Bobcats, unite! As the leaves change color, that’s your sign to don your green and white, and get on board for the 2007 OHIO Homecoming weekend! Join us Oct. 12-14 for a celebration that’ll get you cheering for your favorite team in one of your favorite places in the fall: Athens. See Page 2.

INSIDE
Mentoring up-and-coming OHIO students. Page 1
Reunions and reasons to get back to Athens. Page 2
What’s happening with alumni and where. Page 6
Retro-wear is here!

www.ohioalumni.org/store
Name-brand apparel for the entire family • Gifts for every occasion
High-quality products • Excellent customer service
www.ohioalumni.org/store
This is a limited-time offering.

The magic of mentoring

By Jason Nedley ’98, ’98, ’06

We always say that as alumni, there are three things you can give to Ohio University: your time, talents and treasure. And while the last one is important, so are great volunteers — and it’s hard to place a dollar value on what they do.

Who? Because they’re giving the free two, and we get to cash in immediately.

But for those who focus their time and talents on just one other person — what we call “mentoring” — it’s even more rewarding. An investment like that can pay off for a lifetime, making a good mentor almost priceless.

We’ve thought about ways to create a program, but it’s been a challenge because mentoring just doesn’t mesh well with our classic approaches to engagement.

Our chapters are tasked with building a community, not pairing you off to talk about life and career. There may not be a society for what you do, either, or it’s hard to connect because their careers don’t fit your schedule.

Maybe you find The Gateway, our online social-networking tool, just a bit too social. What all you want is to share or receive guidance, blogs and photos probably aren’t much help.

But we haven’t stopped working on the problem. In fact, I’d like to think we have a solution. We’re calling it the Bobcat Mentor Network.

It’s online, like The Gateway. It’s professionally oriented, too, but it’s not a job-matching site. It doesn’t cost anything to join. And because it’s designed for your time and talents, you decide how much to give, when and to whom. “The mentor has complete power,” says Quansin Derryberry III, Ohio University’s assistant director for outreach and engagement. It’s a network “by invitation only” for Bobcats.

Recently a prospective mentor on the Bobcat Mentor Network is easy. You can register using your Alumni ID. Then create a mentor profile, which will include your location, your industry, employer and career stage (entry-level, management, executive, etc.).

A first-hand look at helping another

Of course we hope you’ll give the Bobcat Mentor Network a try. We’re excited about potential to help you share and receive guidance from across Ohio, the nation, even the world. But technology will never replace your time and talents — it can only extend them. And in the end, the biggest treasure is being able to see firsthand how they can help someone.

Last summer I met Aaron Volk, a student from Mentor High School, near Cleveland. He’d come to Athens for the high-school journalist workshop, at which I’d been an instructor for a number of years. I was impressed by Aaron’s energy and by the depth of his questions — clearly, his interest in producing a quality school newspaper was sincere.

He counted Ohio University among his college choices, too, and would be studying journalism. But before graduation he needed to complete a month-long senior project. He asked if I’d help. How could I refuse a future Bobcat?

During the winter we met for coffee to discuss his project. We met a second time near bangers, then we stopped eating and Aaron got to work. He emailed a blog on which, among other things, he posted a CD review and a witty essay about his experience reporting a story on a local marketing firm. He also used the blog, too, to add entries and to document his progress. I sent comments regularly and offered feedback. I also arranged for him to join a meeting at the paper where I work and to have lunch with the music editor.

“During our last meeting,” he said, “I had good news. He’d been admitted to the Honors Tutorial College and would be studying journalism. But before graduation he needed to complete a month-long senior project. He asked if I’d help. How could I refuse a future Bobcat?”

Today is August 1, 2007, and I am writing my last column as the executive director of the Ohio University Alumni Association. As I reflect on some of the most rewarding professional years of my life, yes, the alumni, should read the many things about my career at Ohio University for which I am grateful.

I am grateful to have three OHIO alumni of every living generation and to have made friends with many of them. To see the history of this institution reflected in your faces has been truly amazing.

I am grateful for the leadership and vision of Drs. Almen, Priege, Gildern and McDemus. We, the alumni, are the beneficiaries of their enduring passion for alma mater.

