Ohio State’s Regional Campuses

Ohio is rich in options for higher education, including 14 four-year public universities with 24 branch campuses, 23 two-year community and technical colleges and more than 50 four-year private colleges and universities. The Columbus region, alone, has a total student enrollment of more than 134,000 and 22,000 annual graduates.

Ohio State’s four regional campuses (Lima, Mansfield, Marion, and Newark) were established in the late 1950s. It was a time that Ohio was expanding access to higher education throughout the state by creating community and technical colleges – and even building new public universities.

Often local school buildings were made available for the classes. By the 1960s, communities raised money to buy land for permanent campuses, and the state built its first academic buildings and campuses, and began offering the first four-year degree programs.

During the 70s technical colleges co-located on each of the four regional campuses. In the 80s and 90s enrollment, programs, and facilities all grew. Four-year programs were also added, primarily in liberal arts and business, expanding beyond the existing programs in education.

Beginning in the early 2000s residential facilities were expanded, master’s degrees were developed, and campuses added professional degrees in nursing, health sciences, and social work.

Regional campuses have open enrollment to students with a high school diploma or GED. After earning 30 semester hours, students in good standing have the option to complete their degrees on the Columbus campus.

Each year about one-quarter of regional students change to the Columbus campus.

Tuition at the regionals is about 30 percent less than on the Columbus campus and fees are often lower, too.

The combined regional campuses enroll approximately 6,000 students with 1,000 to 2,600 students on each campus. The majority are from the home or adjacent counties with between 20 and 40 percent from farther away.

And all transcripts and diplomas for all Ohio State graduates are the same, regardless of the campus of study. All regional campus students are students of The Ohio State University!

To ensure that new art will flourish, Ohio has joined 28 other states and territories participating in “Percent for Art Legislation” that provides, in Ohio at least, 1% of the total appropriation for new and renovated buildings for art! Be sure that at Ohio State the representative Campus Art and Memorials Committee has been formed, process and procedures are in place, and new works – are in the works!
Greetings to my OSURA colleagues. I now begin the OSURA presidency for the second time, the first having been 2013-2014. Since retiring in 2009, I’ve served on several of our committees and organized the annual tax seminars. This experience should be helpful as I take over the reins this 2022-2023 term. And I’m very pleased that Sally Dellinger will be serving as our Vice President, President Elect.

Now, I want to wish us all the best of luck in managing our daily lives during the warming weather and the persistent commercial inflation. It’s not always easy to smile while pumping $4.50+ gasoline in 90 degrees temperature (“real feel” 100+ degrees!).

Some good news has arrived, however, from STRS. We have begun to receive COLA again. Healthcare premiums for 2023 will be reduced for nearly all retirees in the STRS plan. To top off this news, latest reports show that over the past 5 to 10 years, STRS investment returns have been much better than the other five Ohio pension funds.

Good news from another front, our OSURA membership has stabilized at 2,369.

I cannot resist including here a comment about climate. There is an important article entitled “Clean Air Is Adding to Global Warming” in the 22 July 2022 issue of the journal Science, pages 353-354. Using satellite observations, a paradox of global warming has been illuminated: greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and methane drive climate warming, but burning coal and other fossil fuels produce aerosols that reflect the sun’s rays, thus producing a cooling effect. Pollution control is removing both the greenhouse gases and the aerosols, but more (so far) of the aerosols than the gases. Thus, it would seem cleaner air has boosted warming! Read the article for more detail. There are solutions in the making.

Finally, let me encourage you all to attend the Annual Fall Conference on September 21. Sally has organized this event for several years now, and we once again have a wonderful day planned. I look forward to seeing you there.

Until then, be safe, care for your health, and read our wonderful OSURA Newsletter.

