A decade into its third century, and 10 years into Roderick J. McDavis’s presidency, Ohio University faces many challenges. With each challenge comes an opportunity for growth, development, and transformation. And this is where Ohio University truly shines.
College **affordability** is a national crisis. Ohio University has tackled this issue with aggressive fundraising to greatly expand our scholarship offerings and by launching The OHIO Guarantee™, a tuition and fee model that establishes a 12 semester level rate, allowing families to better plan and budget for the cost of students’ education.

Paying for college is meaningless, if students don’t have the tools they need to succeed. From the creation of the Margaret Boyd

**Transforming**

Scholars to renewed emphasis on accessibility, OHIO’s **student support** programs ensure that our students are supported on the road to graduation.

Society expects more from us than well-educated young professionals. The University also has a **role** in responding to the needs of our region and state. One way we’re doing that is by building new campuses in Dublin and Cleveland and expanding our programs in the allied health professions to maintain a pipeline of future healthcare workers.

We also need to understand, share, and adapt to world trends—not a problem for a university with a long tradition of international cooperation. Even as it strengthens existing ties, Ohio University continues to push its **boundaries** with new bonds in the Caribbean and China.

Closer to home, Ohio University is devoted to **communities** in southeastern Ohio, where our students spend thousands of hours as volunteers and interns and in service learning, and many faculty are active in local organizations and public service. Put it all together, and you have a university that is transforming **lives** every day.

Change is occurring all around southeast Ohio, and Ohio University has worked hard to not just keep up with those changes, but to anticipate them. Through sound strategic planning, the University has developed comprehensive initiatives to face 21st century challenges and position it for success. It’s all part of the ongoing transformation of **OHIO**.
The OHIO Guarantee initiative received final approval from the Board of Regents, clearing the way for implementation in 2015–16. The OHIO Guarantee sets all costs—tuition, housing, dining, and fees—for each entering class of undergraduate students at the same level for 12 consecutive semesters. By making the total cost of an OHIO education more transparent and predictable, we give students an incentive to remain enrolled and to complete their degrees in four years.

The University announced the creation of the OHIO Signature Awards Program, a new approach to institutional aid that increased existing aid for first-year students—including merit-based scholarships, need-based grants, and awards that blend both merit and need—by $2.1 million.

Nearly 3,000 donors committed more than $3.2 million to endowed scholarships (including 65 new scholarships). Even better: Those gifts became $4.8 million through The OHIO Match, which adds 50 cents for every dollar donated to eligible scholarship endowments. OHIO has dedicated $25 million to the matching program, with a goal of reaching $75 million in endowed scholarship funding by 2018.

Ohio University ranked second in the nation in “best bang for the buck,” according to PolicyMic. Using data that President Barack Obama proposed for his suggested collegiate ranking system, analyst Akil Holmes found that “Ohio University is performing better than average in terms of cost, graduation rate, debt at time of graduation, and percentage of undergraduates receiving Pell grants.”

Students at Ohio University Eastern Campus can now earn a bachelor’s degree in human biology without transferring to the Athens Campus. A joint effort of the Eastern and Zanesville campuses, the Bachelor of Arts in human biology program is designed for students seeking careers in the allied health professions or who wish to enter law, public health, and health policy fields with a strong science background. Classes will be offered at Eastern and Zanesville and via the Ohio University Learning Network.

It is the paradox of American higher education: The holder of a bachelor’s degree will earn up to $1.2 million more than someone with only a high school diploma, yet the cost of getting that bachelor’s degree increases every year. The answer, for many, is to borrow: Americans hold nearly $1.2 trillion in outstanding student loan debt.

Ohio University offers its students high-quality education for their investment: The Fiske Guide to Colleges 2015 ranked OHIO 14th out of 44 “best buys” in higher education. Still, we know that the cost of college is a challenge for many OHIO students and their families: 66 percent of our graduates leave campus carrying an average debt of just over $27,000. That is lower than national averages, but still can be a burden for young professionals starting their careers.

Through innovative initiatives, aggressive fundraising, and a continuous focus on quality, the University continues to work to make an OHIO education more affordable and to lessen the financial strain on families.

Tiera Evans, Class of 2009

Bachelor of Science, Family Studies, African American Studies minor

Then: Among the first class of Urban Scholars

Now: Assistant administrator, FUNdamentals Academy, Cleveland, Ohio

Beginning work toward a master’s degree in education at Ashland University in fall 2015

Mother of a 4-year-old son

Ohio University graduates contemplate their futures and look forward to the next step in their lives.

