Ohio University Chillicothe
Celebrating 70 Years of Service to the Region

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Dean
Campus History-In a “snapshot”

• Ohio University Chillicothe (OU-C) was founded in 1946 with 281 students, the first regional campus in the State of Ohio.

• Evening classes were taught in the “old” Chillicothe High School, daytime classes were added in 1960 at the 1st Presbyterian Church of Chillicothe.

• In 1961, 99 acres of land was purchased for a campus on the top of Carlisle Hill.

• In 1966, OU-C opened its first building, Bennett Hall.

• Currently the campus maintains 5 major academic buildings and offers a total of 20 academic degree programs.
What were we then?

• When OU-C opened in 1946, its mission was to provide educational opportunities to World War II veterans to begin college.
• No degree programs could be completed entirely on the campus.
• OU-C was an educational alternative for students who could not afford a residential college experience.
• Faculty were professors from the Athens campus and instructors from the community.
• OU-C was a “branch” in the truest sense of the word.
• While it was a commuter campus, there was a “college experience”.
  o OU-C Club
  o Campus newspaper
  o Trips to the Athens campus for OU-C students to attend university events.
A campus is born

- As the veteran population dwindled in the late 40’s early 50’s so did the population of the campus.
- Citizens Advisory Committee was formed from Chillicothe residents
  - Recruiter was hired
  - Day classes begin
  - Chillicothe Development Fund was created
  - A successful local fundraising drive ($250,000) and a state appropriation to build Bennett Hall results in a campus for OU-C on top of Carlisle Hill opening in 1966.
  - There was an expectation that the campus would be self supporting.
The OU-C Campus Today

Bennett Hall

Stevenson Center

Shoemaker Center

Technology and Business Development Center

Child Development & Family Services Center
Campus Profile: Where are we now

- Enrollment: Slightly over 2300 (Fall Semester 2016)
- Over 200 faculty and staff
- Nontraditional Student Population: around 47%
- Degree Programs Offered:
  - 11 (2 year) Associate Degrees
  - 9 (4 year) Bachelors Degrees
- Largest Academic Program: Nursing (800 students)
- Service Region: Six main counties; Ross, Pickaway, Jackson, Pike, Vinton, Highland; students as far away as Adams & Scioto counties
- Active Continuing Education/Workforce Development Programs and the Southern Ohio Police Training Institute (SOPTI)
- Child Development & Family Services Center: Partnership with five outside organizations.
- Partnerships with other educational institutions: Adena Health System/PACCAR Ctr., Pickaway Ross Career and Technology Center & The Pioneer School
How the mission of the campus has changed

• The recruitment/service region has greatly expanded.
• The campus serves traditional and nontraditional age students.
• The offering of 2 and 4 year degree programs.
• Continuing Education/Workforce Development
• Distance Education (On line/Blended courses & programs)
• Internship Programs- Ohio Means Grant
• The campus is a facilities resource to the region.
Looking Towards the Future

Challenges

- High costs of a college education
- Reduction in state support
- Student Debt
- College Readiness
- First generation students
- Changes in the focus/delivery of education
  - On line/Blended
  - Out of Classroom learning experiences
  - Skills based education
  - College Credit Plus
  - Community College Partnerships

[Image of students]
Meeting the Challenges

- Increase Scholarship Base
- Student Success Center
  - Math/Writing Center
  - Supplemental Instruction
- Developmental & College Readiness Courses
- Engaging the community in campus activities
- Advising
Ohio University Chillicothe has proudly served the educational needs of South Central Ohio for the past 70 years. With the continued support of the region we are poised to continue to serve the region for many years to come.