I am grateful for the many beautiful Homecoming weekends we have had over the years.

I am grateful for a faculty that genuinely cares about students. They care about me as I sought to become a Bobcat.

I am grateful for Ohio University’s rich heritage — from John Norton Templeton being the nation’s 8th African American graduate, to the 14 national and international awards our students received last year (no other school in Ohio can touch us in terms of awards).

I am grateful for Casa Nova, the Burrito Buggy, the Farmer’s Market and the first day of classes as freshmen are scoping across campus trying to figure out how to feed Sogped Hell.

I am grateful for Athens and the special place it holds in the hearts of alumni.

I am grateful for the Campus Green, especially when the chances are playing Akia Marz OHRIO!

I am grateful for the staff of the Ohio University Alumni Association, past and present. They truly represent some of the most talented professionals I have ever had the honor of knowing.

I am grateful for our dynamic society and board alumni volunteer leaders. I have had the honor to know and work with over 700 — volunteers who always say, “I am glad to help you.”

I am grateful that there has been a growing recognition within the OHIO community that our lofty goals can only be attained with the support and engagement of our alumni.

Hey, Bobcats I am grateful for YOU. Your passion and love for this place keeps it going strong.

Thank you for everything, and yes, I’ll be back for Homecoming, Go ‘Cats!

Ralph Amos ’74
Former Assistant Vice President, Alumni Relations and Executive Director, Ohio University Alumni Association

By Jason Nedley ’98, ’98, ’06

Continued on Page 3
Get your Bobcat Pride on!

School Homecoming! The event day this year is "Bobcat Pride"—so be sure to wear your green and white! The weekend kicks off with the Alumni Awards Gala Reception at 8 p.m. at Baker University Center with the dinner and program to follow beginning at 7 p.m. You won’t want to miss the Homecoming Parade Saturday morning, set to start in march down Court Street at 9 a.m. The celebration continues at Baker Center at 10 a.m. when the Alumni Association Pre-game Festivities begin. All this leads up to kickoff of the OHIO vs. Eastern Michigan football game at 12 p.m. at Peden Stadium. The fans take over with the Alumnus Band Dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Margaret Walter Hall. The weekend is sure to be a lot of fun and a great opportunity to not only cheer on the Bobcats to victory, but also catch up with old friends and make new ones. We hope to see you in Athens this October.

For more information on these events and many others, visit www.ohio.edu/homecoming. Visit frequently as events will be posted throughout the week.

WHAT’S NEW

Fall Reunions 2007

Eugene No Decade of the 50th Reunion, Sept. 16 – 18
Alumni Cheerleader and Marching Weekend, Sept. 22
Ice Hockey Alumni Weekend, Sept. 26 – 29

College of Osteopathic Medicine Alumni Society Annual OV/COM Reunion/MC and Alumni Awards Program, Oct. 18-21

The magic of mentoring

Continued from Page 2

New 2008 Alumni Tours

Thinking about where to travel in 2008? Are you interested in taking an amazing trip with fellow OHIO alumni? The 2008 Alumni Tours include packages ranging from Antarctica to Australia, the Swiss Alps to the Galapagos Islands. This is a great opportunity to not only take a professional, pre-planned tour, but to also enjoy a "mini reunion" with friends and former classmates.

All tours provide lifelong learning as well as guided educational elements. For instance, with the "Expedition to Antarctica" trip, you will experience the continent’s majestic coastal scenery and natural wonders as you watch marine mammals and shorthand the unique natural environments.

If you decide to take the “Wonderland of the Galapagos Islands” tour, you’ll journey to these unforgettable islands aboard the state-of-the-art expedition small vessel, H.V. Santa Cruz. All trips provide unique travel experiences that you won’t be able to find anywhere else because these are specifically designed for Bobcats.

Please visit http://www.ohioalumni.org/travel.aspx for more information.

Alumni Tours

Burgundy, France


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Alumni Tours

Burgundy, France


WHERE ARE THE UPCOMING TOURS?