Hallan (Hal) Noltimier
President of OSURA
Welcome New Retirees

Lawrence Michael Antal  
Natural and Mathematical Sciences

Mary Marie Baker  
Specialty Care Network

Canise Yvette Bean  
Dentistry

Cathy Jo Beatty  
Optometry

Douglas E. Black  
Health System – Shared Services

Marie Annette Brunner  
Health System – Shared Services

Cheryl A. Cahlander  
ERIK – Research

William Richard Cox  
Ross Heart Hospital

Lloyd Brent Davis  
WOSU

Steven M. Dickstein  
Business

Jeffrey Bernard Eaton  
Health System – Shared Services

Allen R. Firestone  
Dentistry

Louis Carter Flocken  
University Hospital East

Steven Glenn Gabbe  
Medicine

Robert M. Gabel  
University Hospital

Helena I. Gosciolo  
Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures

Michelle Rae Herman  
English

Barbara S. Holcomb  
Business and Finance

Robert Louis Horton  
OSU Extension

Teresa Anne Jackson  
Ambulatory Services Physician

Theresa Marie Jackson  
Newark

Tammy Sue Johnson  
Ambulatory Services Physician

Peter Allen Kerns  
Facilities Operations and Development

Gary Lynn Leimbach  
Business and Finance

William Randall McLaughlin  
Ophthalmology

Elona A. Miller  
Ross Heart Hospital

William Frederick Miser  
Family Medicine

Larry Allen Moore  
Student Life

Louise Marie Phillips  
University Hospital

Marilyn Puig Radcliff  
Mathematics

Kottil Walappill Rammohan  
Neurology

Kathryn Louise Smith  
University Hospital

Paul David Starkey  
FAES – Wooster

Linda Darlene Walsh  
Nursing

Marguerite Crowley Weibel  
Health Sciences Library

Of Interest to OSURA Members:

Where can you take advanced classes without papers or exams? OWLS is the correct answer! We are in our 26th year of offering practical, thought-provoking, and entertaining 8-hour college-level courses at an affordable cost. This year’s selections:

- Parks, Plants, and Pots (Oct. 3 – 4): Discover everything flora and fauna that Central Ohio has to offer.
- From Ideas to Finished Book: How Books Happen (Oct. 6, 11): Prepare to celebrate books!
- The Vietnam War & Hippie Culture 1954-1975 (Oct. 13 – 14): Go back and visit those dynamic times!
- The CRISPR Revolution (Oct. 24 – 25): Explore this new gene-editing technology with leading-edge OSU faculty.

Courses are $30 for two 4-hour sessions. The classes will take place at the Ohio Living Westminster Thurber community in Victorian Village or Broad Street Presbyterian Church (free, easy-access parking at both locations). Classes will begin at 10:00 am. We are kicking off our fall classes with a special September 13th performance featuring crowd-favorite Dave Powers at the piano. Tickets for this event are $15.

For more information about Dave Powers, the classes and presenters, and to register, please visit www.owls.coursesetorm.com or call 614-579-2557. If you have questions, contact Susan Berntson at susanberntson1@gmail.com (be mindful of spelling!) or 614-468-1289.
Calendar of Events

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

September 6 (Tuesday)
Benefits Committee
Time/Place: 9:30 a.m.,
Longaberger Alumni House

September 13 (Tuesday)
Board Meeting
Time/Place: 9:30 a.m.,
Longaberger Alumni House

September 26 (Monday)
Cultural Arts/Travel Committee
Time/Place: 10 a.m.,
Longaberger Alumni House

September 28 (Wednesday)
Membership Committee
Time/Place: 10 a.m.,
Longaberger Alumni House

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

October 27 (Thursday)
Dinner Series
At the end of its life a massive star’s core becomes unstable and its life terminates in a fraction of a second. We owe our existence to the explosions, which enrich the universe with elements. The discussion will focus on new searches for supernovae and black holes that shape our galaxy and universe.

Time/Place: 5:15 p.m. reception, 6 p.m.
dinner, 7 p.m. lecture: OSU Faculty Club
Cost: $35 (service charge included)
Registration Deadline: Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by October 24.
Arranger: Carol Newcomb (newcomb.28@osu.edu – Dinner Series SIG)

BOOK CLUB

September’s book is The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race. Our virtual You Are There play format for this book will be used to enable and encourage all of our members from everywhere to participate in the ensuing lively discussion via email.

