

THE RISE *of* OHIO'S
THIRD CENTURY



OHIO
UNIVERSITY

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OHIO UNIVERSITY AT A GLANCE

The place where you live, learn, and grow is important. Students come to OHIO for an excellent education. Here they become scholars, leaders, researchers, and engaged citizens. They study abroad, volunteer, and form friendships that last a lifetime.

History

Established in 1804, Ohio University is the oldest public institution of higher learning in the state of Ohio and the first in the Northwest Territory. Admission to Ohio University is granted to the best-qualified applicants as determined by a selective admission policy.

University Profile

- A four-year public institution located in Athens, Ohio
- 17,500+ undergraduate students on the Athens Campus
- More than 250 academic programs
- More than 1,000 full-time faculty members (Athens Campus)
- 18:1 student faculty ratio
- 33-student average class size
- 43 residence halls housing more than 8,000 students
- 450+ registered student organizations
- 34 fraternities and sororities
- 16 NCAA Division I teams in the Mid-American Conference
- Average freshman total gift aid: \$5,640


Freshman Class Profile

Fall 2016 middle 50 percent range

- High school class rank: 68%
- Composite ACT: 24
- Combined SAT (Math + Critical Reading): 1103
- Average GPA: 3.48 (4.0 Scale)

Recognition

Ohio University has been cited for academic quality and value by such publications as *U.S. News and World Report*, *America's 100 Best College Buys*, *Princeton Review's Best Colleges*, and *Peterson's Guide to Competitive Colleges*. The John Templeton Foundation has recognized Ohio University as one of the top character-building institutions in the country. Additionally, OHIO is listed among the top producers in the country of Fulbright Award-winning students by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Currently, Ohio University ranks among the top in the state of Ohio for nationally competitive awards won by its students.



2016 STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

August 24, 2016

President Roderick J. McDavis

These are difficult times for higher education. As we face skepticism regarding the value of a college degree, waning state support for education, and budget reductions, many institutions are struggling.

Ohio University has entered its third century with unprecedented strength and resilience.

The successes and challenges of the past have yielded a wealth of experience in both identifying the needs of a changing society and a commitment to responding to them with innovative and unique solutions.

In these early years of the school's third century, it is impossible to determine the direction the future will take. However, it is certain that Ohio University will navigate that future guided by the expertise, hard work, and intuition of administrators, faculty, and students who are all poised to rise in this new time.

In his State of the University address, President Roderick J. McDavis reflected upon his 12 years in office and highlighted many of the institution's crowning achievements. The following text is a transcript of that address to the University community.

Welcome to Ohio University's 2016 Faculty and Staff Convocation! I am very pleased to join with you to celebrate our new academic year.

Today marks my final State of the University address as your president. As you know, I am stepping down in 2017.

Forgive me if this speech is a bit more sentimental and nostalgic than my past State of the University speeches. It is hard not to beam with immense pride over the amazing bricks and foundation we have laid together over the past 12 years. Serving as your president has been my life's greatest achievement. That is not an exaggeration, that is a fact! It was true when I said it in 2004 and it is still true today.

Many of you were with me when I delivered my inaugural address at Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium in 2004. My family, friends, mentors, peers, and new colleagues joined together under one roof that was aptly named for the first African American male and female graduates of Ohio University. Trust me, the historic significance of that day was not lost on me.

When you are a new president, you want to push your university community out of its comfort zone a little—or as I look back now on the goals I set, A LOT. I knew—being a product of our great University that turned me from a young man into an adult—that there is such immense talent within our academic community. I knew that we had higher heights to reach and that we could do it together. And, I am here to tell you that you surpassed my greatest dreams and hopes. In fact, you have taken us to such a high level of excellence that our peers are knocking at our door because they want the recipe for the secret sauce. I hate to tell them, but the secret sauce, in fact, is you! And they cannot have you!

OHIO's 20th president, Dr. Roderick McDavis, successfully led his alma mater through 12 years of challenges and accomplishments





During my inaugural address, “The Dawn of the Third Century,” I outlined four major goals. Those four goals have influenced nearly every decision I have made since that day.

On that September day in 2004, I said the first goal was that “Ohio University will become a nationally prominent research university.”

You made that goal a reality!

The second goal was “to increase diversity within our University.”

You have significantly increased our student diversity!

The third goal was “to secure the resources necessary for Ohio University to rise to national prominence as a research university.”

You have helped us secure a strong financial foundation for the future.

The fourth goal was “to increase partnerships in the region, throughout Ohio, and throughout the nation.”

You have developed many partnerships in the region, state, and the nation!

It is a great thing, witnessing the fruits of your labor.

