Dr. Roderick J. McDavis became Ohio University's 20th president on July 1, 2004. As the university’s first African American president and only the second alumnus to lead the university in the institution’s 210-year history, he has been a tireless ambassador for Ohio University’s students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

Dr. McDavis’ contributions to higher education include assisting the development of Ohio’s technology commercialization implementation plan, the state’s first guaranteed tuition and fee plan, and one of the first of its kind performance-based funding models in the nation. As president, he developed and implemented Ohio University’s comprehensive strategic plan and has been instrumental in the success of The Promise Lives Campaign which recently surpassed its $450 million fundraising goal. The Urban Scholar and Appalachian Scholar programs, The Interlink Alliance partnership, and Ohio University’s commitment to climate neutrality are among the many initiatives that have come about as a result of his leadership.

Dr. McDavis holds a bachelor’s degree from Ohio University (1970), a master’s degree from the University of Dayton (1971), and a doctorate in counselor education and higher education administration from the University of Toledo (1974). His commitment to tomorrow’s leaders has greatly advanced Ohio University’s vision to be the nation’s best transformative learning community.
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - Alan Boyd

It’s the beginning of a new school year. All we emeriti have experienced many of these during our careers. Now, instead of worrying about syllabi and the times of committee meetings, we can look forward to the more enjoyable features of the university: the concert series, the sports seasons, chorus rehearsals, the theatre schedule and recitals in Glidden Hall, to name a few. Each of us is carving out our own lives in retirement.

I hope our plans for the new year will also include attendance at the emeriti luncheons, every third Thursday of the month. I am sure the schedule of speakers being put together will include many of great interest. In addition, the luncheons provide a chance for us to rub elbows with our colleagues and friends with whom we have shared many years of study, discussion, and argument. Why not continue those conversations after retirement over a tasty lunch?

The first luncheon on September 17th will feature the induction of new emeriti. All of us should pay attention to whom these retirees are and invite them to come and participate in the induction. It is a festive occasion marking many years of service to the university by faculty and staff who have spent those years teaching, advising and guiding students, and administering the business of the university. I am sure that the new emeriti will appreciate that one of their colleagues wants to share this ceremony with them.

For your information, during the coming year the emeriti will be working with the university to locate a kiosk in the Emeriti Park which will commemorate all of the emeriti of Ohio University and will provide information about the garden and the organization. The kiosk was inspired and funded in part by a bequeathal of Chuck Carlson, a past president of the Emeriti Association, and his family. It will be placed in the gazebo in honor of Chuck and his wife, Harriett.

Alan

Notes on June’s Luncheon Presentation by Brian McCarthy

“THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR FORESTS”

“Under the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy stands ...” I am sure that you remember the beginning of the Longfellow poem. At that time, American chestnut trees were a mainstay in the eastern hardwood forest, reaching well over 100 feet. They were the “redwoods” of the east providing both food for animals and wood for buildings. About 1904, a fungus was brought into the U.S. and began to affect these magnificent trees and by the 1950s they had pretty much disappeared from our forests. The American Chestnut Foundation is working to develop a blight resistant chestnut tree leading to a restoration of the species and, thus, its historic place in our eastern forests.

Ed Baum

Get Your Data Straight ...

Becky Caesar, in Advancement Services, maintains the master file on all emeriti. From this file, she develops the emeriti directory which you can find on our website. She and we would like to keep it up-to-date so we ask you to check out your entry in it at https://www.ohio.edu/emeriti/ and click on “Directory.” If there are changes, let Becky know at caesar@ohio.edu.

Your Membership Team
WELCOME OUR NEW EMERITI!

College of Arts & Sciences
Elliott M. Abrams—Sociology & Anthropology
Elizabeth F. Collins—Classics & World Religions
Marsha L. Dutton—English
Thomas R. Franz—Modern Languages
Christine Freeman—English
AnnCorinne Freter-Abrams—Sociology & Anthropology
G. Daniel Lassiter—Psychology
Jennie Nelson—English
Frederick L. Toner—Modern Languages

Finance & Administration
Brian Shapiro—Information Technology

College of Fine Arts
Don Adleta—Art + Design
Norma J. Humphreys—Office of the Dean
Robert E. Pepper—Art + Design
Madeleine D. Scott—Dance, Film, & Theatre