Contact: Lee Hill (hill.30@osu.edu – Book Club SIG)

SPECIAL EVENTS

September 16 (Friday)
BalletMet at the Ohio Theater
Challenge Level 2
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Two perfect pairings of Edward Liang’s. Murmuration showcases dancers replicating the movements of starlings as they swirl and turn in unison. Tributary fills the stage with dancers in a riot of white tutus and breath-taking classical ballet.

Meet by: Box office opens at 9:30 a.m.
Seating is general, so plan to arrive early for best seats. Performance begins at 11 a.m., Ohio Theater
Cost: $25.20 (admission ticket)

Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by September 8. Credit card preferred. Tickets will be held at Will Call.
Arranger: Marilyn Blackwell (blackwell.4@osu.edu – Cultural Arts Committee)

September 21 (Wednesday)
2022 OSURA Annual Fall Conference
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Time/Place: 8 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.,
Fawcett Event Center, 2400 Olentangy River Road
Cost: $30 members – includes continental breakfast and lunch; $10 extra for optional tours
Registration Deadline: September 14 – Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu, or call 614-292-2281 (1-800-762-5646).
Parking: Free
Arranger: Sally Dellinger (Conference Committee)

September 29 (Thursday)
Fort Recovery & Garst Museum Tour
Fort Recovery & Greenville, OH
Challenge Level 3
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Fort Recovery Museum & Battle Tour, fortrecoversystemuseum@yahoo.com. Lunch at Montage Café and on to Garst Museum, an historical museum that includes The National Annie Oakley Center, Crossroads of Destiny, Keepers of Freedom, Douglas Dickey Exhibit, Lowell Thomas... with Lawrence and Beyond, and The Story of Longtown. https://www.garstmuseum.org

Meet by: 7:30 a.m., Tremont Center (Tremont Road, opposite Upper Arlington Library)
Return: approximately 6 p.m.
Cost: $74; cost includes museum admissions, lunch, transportation, snacks, tips.
Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by September 15.
Arrangers: Alabelle Zghoul and Jessica Pritchard (jjpritch6@gmail.com – Travel Committee)

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Registrations requiring payment: Registrations can be made by going online to osura.osu.edu or by calling 614-292-2281 or 1-800-762-5646. Your registration is not complete until payment is made, so have your credit card ready. Checks are no longer being accepted.

2. Registrations NOT requiring payment: Registrations will be made through the Arranger’s email provided in the description of the event.

CHALLENGE LEVELS

1. Light – may include a few stairs.
2. Moderate – may include a few sets of stairs.
3. Moderate + – may include climbing many stairs and/or uneven terrain.
4. High – may include lots of walking, climbing stairs, hilly walkways and/or extended weather exposure.
October 6 (Thursday)
OSU Veterinary Medical Center Tour
1900 Coffey Road
Challenge Level 1-2
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Join us in a behind-the-scenes tour of the OSU Veterinary Medical Center (VMC) and the new Veterinary Clinical and Professional Skills Center at the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM), lead by the dean, Dr. Rustin Moore. The VMC’s three hospitals, collectively, had over 40,000 patient visits last year!
Meet by: 1 p.m., at 1900 Coffey Road, on the OSU Campus.
Return: approximately 3 p.m.
Cost: No cost, unless you use an OSU parking garage
Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at OSURA.CulturalArts.Travel@gmail.com by September 23.
Arrangers: Ron Currin (Rcurrin6209@gmail.com – Cultural Arts Committee)

October 28 (Friday)
BalletMet – Dracula
Challenge Level 2
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Inspired by Bram Stoker’s 1897 novel and Francis Ford Coppola’s 1992 movie. Sink your teeth into David Nixon’s rendition of Dracula. Dracula has been a fan favorite for more than a decade.
Meet by: Box office opens at 9:30 a.m. Seating is general, so plan to arrive early for best seats. Performance begins at 11 a.m., Davidson Theater, 77 S. High St. Cost: $23.10 (admission ticket)
Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by Oct. 28.
Arrangers: Alabelle Zghoul and Judith Brandt (alabelle.zghoul@gmail.com – Travel Committee)