It is an even greater thing to be able to share such accomplishments with friends and colleagues whom you value and respect. Working in higher education my entire career, first as a professor, then as an administrator, I know, simple acknowledgment that your hard work is valued goes a long way.

Whether it is the staff member who comforts parents after moving in their sons or daughters. Or the faculty member who recommends groups and organizations for the shy, introverted freshman to get involved with, knowing students are more likely to finish their degrees if they have a support system. Or maybe it is the University police officer who, in spite of all that has happened nationwide, continues to put on the badge each day to protect and serve our students, faculty, staff, and citizens. Or the admissions counselor who tells a first-generation student that a college education is attainable and we are going to make sure you succeed.

We entered into the world of higher education because we wanted to make a difference! And, at Ohio University, we have made an enormous difference! I stand before you this afternoon, confident that the state of our University is strong and confident about the future that lies ahead and the new horizons we will reach.

So where are we, 12 years after my inauguration?



INCREASE NATIONAL PROMINENCE

Increasing our national prominence was my first goal.

Our national prominence as a research university continues to be elevated and our national visibility continues to be enhanced.

More and more students are choosing the first-class education OHIO provides! At a time when other institutions are losing enrollment, Ohio University has experienced record enrollment growth—ranking us as one of the fastest-growing colleges in America!





We are first in the nation for overall student satisfaction. And, ranked 14th among college and university “best buys.”

We are one of the top producers of Fulbright Award-winning students nationwide. And, our Marching 110 was named the best college marching band!

Five of our professors have been named members of the National Academy of Inventors! And, we have created three Centers of Excellence! In fact, the entire Scripps College of Communication was named a Center of Excellence!

We are the top public university in the state for licensing revenue generated from research discoveries. And we are ranked ninth in the nation for research return on investment based on licensing revenue.



Our Innovation Center was recently recognized as a “Top Business Incubator in North America” and the “2016 Rural Incubator of the Year.”

Our Master of Sports Administration program is number one in the world.

Our graduate ceramics program is ranked 5th in the nation and so is our online RN to B.S.N. program. Our College of Business is ranked 15th in the country.

Our Honors Tutorial College was rated among the top 20 programs nationally and as the highest-rated honors program in Ohio.

Our campus has been named the most beautiful in the country, and the city of Athens was named America’s Best Small College Town.

We can thank our founders, Manasseh Cutler and Rufus Putnam, for choosing such a perfect spot to build a center of knowledge and education. And our facilities department for maintaining it!



We are dedicated to protecting that natural beauty. We recently received national recognition by the Environmental Protection Agency as one of the largest green power users in the country. And the newly-completed Phase II construction and renovation work at the Schoonover Center for Communication has been awarded the LEED Gold certification.

So plenty of national recognition has occurred for our students, faculty, academic programs, and campus since 2004!



INCREASE CAMPUS DIVERSITY

My second goal was to increase diversity.

To start this process, my very first action as president was implementing the Ohio University Diversity Initiative. This employment initiative provided guidelines to



facilitate and achieve greater diversity among Ohio University's faculty and administrative staff.

Then, we created the vice provost for diversity and inclusion position to help us increase diversity and inclusion at all levels within the University. We developed a Strategic Enrollment Management Plan, which focused, in part, on recruiting more students of color and international students. Has it worked?

In short, the answer is a resounding, "Yes!" Our campus is the most diverse it has ever been. Just last week, the significant increase we have experienced in diversity was highlighted in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. The article pointed to many colleges and universities that list improving diversity as an institutional priority, however, most fall short. But not Ohio University! We made it a priority in 2004 and we have delivered—increasing our enrollment of African American students by more than 100 percent! All this in a city that has less than a five percent black

population. I am proud to report that our enrollment of all minority students has increased 170 percent!

Our international student enrollment has increased as well—up 73 percent in the last 12 years.

Many of our senior administrators who have served since 2004 have been women or people of color! I am delighted with our record in this area!

“ WE ARE FIRST IN THE NATION FOR OVERALL STUDENT SATISFACTION. ”

“ I AM PROUD TO REPORT THAT OUR ENROLLMENT OF ALL MINORITY STUDENTS HAS INCREASED 170 PERCENT! ”

We created the Urban and Appalachian Scholarship Programs to increase the diversity of our student population. As a result, we have more students of color and students from Appalachia attending Ohio University.

Many of the students involved in these two programs say they never would have thought college was a possibility for them. That is the transformative power of an Ohio University education that our founders envisioned and you make a reality every day.

Speaking of transformative, OHIO’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Center recently won the Equity and Inclusion Award for its work on OHIO’s preferred name and pronoun policy. We are so pleased with the work of our LGBT Center!

