February 21, 2013
OUT OF THE LARGER FRYING PAN
AND INTO THE SMALLER FIRE
Kathy Krendl
Otterbein College President
(Presented by Dru Riley Evarts)

Kathy Krendl is looking forward to seeing old friends when she returns to speak at our February 21 luncheon. Everyone in the audience will have known her either as dean of the College of Communication or executive vice president and provost of the University, or both. Her tenure here ran for 13 years, nine in her first appointment and five in her second. Her last commencement here was in 2009, after which she was inaugurated as president of Otterbein University in July of that year.

Krendl became 20th president and the first woman to lead Otterbein, a comprehensive master’s institution founded in 1847 as the first coeducational institution in the country. It now has 3,000 students. Since she joined Otterbein, the institution has won national recognition for its distinctive undergraduate curriculum and focus on experiential learning. Otterbein is consistently recognized on the President’s Honor Roll of community-engaged institutions and ranks in the top tier of institutions for its commitment to a student-centered learning environment.

It was during Krendl’s tenure as provost here that the title of executive vice president was joined to that position, thereby adding responsibility for the administrative side of the university to the typical provost charge as chief academic officer. One of Krendl’s most well-known accomplishments here was the planning and formation of Vision OHIO as a comprehensive planning instrument involving all aspects of the university.

Krendl earned her BA at Lawrence University, her MA at Ohio State University, and her PhD at the University of Michigan. During her tenure at Otterbein, she has received the Global Women’s Summit Leadership Award, the Living Faith Award, and Ohio’s Most Powerful and Influential Women Award.

RESERVATIONS must be made to attend the luncheon. If you are not on the list of regular attendees, you MUST call Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 by Friday, February 15. You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti.

You can add your name(s) to the Regular Attendees List and not have to call each month unless you cannot attend.

EMERITI LUNCHEON
Thursday
February 21, 2013
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Soup of the Day
Garden Salad
Strawberry & Field Green Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette
Oven Roasted Vegetables
Basil Roasted Potato
Fried Pork Chop with Gravy
Salmon with Black Bean Salsa
Assorted Cakes & Fresh Fruit
Beverages

$14.00
A Message From The President - GEORGE WECKMAN

The KISS (“Keep it simple, stupid”) principle is good for quick communication purposes – we can take in just so much information and insight at a time. However, life is not simple, so we lie by omission whenever we simplify. Every time we are tempted to shoot at problems with one perfect silver-bullet solution, we ignore the many complicating factors.

Speaking of bullets, I am motivated to address the topic of life’s complexity by three things: the memory of the slaughter of innocents in Connecticut last December; the annual January remembrance of M. L. King Jr., including his assassination; and journalism’s role that we will celebrate on February 25. The glory of the PBS Newshour is its attempt to transcend simplistic soundbites and approach the complexities of life with somewhat more complex analysis. It will be a pleasure to hear Gwen Ifill address this and other aspects of broadcast journalism at a Q&A session with us.

The average TV viewer, however, does not always appreciate extended coverage and discussion of issues. Professors know also that too few students appreciate academic investigation. People want to find the single formula or principle that unlocks all mysteries, eliminates all dilemmas, and answers all questions. In our era of fast food, similarly, who wants to bother about cooking? In a world of medical miracles, just give us the pill that heals every ill. When people go berserk and harm others, let’s enact one new law that will make the future safe. Would that the world were so easily packaged!

Many remedies are needed when human life goes awry, because we are complex creatures, society is a complicated mix of plans and goals, and the natural world is a maze of powerful forces. To make matters worse, some of these factors are contradictory. Freedom and safety are ideals often at odds. They are both basic aspirations of humanity, but we face situations in which we echo Patrick Henry’s choice: “Give me liberty or give me death.” How much should we limit a citizen’s right to own weapons of self-defense? It’s a poignant irony that we might die in the defense of freedom or destroy freedom in order to remain safe.

George

Notes on the January 17th Presentation by Executive Vice President and Provost Pam Benoît

Ohio University is moving toward a “Responsibility-Centered Management” (RCM) system that will guide resource allocation in the future (note-taker’s aside: I hear echoes of the attempt in the late 1970s, which some of you may remember).