Transforming Affordability

Ohio University has tackled this issue with aggressive fundraising to greatly expand our scholarship offerings and the OHIO Tuition Guarantee, which allows each family to budget for the full cost of their student’s education.

They are opportunities for transformation.

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It is the paradox of American education: a college degree will earn up to $1.2 million more over a lifetime, yet the cost of getting one is a challenge for many OHIO students and their families. 66 percent of our entering class of undergraduate students at the same level for 12 consecutive semesters. By making the total cost of an OHIO education more transparent and predictable, we give students an incentive to remain enrolled and to complete their degrees in four years.

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Twenty promising young women were selected from among more than 100 applicants to be the first Margaret Boyd Scholars. The program, open to all first-year women on the Athens Campus, seeks to inspire and encourage undergraduate women to become engaged, confident, and connected leaders at Ohio University and beyond. Participants receive academic enrichment and leadership development opportunities throughout their undergraduate years.

More than 40 years after the program was discontinued, the OHIO Fellows was revived. Nine students were chosen for the reconstituted program, which aims to build leadership skills by helping participants make connections with leaders in business, politics, the arts, and the community.

U.S. News and World Report ranked three of OHIO's graduate programs among its "Best Online Programs" out of 1,000 distance learning programs evaluated. The Patton College of Education's online Master of Education was ranked 31st in the nation; the Russ College of Engineering's Master of Engineering Management was ranked 46th; and the College of Business' online M.B.A. was ranked 95th.

As the nation grapples with the issue of sexual misconduct, Ohio University took steps to address sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship and dating violence, and stalking on all campuses. The Class of 2018 is the first to complete Not Anymore, a mandatory online sexual assault prevention program for incoming students. Other University-wide efforts include bystander intervention training, Campus Conversations on issues of sexual assault, and revisions to OHIO's sexual misconduct process.

The Office of Student Accessibility Services created new positions for accessibility coordinators at regional campuses. These coordinators provide assistance to students with physical, emotional, and cognitive disabilities.

After a two-year process, the Presidential Advisory Council on Disability and Accessibility Planning issued the Ohio University Disability Strategic Plan for Inclusion and Accessibility. Over the next 10 years, this plan will guide the University's efforts to become a leader for improving inclusion and accessibility for persons living with disabilities.

A record 4,244 new first-year students enrolled in Ohio University in the 2013 Fall Semester, bringing total undergraduate enrollment to 17,375 students. That is a testament to OHIO's reputation for quality and more assertive marketing initiatives. Recruiting students is one thing. Keeping them on track until they earn their degrees is quite another—and is increasingly important under new state funding guidelines that base state support on degree completion rates.

OHIO recognizes that the ways that we support our students as they work toward graduation must be as diverse as the students themselves. High-potential students need opportunities to push their limits; first-generation and other at-risk students need interventions and intensive advising; struggling students may need a refresher course or tutoring. Beyond academics, we must ensure that our students are safe; feel free to be themselves and express themselves; can overcome physical, emotional, or cognitive barriers; and know how to access the array of support services available to them.

Michael LaTorre, Class of 2010

Bachelor of Science, political science, communications, and English

Then: Participant in the College Adjustment Program

Now: Area coordinator in Residence Life with collateral responsibility in student conduct and community standards, Tiffin University, Tiffin, Ohio

At Ohio University faculty play an important role for students, not only as academic advisors, but as mentors who introduce students to the richness of university life and thereby help lead them to successful, satisfying lives.
A record 4,244 new first-year students enrolled at Ohio University in the 2013 Fall Semester, bringing the total undergraduate student population to 37,450 students. That is a testament to our strategic planning and assertive marketing initiatives. Retention rates are on track until they earn their degrees. The university aims to improve graduation rates and make it the top 50 in the nation. Additional efforts include the addition of new positions for accessibility coordinators at regionally and University-wide efforts include bystander intervention training, Campus Conversations on issues of sexual assault, and revisions to OHIO's student conduct code. Ohio University took steps to address sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship and dating violence, and stalking on all campuses. The Class of 2018 is the first to complete Not Anymore, a mandatory online sexual assault prevention program for incoming students. Other University-wide efforts include revising the sexual misconduct process.