So yes, Ohio University is more diverse today than it was in 2004. And, that diversity is garnering more national recognition for us!



SECURE FINANCIAL FUTURE

What about my third goal? Have we secured the resources necessary to rise to national prominence as a research university? Yes, we have!

Our state legislators have shown great confidence in our University year after year! We have significantly

increased our state share of instruction funds for our operating budget. In addition, our state Capital Budget allocation has experienced steady growth during the last three capital budget cycles. And, our Senate Bill 6 ratio, which is an indicator of our financial health, has increased dramatically since 2004.

We helped secure our financial future by implementing an innovative debt management strategy, the Century Bond Debt Management Program, designed to generate an estimated \$1.4 billion for deferred maintenance projects during the 100 years with no additional debt.

And, we made it a priority to make college more affordable for our students and their families by creating the OHIO Guarantee, the OHIO Match, and the Ohio Scholarship Investment Program.

As we have learned over time, Ohio University has some of the most generous alumni in the country who always want to see their alma mater improve and excel.

Because of the loyal devotion and generosity of our alumni, we were able to raise over half a billion dollars for the Promise Lives Campaign to elevate Ohio University. This was one of my proudest moments!

Three hundred and twenty-five million dollars of the \$500 million dollars will be used for academic programs, faculty and research, and scholarships—65 percent. Another \$114 million dollars will go toward capital projects and building renovations—about 23 percent. The remaining \$60 million dollars will be used for other University programs, less than 12 percent.

I believe that properly illustrates where our priorities are at Ohio University: improving our already impressive academic programs, supporting our outstanding faculty and exemplary research projects, and giving more high-achieving students the opportunity to experience our first-rate academic programs without being straddled with college loan debt.

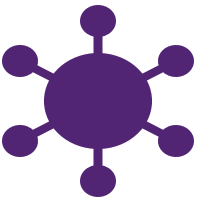
The Promise Lives Campaign already has helped many students and many more will benefit in the future!





These are real people we are helping. Real lives you are impacting. Real change Ohio University is making possible.

The Promise Lives Campaign will allow Ohio University to attract even more higher-achieving students. Those students will increase our rankings and, ultimately, lead to elevated national prominence.



INCREASE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

What about increasing partnerships in the region, across Ohio, and throughout the nation? That was my fourth and final goal.

We have definitely strengthened our relationship with the City of Athens. I believe it is the strongest it has ever been! We have created joint safety patrols, improved public transit with the Bobcat Pass, and codified our relationship for future generations through a memorandum of understanding.

While Athens will always remain the heart of our institution, our OHIO for Ohio initiative has broadened our impact and our focus.

In fact, I accepted the Business Person of the Year Award a few months ago from the Dublin Chamber of Commerce. They are so pleased with all the good

work we are doing in Dublin on behalf of Ohio University! On our Dublin Campus, the student doctors in our Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine are getting real-world experiences. Our Heritage College works closely with the City of Dublin and Ohio Health to educate the next generation of physicians and surgeons. The collaboration is similar between our Cleveland Campus and the Cleveland Clinic. In addition, our College of Health and Human Services started a Physician Assistant Practice Program on our Dublin Campus. These graduates will work in clinical settings to provide health care to numerous patients.

We also have created a partnership with the City of Dublin and the Dublin Arts Council to form a professional theater company called Tantrum Theater. That venture is helping to grow the





arts scene in central Ohio while simultaneously giving College of Fine Arts theater students the real-world experience they need to secure a job after graduation.

In fact, all of our regional campuses collaborate with their local communities on mutually beneficial projects. It is our intent to lift up those areas by creating jobs and opportunities.

Last year, we launched the Ohio Innovation Fund with The Ohio State University. This new venture-capital fund will provide seed money to start-up companies in the critical early stages of their existence.

Regionally, we have 20 community college partners in Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia. In these community colleges, students are able to work toward attaining a bachelor's degree from Ohio University while completing their first two years of coursework near their home.

“ THESE ARE REAL PEOPLE WE ARE HELPING. REAL LIVES YOU ARE IMPACTING. ”

Nationally, we established The Interlink Alliance to collaborate and cooperate with historically Black colleges and universities on a wide range of initiatives that improve the teaching and learning experiences for Black students.

Internationally, we have created numerous partnerships with universities and countries, and our faculty and students have visited many international countries.

“ AS WE CELEBRATE OUR ORIGINS, WE MUST ALSO KEEP OUR EYES FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE. ”



NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In addition to achieving these four goals, there are other notable accomplishments.

