseph Burke, of Albany, N.Y., Aug. 3, at the age of 86. He earned a Ph.D. in legal history and taught for two years at OWU.

Dorothy Chuan-Wang, of Torrance, Calif., and Kobe, Japan, a former member of the OWU library sciences staff, June 12, at the age of 95. Filler taught chemistry at OWU.

Robert Filler, of Arlington Heights, Ill., Jan. 8, at the age of 77. Filler taught chemistry and taught for two years at OWU.

Curtis Gast, of Columbus, Oct. 25, at the age of 80. Gast received his doctorate degree from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in 1984 and taught at OWU.

Judith Johns, of Delaware, Ohio, who worked as a secretary at OWU for 20 years, Jan. 17, at the age of 81.

James “Larry” Mench, of Mechanicsburg, Pa., Dec. 6, at the age of 78. He was a former staff member of the OWU Admission office.

C. Clinton Rila, of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, Oct. 2, at the age of 90. She taught chemistry at OWU.

Donald Smith, of Raleigh, N.C., Nov. 19, at the age of 84. Smith was a teacher and researcher at OWU before ultimately becoming a tenured professor at North Carolina State University.

Donna Walker, of Ashley, Ohio, Jan. 21, at the age of 57. She was a former public safety officer at OWU.

Ruth Edna Wheeland, of Ashley, Ohio, Jan. 15, at the age of 92. She worked at OWU for more than three decades, until 1990, most recently as the secretary for the registrar’s office.

**Sympathy To**

Jean Stamberger Graham ’56 and Edward Graham ’55 for the death of their son, Michael Graham, of Muncie, Ind. on Aug. 4, at the age of 49. Michael is also survived by his wife, Melanie Graham, siblings Susan and David, multiple nieces and nephews, and a great-nephew.

Robert “Bobbie” Farnam Thrall ’57 for the death of her daughter, Melissa Thrall Bishop, on Dec. 20, in Delaware, Ohio at the age of 51.

Anola Shrader Lauer ’68 for the death of her mother on July 11, 2012, at the age of 85, and her father on Nov. 29, 2018, at the age of 95.

Melinda Ruffing Schoenwald ’71 for the death of her mother, Ruth Ruffing, of Macedonia, Ohio, who passed on her birthday, Oct. 26, at the age of 92.

Linda Mackey Stude ’71 for the death of her mother, Donnah Waechter, of Cortland, Ohio, on Aug. 4, at the age of 92.

Linda Michener Parduhn ’76 for the death of her husband, Brian Parduhn of Glen Ellyn, Ill., on Nov. 23, at the age of 69.

Marcia Rodenhaver Alvarez ’77 for the death of her mother, Marcia Rodenhaver, on Dec. 21, at the age of 90.

Katherine Sherts Civitillo ’77 for the death of her husband, William Joseph Civitillo Sr., of West Hartford, Conn., Jan. 21, at the age of 63.

Timothy D’ Angelo ’79 for the death of his father, Eugene D’Angelo, of Columbus, on Nov. 19, at the age of 90.

Michael Richards ’87 and Barbara Richards, a member of the OWU staff, for the death of Michael’s father and Barbara’s husband, Lew Richards, on Dec. 17, due to complications from Alzheimer’s disease.

Jonathan Whithaus ’91 for the death of his mother, Ann Whithaus, of Findlay, Ohio, Jan. 12, at the age of 83.

Pooja Alag Bird ’98 and Richard Weeks Bird ’69 for the death of Braden Bird, Pooja’s husband and Richard’s son, on Oct. 31, after he suffered complications from leukemia. Braden is survived by two sons, ages 10 and 7, who reside with their mother in Twinsburg, Ohio.

Taylor Golden ’16 for the unexpected death of her sister, Haleigh Golden, at the age of 20 on Nov. 16.
Nancy Knop, former HHK faculty member

Nancy Knop, an integral member of the Health and Human Kinetics faculty for 16 years, died of brain cancer in Minneapolis on Feb. 2. She was 63.