2007

Sept. 8 – 15

Enchanting Ireland

Sept. 7 – 15

Chiara in a Tuscan Villa

Dec. 8 – 16

Jubilee Magic in Austria

2008

Jan. 13 - 25

Expedition to Antarctica

Feb. 8 – 16

World of Life in Tahiti and French Polynesia

March 23 - April 6

Australia Discovery

April 27 – 28

Portulic South Africa

April 24 – May 2

Essence Of India

June 11 – 19

Swiss Alps Kandersteg

July 13 – 18

Bike Tour of Vermont

Aug. 3 – 11

Cruise the Baltic Sea

Sept. 8 – 16

Ireland in an Irish Castle

Sept. 20 - 28

Best Of Tuscany & The Italian Riviera

Sept. 25 – Oct. 4

Spectacular Swiss Alps & Salzburg

Oct. 3 – 11

Village Life in Burgundy and Provence
On Campus

Plans to overhaul university’s IT system announced
Chief Information Officer Bruce Bliss has announced plans to overhaul the university’s IT system, according to a recent meeting of the Athens and regional campuses. All assessment calls for more funding, increased IT staff levels, more structured project management and better information. The Ohio Board of Regents has already approved $12 million of funding for the first phase of the plan. To help achieve this, Bliss is calling for tighter policies and procedures governing areas such as data classification, identity management and disaster recovery.

More than 300 jobs created last year by Innovation Center Six companies in Ohio University’s Innovation Center created 344 jobs and generated $2 million in labor income in Athens County in 2006, according to a new study conducted by the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University. Almost two-thirds of the new jobs were created directly by the Innovation Center companies. Overall, Ohio’s 208 technology business incubators added 2,175 jobs in economic impact since 2004, when the center reported 215 jobs and $7.7 million in local labor income. The Innovation Center is part of the Vice President for Research office at Ohio University.

University announces newest Scholar Urban Scholar The third class of Urban Scholars set to begin classes the fall on the Athens campus has been announced. They are Shannon L. Beier, Elizabeth Brown and Sarah Scott, all of Cleveland; Bria Howard and Sami Powers, both of Columbus; and Jonathon Redell of Reedsburg, Andrew Rozo of Lorain; Harvey Smith of Akron; Troy Wilke of Cincinnati; and Corey Willet of Shaker Heights. An initiative of OHIO President Roderick McDermott, the Urban Scholars Program is designed to increase campus diversity and enhance opportunities for Ohio’s urban high school students to enroll and succeed in college.

Have business experience, will travel...
This past summer, 139 Ohio students participated in the Global Competitiveness Program, a two-week international program arranged yearly by the College of Business to engage both undergraduate and graduate students of business, engineering and other professional tracks as actual consultants for real-life business issues overseas. The program takes students to Bulgaria, Germany, France, China, Italy, Denmark, and Greece. The program’s hand-on approach draws from the college’s Center for International Business Education and Development. A recent recipient of the National Business Incubator Association’s Best Step Award winner, the program was designed in response to feedback from professors and students on the need for international business coursework.

Alumni’s gift creates Russ College endowed professorship
A recent charitable gift from alumnus Joseph K. Jachinowski and his wife Suzanne Jachinowski has made a new endowed professorship possible at the university. The Jachinowski Professorship of Electrical and Computer Science faculty members within the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science are eligible for appointment to the professorship. The faculty member will receive a salary supplement and funds to support professional development and scholarly and research work during the first two years.

Ohio University Players celebrate 50 years at Mammary Theatre
Ohio University Players celebrated 50 years at Mammary Theatre last June. The 50th anniversary of OHIO’s amateur student theatre program at Mammary Theatre was celebrated July 28, 2007, with a special gala production featuring past and present company members. The production, directed by Mammary alumnus Michael John McGann, included scenes from past Mammary productions and scenes from plays alumni have created or been involved in elsewhere, such as “Whisked!” whose Broadway director Joe Mantello is a Mammary alum. The Mammary Players, headed by Michael John Baker, who had the idea of mounting the university’s student theatre program there, purchased the theatre, located in Chatham, Cape Cod, in 1958.

Ohio’s green, in more ways than one...
Office changes name to reflect efforts of “green” university
The Office of Renewable Construction at OHIO has changed its name to the Office of Sustainability in the hopes of better reflecting its evolving focus. The new name comes as the office has expanded its scope beyond resource conservation activities to include “doing the right thing” from economic, social, and environmental perspectives. Mary White, Associate Director of Facilities Management said that the name change aligns the university’s commitment to being a state leader in working towards a “green” university.