Together, we have named three of our academic colleges: the Scripps College of Communication, the Gladys W. and David H. Patton College of Education, and the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine.

We have added 12 new or renovated buildings to the Athens Campus and have undertaken hundreds of renovation projects.

For the first time in 30 years, we opened a new residence hall—five of them to be exact! All five residence halls are wonderful additions to our campus that improve the residential experience and comprehensive living-learning environment on campus.

But while we have renovated and built new structures, we also continue to honor historic traditions at OHIO. Cutler Hall is celebrating its 200th birthday this year!

As we celebrate our origins, we must also keep our eyes focused on the future. The Campus Master Plan gives us that road map.

And the Innovation Strategy ensures that we continue to respond effectively to the challenges of the 21st

century. Last academic year, we awarded more than \$4.5 million to 16 teams seeking to advance innovations in research, teaching, creative activity, and institutional operations.

We also initiated a new budget allocation model. We call it Responsibility Centered Management. It gives our academic colleges more autonomy and allows them to keep a significant portion of the revenues they generate.

Four decades ago, our Heritage College started with just 24 students. This year, we welcomed 246 students across the three campuses into the Class of 2020.

When I first arrived on campus, we had 16 learning communities housed in University College with 279 students enrolled. That was only seven percent of our first-year students! In 2016, we have 235 learning communities with just under 4,000 first-year students enrolled—or about 90 percent of our freshmen class. That is an increase of 1,381 percent!

Since 2004, our intercollegiate athletics programs have won 14 Mid-American Conference regular season titles and 22 Mid-American Conference tournament titles, with football making seven bowl appearances. Along with incredible success in the conference, our student-athletes have made a number of appearances on the national level, with 76 student-athletes qualifying individually for NCAA competition. Our teams have made 19 NCAA Tournament appearances and five post-season appearances, including a 2012 trip to the Sweet Sixteen for men’s basketball in the NCAA Tournament.

This is only part of all that we have accomplished by working together! Because these past 12 years have been truly historic.

The bottom line is: we all have a lot to be proud of. These achievements and historic milestones are ours to share. We are a community and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead this incredible institution.





By so many measures, our University is on firmer footing than it was when we began this journey together 12 years ago. And, we have experienced the highest of heights and navigated difficult terrain in an ever-increasingly competitive higher education environment. Despite any obstacle placed before us, we have answered the call with innovation, leadership, and transformation.

But rest assured, the transformation of Ohio University is still not complete. There are a lot more chapters to write in the storied history of Ohio University. Chapters you will carry forward after my time as president ends.

That said, we still have goals to achieve in the months ahead.



One of our top priorities this year will be to continue to support inspired teaching and research. We also need to further develop our OHIO for Ohio vision. We want to position Ohio University's award-winning Innovation Strategy as a state and national model.

We will complete our fundraising efforts for the Ohio Innovation Fund. And continue fundraising for our OHIO Match Scholarship Program. We have already met or exceeded all state initiatives for efficiency, affordability, and streamlining processes. Now, we need to maintain that momentum to ensure Ohio University's future financial health and stability.

We also need to continue to invest in our people—not only by making sure that you have healthy and safe environments in which to work, learn, and create. But by demonstrating our support for you through the continued implementation of our faculty and staff compensation plans.

The past 12 years have not been easy for public higher education. We have experienced economic downturns, waning state support for education, deferred maintenance concerns, and budget reductions. We have faced questions about the value of a college degree.

These years have been a time of great change (and more grey hairs than I care to admit) but there also has been laughter and accomplishments and accolades and—most importantly—progress.

We advance knowledge. We teach people how to think critically. We produce thinkers, researchers, and teachers. And, I might add, we are very good at it.

A four-year degree from Ohio University is priceless; with each passing year it becomes more valuable. And the difference is that when we are faced with a challenge, we do not turn away. We do not back down. We do not put our head in the sand.





We say, “Challenge accepted.” We find solutions. We push one another to answer the call and see opportunity where others only view defeat. We are an institution that was founded in the wilderness. We are a product of this region and we will fight to not only protect a 212-year history, but to ensure a legacy of success. We understand that we are not writing a chapter. We are writing volumes of an immense story that was envisioned when Manasseh Cutler and Rufus Putnam traversed this great land.

Ohio University’s legacy lives in our newest student doctors who just received their white coats and will save lives. Or in our emerging inventors in the Russ College of Engineering and Technology whose inventions may someday transform how we live our lives. Or in the minds of those philosophers in the College of Arts and Sciences who will use the written word to transform how we see our world.