Ever the healthcare professional, Knop participated in a clinical trial through the University of Minnesota as part of her treatment. The trial combined the injection of a virus genetically engineered to infect brain cancer cells and a drug designed to destroy virus-infected cells, in an effort to avoid many of the toxic effects associated with traditional chemotherapies.

Knop was born Dec. 3, 1956 in Red Bud, Ill. She attended the University of Illinois, where she settled a lawsuit to give female athletes the same opportunity and budgets as men. She earned a master’s degree in exercise physiology/biomechanics at the University of California-Davis.

Knop taught at OWU from 1999 to 2016, when she received the Adam Poe Medal presented by Dr. Christopher Fink, chairperson of the HHK Department. In honoring her, he said: “It is difficult to capture how instrumental Nancy has been in fostering the growth, rigor, and student success characteristic of the Department of Health and Human Kinetics. She leaves a legacy of high-quality teaching, advising, mentoring, scholarship, service, and collegiality.”

Knop also served for three seasons as an assistant women’s track and field coach, during which time OWU won two North Coast Athletic Conference outdoor championships and had four All-Americans. She also created the FitOWU health and wellness program. A celebration of her life will be held in Delaware in the early fall.

She is survived by her parents, Edward and Barbara Knop, an aunt, her brothers and a sister, and their families, including her nieces and nephews.
“Student Co-Director of Summer Orientation” looks pretty good on a résumé, but it doesn’t exactly capture how I spent my summer. The friendships and professional connections I made started with an email last spring with the subject line: “You’ve Been Recommended! Apply for Orientation Internships.” It was promoted as an internship doing event planning for summer orientation. It turned out to also involve running on three(ish) hours of sleep during orientation sessions, dragging boxes of bedding up the Welch Hall stairs after the elevator broke on freshman move-in day, as well as the eventual realization that I hate event planning. But the dry run to help prepare me for the “real world” before my senior year also turned out to be the best summer of my life.

In 2015, as a new student at OWU meeting my orientation group, I was freshly moved in and freaking out because my parents had just left. I was completely alone for the first time in my life. I told everyone in my group how happy I was to be here, but obviously I was terrified. I pride myself on being an independent person, but I couldn’t help wondering how I was going to navigate starting all over again: no friends, academics much more challenging than I was used to, a dorm room shared with three other people, the slog of young-adult insecurity.

That’s where my mind went when I filled out the application to be a student co-director. I did it for students like freshman Anna, who just wanted to hear she wasn’t alone and that feeling stressed and lonely was normal. I wanted to be the person who told new students to make the most of their first year, and to let them know that it only gets better from there.

Throughout the summer I realized I wasn’t so different from the first-years. You’d think that a polo shirt and a placard name tag with “Anna L. Davies, Student Director” on it would make me the picture of a confident young professional, but I quickly realized I was just as uncertain about my future as they were. Instead of choosing classes, I was choosing job applications. Instead of fielding the question, “What are you majoring in?” I was dodging, “And what are you going to do with your life after you graduate?”

Different routes for the same life experiences. Every time I reassured an anxious student that he or she would find a niche here, I realized I was talking myself down from a crisis, too. It was cathartic — I had the leadership position, so I led with empathy. We’re all just trying to play like we have it together. What matters most is when we let the façade drop and collectively admit we have no idea what we’re doing, but we’re trying our hardest to get oriented in life.

So as I step out into the unknown, I’ll carry the life lessons new students taught me: Show compassion. Be true to yourself. Believe and trust that things can only get better. And when all else fails, dancing outside Beeghly Library with 488 of your closest new friends during a new-student block party is a great option.
Celebrate the path that brought you to Ohio Wesleyan and where you’ve gone from here.

Please make a gift today by returning the enclosed envelope or visiting owu.edu/give.
A bicycle catches the evening sun outside Sturges Hall. (Photo by Mark Schmitter ’12)