November 7 (Monday)
Jameson Crane Sports Medicine Institute Tour
2835 Fred Taylor Dr. #2000
Challenge Level 1-2
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
The Jameson Crane Sports Medicine Institute is the Midwest’s largest and most advanced sports medicine facility. It’s the home of innovation and discovery in helping people improve their athletic performance, recover from injury and prevent future injuries. Come see for yourself.
Meet by: 11 a.m., at the Institute – 2835 Fred Taylor Dr. on the OSU Campus
Return: 12 p.m.
Cost: No cost
Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at OSURA.CulturalArts.Travel@gmail.com by October 28.
Arrangers: Ron Currin (Rcurrin6209@gmail.com) – Cultural Arts Committee

December 1-2 (Thursday)
Oglebay Overnight Trip
Wheeling, WV
Challenge Level 2
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
We’ll stay overnight at the lodge; have a self-guided tour of Good Zoo, Mansion Museum, Glass Museum, and the Schrader Environmental Center. Then we’ll enjoy a dinner buffet, dinner show, breakfast buffet, and a guided-tour of the Festival of Lights.
Meet by: December 1 at 8:45 a.m., Tremont Center (Tremont Road, opposite Upper Arlington Library)
Return: December 2 at 4:30 p.m.
Cost: Single-$304, Double-$257, Triple-$241, Quad-$233; cost includes transportation, lodging, baggage handling, dinner buffet, dinner show, breakfast buffet, tours, snacks, lunch, and tips.
Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by Oct. 28.
Arrangers: Alabelle Zghoul and Judith Brandt (alabelle.zghoul@gmail.com – Travel Committee)

Restaurants
Denny’s
15% off - 55+
Joe’s Crab Shack
10% off food and nonalcoholic beverages
McCormick & Schmick’s
10% off food and nonalcoholic beverages
McDonalds
Discounted or free coffee
Outback Steak House
10% off food and nonalcoholic beverages
Applebees
10 to 15% off, 60+
Arby’s
10% off, 55+
Boston Market
10% off, 65+
Burger King
10% off, 60+
Chick-Fil-A
10% off, 55+
Dairy Queen
10% off, 55+
Dunkin’ Donuts
10% off on Mondays, 60+
Waffle House
10% off, 62+
While Castle

Travel
Avis Rent of Car
30% w AARP membership
Budget Rent a Car
Up to 35% w AARP membership
Best Western Hotel
5% to 15% w AARP
Hertz
Up to 20%, 50+
Marriott
Discount, 60+
Dollar Rent-A-Car
10% off, 50+

Once upon a time OSURA regularly informed members about discounts that had been developed by the university for its employees and retirees. That hasn’t happened now, for several years – but discounts are still available, as reported by AARP and others. Here are a few:
Meet Donna G. Lamb!

I’ve been a member of OSURA since my retirement from OSU-Lima in 2012. Born and raised in rural east-central Illinois, after high school I was hired into one of the food services offices at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. After a few years, I transferred to a position in the Analytical Chemistry Division. This move changed my life in two ways. First, I took advantage of an employee perk of working at the U of I, taking tuition-free college classes and acquired a BA in History. Second, I met Bob, a new graduate student in the division. (He often claimed that he married me to get his thesis typed for free!)

A funny story at the U of I revolves around my assignment as secretary to the Division chair and editor of the journal Analytical Chemistry. During the student uprisings of the late 60s, he wrote an editorial discussing the effects of the “military mission” on college campuses. Unfortunately, I typed “military invasion” instead. He did not catch the wording change, and my version was published! He was furious (the graduate students found it hilarious). I apologized profusely. A colleague of his reminded him that he had proofread the text approving it for printing, so I was forgiven (sort of)! A few years later he even promoted me to divisional secretary and attended our wedding.

In 1978, we moved to Ada from Dallas, when Bob switched from Southern Methodist University to Ohio Northern and I completed a graduate program in College Student Personnel at BGSU. I became the Director of Career Services at a two-year college (now UNOH) before joining OSU-Lima in 1985 as an Academic Advisor. In 1997, I was assigned to establish the first Career Services Center of the four OSU regional campuses and became OSU-Lima’s Coordinator.