OHIO recognizes that the work toward graduation must be as diverse as the students themselves. Some potential students need opportunities to push their limits; others need interventions and intensive advising; struggling first-generation and other at-risk students need support services available to them. Twenty promising young women were selected from among more than 100 applicants to be the first Margaret Boyd Scholars. The program, open to all first-year women on the Athens Campus, seeks to inspire and encourage undergraduate women to become engaged, confident, and connected leaders at Ohio University and beyond. Participants receive academic enrichment and leadership development opportunities throughout their undergraduate years.

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When Ohio University was founded in 1804, its graduates became professionals and community and government leaders simply because they had college degrees. The 21st century university, however, is expected to do more than merely matriculate young professionals. The modern university must partner with government and industry to anticipate and meet society’s needs.

Among many pressing needs, OHIO is acutely aware of the projected shortfall in healthcare workers over the next decade. Perhaps this is because rural Ohio is among the areas of the nation already experiencing shortages in access to healthcare.

OHIO is uniquely positioned to help. The Heritage College ranks 13th nationally in producing primary care physicians and currently retains more of its graduates in Ohio than all other Ohio medical schools. And the College of Health Sciences and Professions houses the state’s largest nursing school, including an innovative online RN-to-B.S.N. program that allows working nurses to meet new educational standards without leaving their jobs.

Building on the strong foundations of the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine and the College of Health Sciences and Professions, the University is expanding its exemplary healthcare programs in partnership with leading names in the field, including OhioHealth, the Cleveland Clinic, and the Osteopathic Heritage Foundations.

Ohio University houses Ohio’s largest nursing school, with more than 6,000 students currently enrolled.

Transforming Roles

Courtney Fort, Class of 2013

Bachelor of Science, nursing

Then: Among the first class to receive bachelor’s degrees in nursing on the Athens Campus

Now: Labor and delivery nurse at a high-risk Level 3 facility

Ohio’s largest nursing school, with more than 6,000 students currently enrolled.

Ohio University houses Ohio’s largest nursing school, with more than 6,000 students currently enrolled.

86,000

Square feet in new Dublin, Ohio, facility for master’s program in physician assistant practice

+38%

National increase in demand for physician assistants by 2020

100%

Passing rate for students in OHIO’s Lancaster Campus Paramedic Certification Program
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Transforming Roles

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The College of Health Sciences and Professions began accepting the first students in its physician assistant master’s program. Demand for physician assistants is projected to grow by 38 percent by 2020 to help offset doctor shortages.

The Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine announced a new program to give academically outstanding high school students a head start on medical school—and graduate in as few as seven years. The Early Assurance Program, available to students at Ohio University as well as four schools in central and northeastern Ohio, offers enrichment opportunities and other incentives to potential primary care program enrollees.

A new certificate program, available to any undergraduate major, offers a global perspective on health issues. A joint initiative of the College of Health Sciences and Professions and the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, the Global Health Certificate requires a minimum of 19 credit hours in courses such as Tropical Health Biology and Global Health Research and Service, as well as an 80-hour field experience.

Graduates of Ohio University Lancaster’s Paramedic Certification Program far exceed their peers nationally in passing their certification exam on the first try. While the national average first-time pass rate in 2013 was 73 percent, 100 percent of Lancaster graduates passed the test on the first attempt. Statewide, the average first-time pass rate was 74 percent.

Ground was broken for the Dublin Integrated Education Center, an 86,000-square-foot facility on OHIO’s Dublin Campus that will house the new master’s degree in physician assistant practice. The three-story building also will allow the University to facilitate partnerships with Columbus Community College and other institutions in central Ohio.

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Ohio University has long welcomed students from beyond its borders: Early editions of the *Athena* yearbook include clubs for Chinese and Brazilian students. In 2013–14, OHIO’s six campuses enrolled a record 1,881 international students representing more than 100 countries.

But the global knowledge economy demands that universities do more than open their doors to international students. We must actively partner and engage with communities around the world to produce the talent that industry and society need. These partnerships are good not only for the economy, but also for the academy, because they build our capacity to better understand, share, and adapt to world trends.

### Transforming Boundaries

This year saw the rollout of OHIO’s overall strategic international plan. By being more intentional about our global engagement, we hope to maximize research and educational collaborations, increase study abroad opportunities for students, and grow faculty exchange programs. Through alliances with strategic international partners, Ohio University will be better able to prepare future leaders for the globalized world in which they will work and live.

