Three named academic colleges

In April 2006, the Ohio University Board of Trustees approved the renaming of the University's College of Communication to the Scripps College of Communication. Earlier that month, the E.W. Scripps Company and the Scripps Howard Foundation announced a gift of $15 million to the college to support a variety of programs and initiatives. The gift raised the total that the Scripps Howard Foundation has committed to Ohio University to more than $20 million.

In February 2010, President McDavis announced that Ms. Violet L. Patton had donated $28 million to the College of Education in honor of her parents, Gladys and David Patton, making her one of OHIO's greatest benefactors. It was the largest gift to any college of education in Ohio, and the second largest single gift to any college of education in the nation. In honor of Ms. Patton's parents, the college became known as The Gladys W. and David H. Patton College of Education, only the third named college of education in Ohio.

In April 2011, a $105 million gift from the Osteopathic Heritage Foundations resulted in the naming of the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine at Ohio University. The gift makes possible the vision to become a national leader in primary care medical education and medical research, as well as the establishment of two regional campuses in Dublin and Cleveland.

Record enrollment growth

In 2010, overall Ohio University enrollment for fall quarter, which included undergraduate and graduate students on all six campuses and in eLearning programs, was projected at 34,000, an increase of six percent over the previous fall.

In 2015, Ohio University as a whole, including graduate and undergraduate students enrolled on all campuses and eLearning programs, was up approximately 2.3 percent from the previous year for an anticipated total of approximately 38,500 students.

This kind of growth resulted in national recognition as the University was named the 18th fastest growing college in the United States by The Chronicle of Higher Education in September 2015. Their rankings were based on a comparison of student enrollment growth between 2003 and 2013.

Three Centers of Excellence recognized by the state
In October 2009, Ohio University was designated a Center of Excellence in Energy and the Environment. The recognition spotlights the institution’s state and national reputation for energy and pollution research, as well as its potential to create jobs in the field.

The area of energy and the environment encompasses the research of more than 30 faculty and staff members at Ohio University.

In February 2010, Ohio University was named a Center of Excellence for Health and Wellness. The designation recognized the institution’s state and national reputation for research in diabetes, cancer and biosciences, its commitment to rural health care and its track record in generating revenue and jobs through the development of drugs and biotechnology start-up firms.

The center includes more than 100 Ohio University faculty and staff members who conduct research on translational biosciences and health and wellness issues, create new medical technologies and biotechnology start-up companies, provide service to underserved populations in rural Appalachian Ohio and develop bench-to-bedside approaches to health care.

In October 2010, the Scripps College of Communication was named a Center of Excellence for Culture and Societal Transformation in the State of Ohio by the Ohio Board of Regents. Scripps was the only college of communication in the state to receive such a designation. The college was recognized for its combined breadth and excellence. It is home to professional programs, engineering-based fields of study, humanistic and social scientific disciplines and applied arts. At the time of the recognition, it had attracted more than $54 million in grants, contracts, awards, investments and donations.

The Promise Lives Campaign

The Promise Lives Campaign reached and surpassed its $450 million goal to raise $500 million to support OHIO students, faculty, programs and capital projects. The campaign goal was met in April 2014, with additional fundraising efforts rounding out the total to half a billion dollars by the campaign close date on July 1, 2015.

The Century Bond program
Approved for implementation by the Board of Trustees in August 2014, the innovative debt management strategy allowed the University to create an estimated $1.4 billion for deferred maintenance projects during the next century without taking on additional debt. The funding model is designed to proactively manage debt and reduce the cost of deferred maintenance projects while improving the health and safety of the Athens and regional campuses, increasing reliability to researchers, and ensuring OHIO remains competitive at attracting and recruiting the next generation of faculty, staff and students.

**Dublin and Cleveland regional campuses**

*Dublin Campus* – The first class to attend the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine Dublin Campus began classes in July 2014, marking a new era for the medical college. Through a transformational gift from the Osteopathic Heritage Foundations, the Heritage College was able to expand with the new campus in Central Ohio. The funding was meant to address some of the state’s and the nation’s biggest health-care problems, including a looming shortage of primary care physicians. The Dublin Campus connects students with our pre-eminent education partner OhioHealth.