After retirement, I volunteered with the Lima Literacy Council. This was a new challenge. A Liberian woman, whose Kpelle dialect wasn’t even in a written form, had to learn English as well as the concept of reading, writing and spelling it. We became close friends, and I would read and record sections of books so that she could hear how words were pronounced. More recently, I accepted a part time position with Lima Schools, helping students prepare for their GED exams. These commitments, along with church activities and being an election poll worker, have kept me busy.

As retirees, Bob and I have been able to enjoy our two married children and three grandchildren, who all live within an hour of Ada. We enjoy traveling and have visited all 50 states, 4 continents, and about 20 different countries, including Malaysia, Iceland, Italy, and Russia.

Although Bob and I have followed COVID protocol and been vaxxed and boosted, I have lost a cousin to the disease and have had several family members who have developed milder cases. I must admit I have been frustrated by the fake news of the vaccines and the number of people who refuse to get one. I understand, however, that my health decisions are greatly influenced by my education and work environments. I have loved being part of OSURA and the Annual Conference Committee, especially the opportunity to interact with so many interesting people with unique backgrounds. Through organizing the conference tours (like the auto research center and the renovated Pomerene Hall) and taking advantage (with Bob) of several OSURA trips, I have become more impressed by the quality and variety of the OSU community. Although proficient in Zoom meetings, I look forward to a post pandemic return to real-life contacts!
Members Speak – We Listen!
Survey Results

Cooking, garden tips and community service efforts may soon be added to OSURA’s event calendar, thanks to a Membership Committee survey sent in March. The committee asked members for their feedback on current programs as well as suggestions on new programs. The survey link was sent via email with the link also being posted on the OSURA website. We received a 10% response rate (233 voters), and here are those results.

What we learned:
• Even members who currently aren’t participating indicated great interest in the programs that OSURA offers.
• The most popular offerings being Health & Wellness Speaker Events, Travel, Dinner Series, Cultural Arts, Lunch Bunch and Fall Conference.
• There also seems to be a great interest in other suggested activities such as Community Service, Gardening and Cooking.
• People would be more likely to participate if events were held in other places around Columbus rather than just being on or near campus.

What we are doing:
• We are currently looking into possible cooking demos or classes.
• We are also discussing the options of having events outside of the Columbus campus area, which would make it easier for others to join in.

What we need to accomplish our goal:
• The Travel Group and Cultural Arts Group are currently without a chair/leader. We need one or two people to step into a leadership role for these programs.
• We need one or two people to help organize Community Service Events a few times a year.
• We need one or two people to help organize Gardening Demos/Workshops a few times a year.
• We need one or two people to help organize Cooking Demos/Classes a few times a year.
• We need suggestions on Community Service Events that we could do a few times a year.
• We need suggestions on where to go for help in holding the Gardening and Cooking events.

If you would like to help with any of the events listed above or have suggestions, please email us at osura.membership@gmail.com.
We will be following up with a second survey regarding the communication outlets for OSURA. This survey will be coming out sometime after our Fall Conference being held on September 21.
FROM: The Benefits Committee

STRS News

By Jerry Newsom

There is always a tension in investing; in order to get higher yields (good), one accepts higher risk (bad). The STRS Board, of course, would love high yields with low risk, but alas, compromise is required. Given the long time horizon for public pensions, they generally opt for more assets in higher risk, where the fluctuations each year average out over the decades, yielding much better returns on average. Every year there are calls for public pensions to invest only in low-risk assets such as U.S. Treasury notes, partly based on the argument that guaranteed benefits should be paid for by guaranteed investment returns. This may sound appealing, but were this to happen, STRS would be in truly dire straits, resulting in a large increase in contributions and/or a major cut in pensions. A few states are phasing out their defined benefit (DB) plans, with current teachers and retirees grandfathered in the DB plan; new hires are put in defined contribution (DC) plans, similar to 401(k)s. Since the payout to retirees in DC plans varies with investment returns, they are not considered pension plans. Alaska is one state that is dropping its DB plan and is now “woefully short of teachers.” Recruiters say the lack of a pension plan is mentioned by some potential new teachers as a reason for not teaching in Alaska.