The guiding principles include aligning resources with university priorities to support academic excellence, to support strong academic governance, and to empower unit-level decision making. The process will be evaluated through academic quality indicators such as section size, time to graduation, and research and creative activity production.

Academic units are the prime “revenue producers” and are encouraged to be entrepreneurial to generate greater income while improving the academic quality indicators. Non-revenue-producing units (e.g., buildings and grounds) are financed through “subventions” from a tax on the revenue producers.

The development of this system has included a series of iterations at all levels of the university and will be subject to five-year reviews.

Ed Baum
IN MEMORIAM

JAMES H. THOMPSON, 80, of Findlay, Ohio, died November 19, 2012, after a long illness. He received his BS degree in chemistry and physics from Findlay College (now University of Findlay), his MEd degree in educational administration and science from Bowling Green State University, and his PhD in curriculum and supervision from The Ohio State University.

He joined Ohio University in 1965 as a faculty member in the Department of Secondary Education, becoming chairman in 1971. In 1972, he became director of the newly organized School of Curriculum & Instruction. He retired in 2001 as a full professor in the College of Education.

He is survived by his wife, Suzanne, 2 sons and 3 grandchildren.

ARLENE A. DRESSEL, 75, of Athens, died peacefully at home on November 29, 2012.

She is survived by her husband, Fred Dressel, emeriti, a son-in-law and 4 grandchildren.

Gwen Ifill to have Q & A session with Emeriti Monday, Feb. 25

The Emeriti organization has a special treat in store for Monday, Feb. 25: Gwen Ifill, managing editor and moderator of PBS’s Washington Week in Review and senior correspondent of its daily NewHour. She is coming to Athens to deliver a major public speech at 7:30 PM in the Baker Center Ballroom in celebration of the journalism program’s 90th anniversary. She will also receive the School of Journalism’s highest honor, the Carr Van Anda Award, named for the New York Times editor who is credited with making the Times the outstanding national newspaper of record it became during his tenure. He had attended college here before moving on to the East Coast to establish his long professional career.

While Ifill was a student at Simmons College, she interned at the Boston Herald-American and was hired after graduation by editors who had been deeply embarrassed by an incident during her internship when a co-worker left a note on her desk, “Go home, Nigger.” Later she advanced in journalism through The Baltimore Evening Sun, The Washington Post, The New York Times, and NBC before joining PBS. Throughout her years there, she has appeared on various other news programs, including Meet the Press.

We appreciate the School of Journalism’s sharing Ifill with us for an informal Q & A session, which will be in Baker Center 219. It is accessed by going to the Multicultural Center on the second floor, then finding 219 within that hallway. The timing works perfectly for attending this gathering, then going to dinner or out for a snack either in the Center or elsewhere, then returning at 7:30 for her major address in the Baker Center Ballroom. Washington is abuzz with so many issues that affect our lives, and Ifill will have the inside track on all of them.

EMERITI ASSOCIATION ARCHIVES

It has been suggested that Paul Boase’s 1993 history of the OUEA be brought up to date and that Chuck Carlson’s history of the Emeriti Park from 2000 also be updated.

To help us do this, we ask members who have photos, programs, pamphlets, newsletters, and other memorabilia to share them with the Archives Committee so that items may be added to our files in the Emeriti office at The Ridges complex. Either originals or copies are welcome. Please call Jo Prisley, historian, at 593-6216, for pickup, or bring items to the February or March luncheons. Also, it has been recommended that a second volume of Ohio University Recollections be compiled. Your help will be appreciated.

Jo Prisley

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UPCOMING EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

**March 21: Vipin Koshal, D.O.**  
*Cardiologist & Internist*

**April 18: Kyle O'Keefe**  
*Zero Waste Coordinator for Rural Action*

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**SPECIAL PROJECT**

I would like to get autographs of Emeriti and others whose names appear in Betty Hollow's book, “OHIO UNIVERSITY: The Spirit of a Singular Place.” I will bring the volume to the next Emeriti luncheon, and I hope I can collect some signatures there.

After collecting autographs in the next few months, I will donate the autographed book to the Mahn Archives in Alden Library.

Thank you.  

*Judith Daso*