Ohio University boasts a history rich in international diversity that began in 1895 when it welcomed its first international student, Sakitaro Murayama of Japan. Today, the University community includes more than 1,700 international students from more than 100 countries.
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The University expanded its global educational partnerships by entering a Memorandum of Understanding with Beijing International Studies University. A six-member delegation from the University of Guyana visited the Athens Campus in late July to explore ways to expand on a 30-year-relationship between that institution and OHIO.

Graduate students in the College of Business explored international commerce and emerging markets in Nicaragua in the first International Study Program offered by the college’s graduate program and its Center for International Business. Nineteen business undergraduates also went to Nicaragua on a Global Consulting Project.

The Ohio Valley International Council, an initiative of the Center for International Studies, marked its 30th year of operation. OVIC links international students at Ohio University with regional schools, Kids on Campus and ARTS/West programs, international fairs, and presentations on the Athens and regional campuses.

Nineteen students in the Scripps College of Communication traveled to Ghana for the college’s first study abroad opportunity in that country. During the three-week trip, the students worked with local journalists and collaborated with students at the African University College of Communication.

In an unprecedented agreement with the U.S. Soccer Federation, 10 students in the E.W. Scripps School of Journalism provided media and communications services to the federation during the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. The federation administers and manages the national team’s participation in the global event.

OHIO faculty, staff, and students gave their expertise to help recovery from natural disasters around the world. Gary Lockwood, emeritus professor of engineering technology at Ohio University Lancaster Campus, helped to bring clean water back to residents of Tacloban, Philippines, after Typhoon Haiyan. For the fourth consecutive year, a group of students under the leadership of Christopher Thompson, associate professor of Japanese language and culture, traveled to Japan to aid with tsunami relief in cooperation with Iwate Prefecture University.

A highlight of Ohio University’s first International Education Week celebration was a visit by a four-member delegation from Japan’s Chubu University. Chubu and OHIO marked the 40th year of formal relations this year.

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Ohio University has a significant impact on communities in southeastern Ohio. According to an economic impact report released this year, 14,300 people worked for OHIO in full- and part-time positions in 2012, and Ohio University alumni living in the state generate more than $259 million in state and local tax revenue. In all, the University’s total economic impact on Ohio is an estimated $1.5 billion.

Transforming Communities

The University’s role is more than economic, though. Our students are highly visible and valued contributors to organizations across the region through for-credit service learning and volunteerism: The same economic impact report noted that Ohio University students engaged in more than 1.4 million hours of community service in 2012. Our faculty also make a difference, applying their knowledge and expertise through their research, consulting, and outreach initiatives locally and globally.

The Athens County Habitat for Humanity affiliate consists of an all-women volunteer group Women Raise the Roof, Faith Build Coalition, and the Ohio University student organization. The Ohio University student chapter of Habitat for Humanity has about 80 active members that work with the Athens County affiliate.

Tracy Kelly, Class of 2009 and 2013

Bachelor of Arts, English and history; Master of Public Administration

Then: Undergraduate trustee, Ohio University Board of Trustees; president, Graduate Student Senate

Now: Executive director, Athens County Big Brothers Big Sisters

6 Start-up companies founded by students and alumni, thanks to entrepreneurship program

1 of 6 Organizations with an expert advising world leaders on global climate change at G8 Summit

1 Million dollars in federal grants awarded to expand health services

500 Children in Kids on Campus, OHIO’s after-school and summer program, which was awarded $1.7 million in federal support

800 Students participated in OHIO’s 2014 Research and Creative Activity Expo
Ohio University has a significant impact on Ohio. According to an economic impact report released this year, University alumni living in the state generate more than $259 million in state tax revenue. In all, the University has developed comprehensive initiatives to face 21st century challenges and position it for success. It’s all through for-credit service learning and volunteerism: The same economic impact report noted that Ohio University students engaged in more than 1.4 million hours of community service in 2012. Our faculty also make a difference, applying their knowledge and expertise through their research, consulting, and outreach initiatives.

The University’s role is more than just students, however. Ohio University professors like Loreen Giese, Department of English, do more than teach; they serve as mentors and advisors, helping students find their own pathways to success.

Ohio University provides an educational environment that is focused on community service and collaborative learning. From the moment that I arrived on campus, I felt encouraged to explore volunteer opportunities and I found that Learning Communities, faculty advisors, and the amazing staff of the Campus Involvement Center work hard to convey the importance of personal growth through community service and leadership.

