

OSURA PRESIDENT'S SUMMARY REPORT

Steven M. D'Ambrosio, 2018-19 President

2018-2019 (July 1-June 30) was another great year for OSURA. OSURA continued to nurture its association with the Alumni Association (AA) who provided OSURA with meeting space, IT and communication support, registration and event planning assistance, training, access to OSU events and activities, and rewarded us financially for member engagements and activities. OSURA greatly appreciates the support of Craig Little, Director, Alumni Engagement Alumni Experiences and his staff for their help and assistance throughout the year.

During the past year OSURA has been working on implementing many goals outlined in the April 2018 Retreat. OSURA has increased opportunities for member engagement through learning, cultural and social activities. We have established multiple venues to communicate with members via print, email, social media, etc. OSURA is developing marketing tools to attract recent retirees to join OSURA. The Board is updating its Operating Manual for the Board and committees to operate more efficiently. OSURA has become more transparent to members in finances. OSURA is currently updating member information for a new print and online member directory.

OSURA continues our reputation as a very active organization for the wide interests of its 2,500+ members. This year OSURA had 105 events with over 2,100 member engagements. Opportunities were provided for members to attend free and discounted cultural events, group travel around the state and internationally, learn about OSU's great research projects and venues, learn about current events, attend wellness and financial seminars and many more. OSURA members enjoyed socializing at Tertullia breakfasts, Lunch Bunch, Dinner lecture series, Holiday party, picnics, Annual Conference and Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting in June 2019 brought over 100 members to thank our members, learn about the past year's activities and hear about the upcoming OSU Sesquicentennial celebration. The September 2018 Annual Conference brought over 300 members together to learn about the rich history of the OSU marching band, had multiple information and entertainment venues, provided visit to OSU colleges, and information from vendors who financially supported the conference.

In May 2019, OSURA established for the first time an endowment to support our students at OSU. The OSURA endowment "to combat student food insecurity" is designed to help the estimated 15% of OSU students who are struggling with hunger, often unsure about their next meal. The Endowment will support the Buckeye Food Alliance assisting OSU students who are struggling with food insecurity. This is a fantastic opportunity for OSURA retirees to give back to the students who will carry on our OSU legacy.

OSURA is a total volunteer organization. It depends upon the dedication, insight and hard work of the volunteer members of the Board and Committees. Without them, OSURA would not be able to offer the number and variety of events that our members cherish. The OSURA Board met 10 times and Committees, monthly or every other month for a total of 63 meetings. OSURA thanks them for all the time and effort they put in to ensure that the activities and events are first class and highly successful. OSURA continues to reach out to recruit new volunteers that reflect our members' needs.

Finally, I want to thank OSURA members for supporting OSURA and sharing your fellowship. OSURA is strong because of its strong member base. Thank you to the Board and Committee Chairs and Committee members for working together to accomplish the great things that OSURA is doing for its members. I also want to welcome our new president, incoming Board and Committee members to the 2019-2020 year.