“ WE ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE. WE TEACH PEOPLE HOW TO THINK CRITICALLY. WE PRODUCE THINKERS, RESEARCHERS, AND TEACHERS. ”

“ IT IS NOT MAGIC— IT IS METHOD, MOTIVATION, AND MERRIMENT THAT MAKE OHIO UNIVERSITY THE NATION’S BEST TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING COMMUNITY. ”

That legacy exists in a research lab in Ecuador where our colleagues at the Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador are working alongside our own faculty and students to find a cure for the Zika virus, cancer, malaria, and other life-threatening, infectious, and chronic diseases.

Ohio University’s legacy lives in the ambitions of the graduates of the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs who vow to dedicate their lives to public service and who one day may lead our state and our nation to further greatness, as its late namesake, the late U.S. Senator George V. Voinovich, did during his life.

Ohio University’s legacy also lives in the beautiful pieces of art created in Seigfred Hall, the passion of the Bobcat artist visible in each and every brushstroke or inch of ceramic.

Ohio University’s legacy is 212 years old but it continues to beat in the hearts of our more than 217,000 alumni and the countless others who have walked our bricks streets. It is the legacy of our founders, Manasseh Cutler and Rufus Putnam—

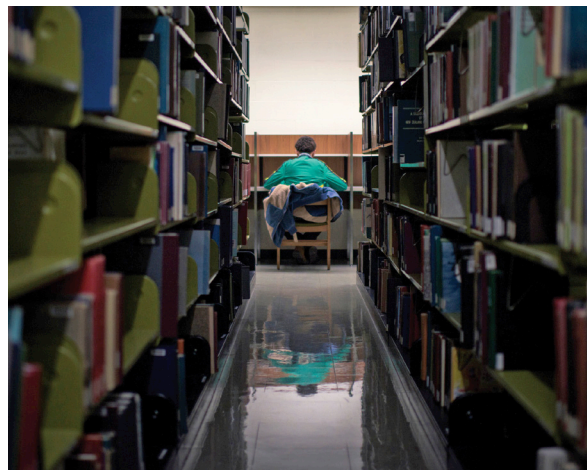
Revolutionary War veterans who fought for our nation’s independence, and then fought for “religion, morality, and knowledge” in the new state called Ohio.

I am inspired by the legacies of other Bobcats. I am inspired by the legacies of the scholars seated in this room and the staff who have dedicated their careers to public service. I also am inspired by the legacies of my 19 predecessors.

Glidden, Ping, Alden, Baker, James, Bryan, Ellis, Ryors, Wilson, Lindley . . . these are not just buildings on our campus! These real people had a real impact on Ohio University. Some of the seeds they planted did not grow and develop during their lifetimes. Some of the rewards they planned are just now being realized.

You see, our legacies are not about us; they are about future generations. Each of us is building upon the foundations laid by those who came before us. This University is so much bigger than any one person, any one president. It is bigger than the 40,000 students who come to Ohio University with the purpose of bettering themselves. It is bigger than all of us in this room.

As my time at Ohio University comes to a close, my heart is full with—as Dean of Students Dr. Jenny Hall-Jones likes to say, “Bobcat Love.” Yes, we are undoubtedly poised to publish many additional volumes in our storied history.



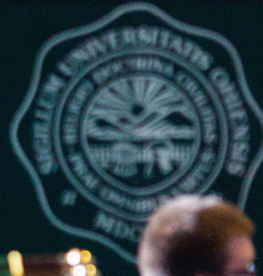
OHIO
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OHIO
UNIVERSITY



College of
Fine Arts



Ohio University's legacy lives on in the hearts of our students and our alumni who enter the Alumni Gateway looking for an experience unmatched by any other university in our country. They emerge transformed. It is not magic—it is method, motivation, and merriment that make Ohio University the nation's best transformative learning community. It is each of you who make our secret sauce.

For more than two centuries, Ohio University has been faced with multiple financial challenges.

But yet, still it stands!

Ohio University has been confronted with many protests and riots in its history.

But yet, still it stands!

Our University has dealt with numerous floods and fires over the years.

But yet, still it stands!

Ohio University has struggled with low enrollments and had to cut academic colleges and programs.

But yet, still it stands!

Ohio University even had to suspend operations for three years!

But yet, still it stands!

And today, after these past 12 years, I am proud to say,

Still it stands, still it stands—stronger than ever!

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for writing this chapter with me.





SO DEPART THAT DAILY THOU MAYEST BETTER SERVE
THY FELLOWMEN THY COUNTRY AND THY GOD



RIGHT LANE
MUST
TURN RIGHT

WELCOME
ATHENS

NO
LEFT TURN
ON RED

ONLY

NO
TURN
ON RED



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“
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”



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