University works to inventory greenhouse gas emissions
An effort to collect data for a complete greenhouse gas emissions inventory was recently undertaken by OHIO students, faculty and staff. The initiative is part of the university’s first-year requirements under the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment and will culminate in a comprehensive record of how many tons of greenhouse gases the University emits as a result of its operations and use. The completed inventory will be a source of collaboration between groups and individuals on campus throughout the upcoming academic year. The inventory should be completed by March.

Carnivorous plants call OHIO home, green house home
Bughouse: the Plant Biology Department’s greenhouse and garden is home to numerous carnivorous plants, and they are looking for their next meal. Venusianas such as Utricularia pitchers, which can trap insects that are induce epidermal glands that secrete digestive enzymes, are used to feed the insects and usually grow in nature around Florida lakes. Insect-eating plants are fairly familiar in the garden for more than 20 years. Inside the greenhouse, a trail of insects that come in, grow not only Venus flytraps, but tropical carnivorous plants. Visitors to the Bughouse can see the diversity of plants and individuals on campus throughout the upcoming academic year.

Staying tuned to what’s going on in Athens

Athens welcomed National Hip Hop Congress Hip hop fans and social activists had the opportunity to participate in the 8th annual National Hip Hop Conference held on the campus of Ohio University. On April 5-6, 2007, the Hip Hop Congress was the first of its kind to be held on a college campus, but the conference was held in Athens for its rich history of hip hop and social activism.

For hookah in Athens, look to Athens home to variety of pizzeria
come from OHIO in 1979, donated $250,000 to help start the Ohio University’s Theatre Program. Jachinowski, who earned a degree in Business Administration from OHIO in 1979, was also a big supporter of the Performing Arts Center on campus and a donor to Ohio University’s Theatre Program.

College of Business and GDP students Malory Kemoe, Katy Palmer, Samantha Miller, Sherrod Drayton, Amy Bolotta and Venzela Krapa, shown at the wineards of the Chateau de Vieux Terroir in France.

"The [college] Gate" 4

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Society Events

Calendar Events

Northeast Ohio

This month's update includes events at Breaux Vineyards, Packo's Grille, and more.

Southwest Ohio

Southwest Ohio

October 26 • International College Football Watch Party vs. MTSU

October 28 • Ohio University Homecoming Weekend – Tailgate Party at 6 p.m.

October 28 • The Nation's Capital Chapter Network

Calendario de eventos

Contact Information

Greater Toledo

Hello Toledo Area Bobcats!

Greater Chapter Network Meetings

Chapter News

More Alumni events will be available as the season progresses.

Forty Years from College – A Time to Reconnect

T he 2007 Black Alumni Reunion was a huge success, with more than 500 alumni returning to OHIO May 18–20. The reunion, which held every three years, was the largest in its thirty-year history.

Alumni spanning over five decades from 1962 – 2007 were in attendance. Over the weekend, alumni, their families and friends, current students and faculty staff carried numerous events including the Opening Night BBQ Dinner, the Greek Alumni/Student Step Show, the Alumni/Reach Out & Reconnect, the Ohio University African American Heritage Campus Tours, Homecoming Wall Gathering and Inaugural Black Alumni Walk, Black Alumni Pride Rally and the International Fair.

At the reunion, a number of alumni reconnect with friends, or make new ones, and share fond memories of their time spent at OHIO. Due to alumni, students and faculty at the Black Alumni Town Hall Meeting, where they had a chance to attend numerous sessions centered around the Bobcat Alumni and the vision and direction of the University. During this meeting, Francine Childs, President Emerita of Ohio University and former Ohio University Board of Trustees Chair, gave an update on the progress of the University's strategic plan. She also spoke about the significant contributions made by the alumni to the University and its students. She encouraged alumni to remain engaged with the University and to support its ongoing efforts to improve the student experience and advance the University's mission.

The Reunion offered the idea for a Black Alumni Society. For more information, contact Reuben Israel at Alumnae@ohioalumni.org.

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