*Cleveland Campus* – The following year, in July 2015, Heritage College students who enrolled at the Cleveland Campus marked a second phase of expansion for the college as they began classes at the Northeast Ohio campus. The school is located within the campus of Cleveland Clinic South Pointe Hospital in Warrensville Heights. This new endeavor builds on Cleveland Clinic’s success in delivering value-based, patient-centered care and the Heritage College’s proven track record of producing high-quality, empathic primary care physicians.

Ohio University’s Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine 2015 class is the largest medical school class in the state with 240 students.

**The OHIO Guarantee™**

The cohort based, level-rate tuition, housing, dining, and fee model assures students and their families a set of comprehensive rates for the pursuit of an undergraduate degree at Ohio University. This innovative model set a new standard among Ohio’s public institutions of higher education by taking the guesswork out of budgeting for college. The Ohio Guarantee is designed to provide more financial predictability to students and parents, maintain the value of financial aid and offer an incentive for students to earn a degree in four years.
**The OHIO Match**

Ohio University’s Undergraduate Scholarship Matching Program launched in 2013 and matches 50 cents on every dollar donated to eligible scholarship accounts in The Ohio University Foundation. The initiative dedicated $25 million to strengthen the University’s endowed scholarship program. More than $1.25 million has been committed by more than 3,000 donors last year for match-eligible scholarships.

**Five new residence halls**

In September 2007, Adams Hall opened its doors, marking the first time in more than 30 years that Ohio University students moved into an all-new residence hall.

In August 2015, a grand opening ceremony marked the completion of a $110 million project that brought four new residence halls and a first-of-its-kind Living Learning Center to the Athens Campus. The buildings comprise Phase I of OHIO’s Housing Development Plan which was constructed on the former site of the Wolfe Street Apartments and adjacent lots.

The Housing Development Plan is a three-phase plan designed to improve the residential experience and the comprehensive living-learning environment on OHIO’s Athens Campus.

**Campus Improvements**

During the McDavis administration, 13 new buildings were added to the Athens campus including a new Baker Center, the development of the Dublin and Cleveland campuses occurred, plus several buildings were added to the Zanesville and Proctorville Center campuses. Many existing Athens facilities have undergone major renovations since 2004. Additionally, road and landscaping enhancements have been made throughout campus, including nearly 7.8 billion feet of sidewalk improvements.

**Ohio Innovation Fund**
The Ohio Innovation Fund (OIF), is a joint initiative between Ohio University and The Ohio State University to launch a $70 million early-stage private equity investment fund focused on commercializing university and locally created emerging technologies within the state of Ohio. The OIF will select companies poised for rapid growth and provide the capital and guidance these companies need to realize their potential, supporting a vibrant, innovative, growing Ohio business community. OHIO and Ohio State have committed up to $39 million to initiate the fund, which started in 2016.

**Ohio Scholarship Investment Program**

The President created a scholarship-matching program that will ultimately create $75 million in new endowments for deserving students. This initiative is consistent with President McDavis’ commitment to college affordability and will represent a significant step forward in our endowed scholarship offerings. To maximize the investment’s influence on students, the University is using these funds as a matching program, which will provide $.50 for every $1.00 contributed to qualified scholarship accounts.

**Urban and Appalachian Scholars Programs**

Ohio University’s Urban Scholars and Appalachian Scholars programs were founded by President McDavis to increase the diversity of the student population and enhance opportunities for high-achieving students who may not otherwise have an opportunity to obtain a college education.

The Urban Scholars Program was established in 2004 and focuses on students from major metropolitan areas.

The Appalachian Scholars Program was established in 2005 and selects students from 32 Appalachian counties in Ohio.

These programs provide academically gifted students from disproportionately represented backgrounds with full-tuition scholarships as well as support for textbooks and professional development opportunities.

**Quarters-to-semesters transition**
President McDavis oversaw the process that led to a successful transition from quarters to semesters, which required extensive planning and work of faculty, academic departments, information technology, student services, staff and many partners. The change was last made when President McDavis was a student at Ohio University.

**Ohio University Innovation Strategy**

The Innovation Strategy Interim Report, released in September 2014, identified four broad portfolios of major challenges, each encompassing a suite of niches for possible investment. The Innovation Strategy encompasses the full spectrum of the university’s activities – including teaching and learning, research and scholarship, creative activity, and the operational functions of the university. It also aims to incentivize and leverage interdisciplinary and multi-college collaboration.