I applied for the student trustee position while I was serving as the president of the Undergraduate Student Senate at Ohio University-Lancaster. My experience collaborating with students and staff to address campus issues opened my eyes to the challenges and rewards of shaping policies that benefit the campus community. The student trustee position seemed to be a perfect opportunity to become engaged in larger discussions of how to improve the experience of OHIO students.

Serving as a student trustee provided me with an incredible opportunity to find my voice as a student and as a young leader. It was sometimes difficult to assert myself in conversations with more experienced professionals, especially if my opinion was not commonly shared. However, I learned the importance of researching the facts on all sides of important issues, framing an argument based on relevant information, and being both polite and persistent in making my perspective known. Originally, I had planned to pursue an M.A. in English. However, I had a wonderful advisor and mentor in the English department named Loreen Giese, who noticed that my greatest passion appeared to be community service. Dr. Giese’s advice helped motivate me to pursue a Master of Public Administration at Ohio University. I am grateful that she encouraged me to explore such a rewarding path. My experience in the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs introduced me to faculty and community members who continue to influence and inspire me.

The University strengthened its partnership with the City of Athens. New appendices to the University-city Memorandum of Understanding address collaboration in emergency management and disability and accessibility planning. Other cooperative measures include University support for the purchase of a new pumper truck and a new ladder truck for the Athens Fire Department.

Six start-up companies founded by OHIO students and alumni emerged from the Innovation Engine Accelerator, a 12-week technology entrepreneurship program co-sponsored by the University. Held at the Ohio University Innovation Center, the program is designed to keep entrepreneurial talent in southeastern Ohio.

Geoff Dabelko, professor and director of Environmental Studies in the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, was one of six outside experts invited to advise world leaders on the impact of global climate change at the G8 Summit in July 2013. As a member of the United Nations’ Environment Program’s Expert Advisory Group, Dabelko was a lead author on the “Human Security” chapter of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s 5th Assessment Report, which made headlines worldwide when it was released in March 2014.

E3 Clean Technologies, founded by Russ Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Gerardine Botte, won the CleanTech award for exceptional business potential at the seventh annual Launch: Silicon Valley venture capital event. The company’s Greenbox technology also was named “most likely to succeed” in the clean energy category.

Integrating Professionals for Appalachian Children received nearly $1 million from the federal Rural Health Network Development Program to expand its health and wellness services in southeastern Ohio. Among the funded initiatives is establishment of interprofessional care programs to help families and foster care providers address the special needs of children who have experienced emotional and developmental trauma.

Kids on Campus, an after-school and summer enrichment program administered by the College of Health Sciences and Professions for Athens-area children and teens, expanded with $1.7 million in grants from the 21st Century Community Learning Centers, a federal program that supports academic enrichment opportunities for children, particularly those who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools. The program now reaches over 500 children in after-school programs at seven sites around Athens County.

Nearly 800 undergraduate and graduate students presented their work at the 2014 Research and Creative Activity Expo.
Ohio University launched the Center for Campus and Community Engagement, a clearinghouse to connect community-based organizations in need with academic departments and programs seeking service learning opportunities for students as part of the curriculum. The center is a partnership among University College, the colleges of Arts and Sciences and Health Sciences and Professions, the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, the Office of the Provost, and the Division of Students Affairs.

The Chronicle of Higher Education ranked Ohio University as one of the top producers of U.S. Fulbright Scholars by type of institution for 2013–14. Five OHIO graduates received Fulbright scholarships, placing the university among institutions such as Boston University, New York University, and Texas Tech University.

OHIO employees who have diabetes or are at risk can improve their health through a joint initiative between University Human Resources, the Diabetes Institute at Ohio University, and the Diabetes/Endocrine Care and Research Center. Under the program, Human Resources will pay the costs for qualifying employees to participate in the National Diabetes Prevention Program or Diabetes Boot Camp. Both programs emphasize lifestyle changes in nutrition, fitness, and social support to improve health. According to University Human Resources, diabetes is one of the top five chronic conditions in the university’s health plan, costing at least $800,000 a year.

More than 41,000 pounds of e-waste—such as televisions, computers and peripherals, and cassettes and toner cartridges—was collected during March as part of Ohio University’s participation in Recyclemania. More than 29,500 pounds of that was collected in four hours during the community-wide Electronic Recycling Day.