College of Health Sciences and Professions
M. Kathleen Rose-Grippa—Nursing

Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine
Huzoor Akbar—Biomedical Sciences
Paul Cadamagnani—Speciality Medicine

Patton College of Education
Teresa J. Franklin—Educational Studies
Joan S. McMath—Teacher Education

Regional Higher Education
Mary Ann Goetz—Nursing, Zanesville
Michael G. Nern—English, Zanesville
Mark A. Shatz—Psychology, Zanesville
Rick C. Shriver—Electronic Media, Zanesville

Russ College of Engineering
Peter Klein—Engineering Technology & Management

Scripps College of Communication
Claudia L. Hale—Communication Studies
Raymie E. McKerrow—Communication Studies
W. Joseph Slade—Media Arts & Studies

IN MEMORIAM

David W. Prince, 73, passed away on May 17, 2015, in Westerville, Ohio, from complications of cervical surgery. David grew up in Yellow Springs, Ohio, and earned bachelor’s and master’s of fine arts degrees from Ohio University. He was a civil rights photographer in Mississippi in 1964. He taught filmmaking, was department director of Ohio University’s film department, and became professor emeritus in 2000. After retiring, David expanded his lifelong interest in science and image-making to partner with companies that develop information and environmental technologies.

He is survived by Bonnie, his wife of 49 years, their son, Jonathan, his aunt and cousin, and many friends, former students and colleagues.

Mary Kaye Jordan, 76, of Athens, passed away on Monday, May 18, 2015, at the James Cancer Hospital in Columbus. She grew up in Rimersburg, Pennsylvania, and was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Grove City College. She did graduate work in French at West Virginia University, and received an MA in linguistics from Ohio University. She was a long-time faculty member in the Ohio Program in Intensive English (OPIE) at OU, where she mentored hundreds of students and founded the Athens Friends of International Students (AFIS) to help them feel more at home.

She is survived by Don, her husband of 52 years; sons, Ben, Matt, and Nate Jordan and their families.

Marcia Raukuce Johnson, 85, of Cary, North Carolina (formerly of Athens) passed away Sunday, June 14, 2015. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Milton College and a master in arts from Appalachian State University.

She married the “love of her life,” Monroe, in 1952. She was a member of many community organizations including The Athens Village, OU Women’s Club, Flower Power, Garden Club, Athens Country Club, OU Orchestra (violin), Winston-Salem NC Symphony (violin), Athens First United Methodist Church, and the OU Green & White Club.

She is survived by her husband, A. Monroe Johnson; daughter, Marie; and three grandchildren. Their son, Mark, preceded his mother in death.

Caryl Jennings Gustavson, 95, of Athens, passed away at The Laurels of Athens on August 24, 2015. Her husband of 55 years, Carl Gustavson, distinguished professor of history at Ohio University, preceded her in death in 1999. Caryl graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Cornell University before moving to Athens in 1945 with her husband Carl.

Caryl was a vital part of the Athens community for 70 years and a member and volunteer of many organizations: the Athens Reading Club, O.U. Emeriti Association, Athens County Wood Carvers, The Art Barn, CCL, Sheltering Arms Hospital, and the Mental Health Center. A fine athlete and avid naturalist, she was active in many conservation efforts and took up bird-carving late in life.

She is survived by her three children, Carl, Eric, and Martha; six grandchildren; and seven great grandchildren.
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Kennedy Museum | 05 |
| 06     | 07     | 08 Emeriti Volunteer  
Emeriti Park-9AM | 09 Emeriti Volunteer  
Emeriti Park-9AM | 10 | 11 Emeriti Volunteer  
Kennedy Museum | 12 |
| 13     | 14     | 15 Emeriti Volunteer  
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Emeriti Park-9AM | 17 Emeriti Board  
Meeting  
EMERITI LUNCH  
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[Board photo] | 18 Emeriti Volunteer  
Kennedy Museum | 19 |
| 20     | 21     | 22 Emeriti Volunteer  
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Emeriti Park-9AM | 24 | 25 Emeriti Volunteer  
Kennedy Museum | 26 |
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Dairy Barn | 30 Emeriti Volunteer  
Emeriti Park-9AM | 01 | 02 | 03 |