**Responsibility Centered Management (RCM)**

In 2012, under the President’s leadership, Ohio University initiated a new budget model - Responsibility Center Management (RCM). RCM OHIO is a decentralized approach to budget allocation that assigns greater control over resource decisions to academic colleges and deans. RCM’s underlying premise is that the decentralized nature of the model entrusts academic leaders with more control of financial resources, leading to more informed decision-making and better results or outcomes for the University as a whole. While implementation of OHIO RCM is ongoing, the campus is beginning to see some of its benefits as colleges and departments have more autonomy in making academic investment decisions and keeping a significant portion of the revenues that they generate.

**Sustainability Plan**

In 2009, President McDavis established the Presidential Advisory Council for Sustainability Planning. He signed the American College & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment in 2007, which committed the institution to becoming carbon neutral by 2075. Sustainability Council, which was comprised of faculty, staff and students, was charged with developing recommendations for a comprehensive Ohio University Sustainability Plan and complementary Climate Action Plan, both of which included campus-wide sustainability goals and objectives. President McDavis approved the Sustainability Plan in 2011 and the Climate Action Plan in 2012.
Under President McDavis’ leadership, the Ohio University community has realized the following sustainable accomplishments while implementing the aforementioned plans:

• Ohio University is home to the largest in-vessel composting system at any college or university in the nation.
• The Office of Sustainability was established with a single FTE and has since grown three-fold, allowing for increased productivity and presence on campus.
• Solar installations were made possible thanks to an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant.
• Sustainability has become significantly more prevalent in the classroom through:
  o The Common Experience Project on Sustainability.
  o Additional sustainability-related academic programs and certificates such as the Sustainability theme in the College of Arts and Sciences and the Honors Tutorial Environmental Studies program.
  o Curricular and co-curricular programming offerings throughout campus have increased.
• All new buildings and major renovations on campus have been built to a minimum of the Silver standard through Leadership in Energy Environmental Design (LEED).
• Energy efficiency projects have realized significant cost and emission savings.
• Alternative transportation infrastructure and education have improved.
• Ohio University became a reporting member of the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Reporting System, achieving STARS Silver status with its first submission.
• Ohio University has emerged as a national leader in waste reduction and diversion efforts, most notably this past year as it was crowned a national champion in the Game Day Challenge, Waste Diversion division.
• $4 million of institutional funds were dedicated to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investing practices through the Sustainable Investing Advisory Committee.
• Institutional investments in renewable energy have increased significantly, with 50% of current electricity purchased being comprised of Renewable Energy Credits.
• Sustainability has been incorporated in the Innovation Strategy (a faculty awards program) and all University Master Planning efforts (such as the
Utility Master Plan, Capital Improvement Plan, Ridges Master Plan and University Master Plan).

The Interlink Alliance

In 2005, President McDavis informally presented an idea for a collaboration between Ohio University and a group of Historically Black College and Universities (HBCUs). The interest was strong, and in 2008, The Interlink Alliance was formally introduced to the higher education community. This consortium of ten (10) higher education institutions, was established to develop and promote faculty and student development, leadership development, research collaboration as well as an African American Male Initiative.

The Consortium's success is critical to African American academic communities and requires full buy-in and collaboration among the Consortium's partners. By uniting the rich heritage of our Alliance members we have been able to offer the following since 2010:

• Three faculty development conferences (inaugural event) in 2010 at Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, 2012 at North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC and 2014 at Virginia State University in Petersburg, VA

• Two student leadership development conferences (inaugural event) hosted by Wilberforce University and Central State University in Xenia, OH 2010 and at Virginia State University in 2012 in Petersburg, VA

• Hosted the African American Male Roundtable: A Policy Conversation on April 2, 2013, University of Maryland Baltimore County in collaboration with President Freeman Hrabowski II and Dr. Karl W. Reid of the United Negro College Fund

• Received funding from the Ohio Education Research Center to support a study entitled “Closing the Participation Gap for African American Men in Higher Education”
Since its inception, 10 colleges and universities have joined the Interlink Alliance – eight HBCUs and two predominantly white institutions: Central State University, Hampton University, Johnson C. Smith University, North Carolina Central University, South Carolina State University, Spelman College, Virginia State University, Wilberforce University, Virginia Commonwealth University and Ohio University.