Women in Philanthropy marked its 10th year of bringing together female donors to benefit Ohio University. Among the group’s accomplishments are funds to support the Student Community Outreach Resource Endowment, programming at Baker University Center, and the Amanda J. Cunningham Leadership Center. In all, WIP raised more than $1 million in gifts, pledges, and planned gifts between 2003 and 2013.

Put it all together, and you have a university that is transforming lives every day. Change is occurring all around southeast Ohio, and Ohio University has worked hard to not just keep up with those changes, but to anticipate them. Through sound strategic planning, the University has developed comprehensive initiatives to face 21st century challenges and position it for success. It’s all part of the ongoing transformation of OHIO.

The four years a student spends on a college campus are always transformational. Teenagers become young adults, trying out life on their own, uncovering new ideas, and discovering that the world is a much bigger place than they ever dreamed.

Ohio University takes this responsibility seriously. We hope our students leave our campuses not only with knowledge, but with wisdom. We endeavor to promote acceptance of diverse ways of learning, thinking, and living—not because it is politically correct, but because respect for others is the foundation of a civil and progressive society.

Learning is not confined to textbooks and lectures. Diversity, sustainability, compassion, and activism are lessons best absorbed when practiced. Leading by example and engaging students in myriad opportunities, Ohio University transforms lives every day.

Tyree Winters, Class of 2007

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Then: Enrollee in Summer Scholars Program; Region V director, Student National Medical Association

Now: Lead Physician, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Primary Care Obesity Network, Obesity Quality Initiative Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

The Research Apprenticeship Program allows Honors Tutorial College students to spend the summer doing paid research for professors.
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The Research in Honors Program allows Honors Tutorial College students to spend the summer doing paid research for professors.
Ohio University opened in 1808 with three students, one two-room building, and one professor (who was also Ohio University’s first president).

Alumni returning to campus can be forgiven for feeling a bit lost. Thanks to generous individual gifts and capital campaign donations, as well as careful financial planning, Ohio University has undertaken significant renovation, remodeling, and construction projects in the past decade. The University is currently in the midst of its most ambitious construction project since the erection of the New South residence halls. The aim of all the work: to make Ohio University’s physical spaces more energy efficient, sustainable, accessible, and ready for the demands of 21st century higher education.

Several programs celebrated significant anniversaries in 2014.

- An initiative designed to improve the residential experience and the comprehensive living-learning environment on the Athens Campus, Phase I of OHIO’s Housing Development Plan includes the construction of four new residence halls.
- Ohio University celebrated the grand opening of the Walter Fieldhouse, which is used for recreation, athletics, teaching courses, ROTC training, and various Student Affairs activities.
- Bush Hall reopened after a yearlong, $9.1 million renovation that featured installation of energy-efficient mechanical and electrical systems. Students moving into the revamped 60-year-old residence hall enjoyed updated classroom, lounge, and study areas; individually climate-controlled rooms with sinks and built-in cabinetry; and remodeled bathrooms. Accessibility upgrades include an expanded entryway and elevator access to all floors.

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Another program hitting the half-century mark was the School of Interdisciplinary Arts, founded in 1964 as Comparative Arts.

Ohio University Libraries marked its 200th anniversary. What started as a small collection of books is now one of the 100 largest academic libraries in the United States with collections spread across three buildings.

The Ohio University Press, which is noted for its high-quality books on the Midwest and Appalachia as well as African and Southeast Asian studies, also turned 50.

The Promise Lives Campaign exceeded its $450 million goal, with more than a year to go. By April, nearly 75,000 donors had committed more than $100 million for capital projects, $105 million for faculty, and $50 million for academic and student programs.

Despite a brutal winter, new residence halls under construction on South Green continued to take shape. The four residence halls, built on the site of the former Wolfe Street Apartments, are Phase I of the University’s Housing Development Plan that will transform South Green. These four residence halls are scheduled to house 900 students beginning in fall 2015.

Built around the former Baker Center across from the College Green, the newly opened Steven L. Schoonover Center for Communication brings all administrative offices of the Scripps College of Communication—five schools, plus the dean’s office—under one roof for the first time.

One of the most beloved landmarks on the Athens Campus, Galbreath Memorial Chapel reopened after a lengthy closure for renovations and repairs. The updates included roof replacement and installation of an elevator to bring the chapel into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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