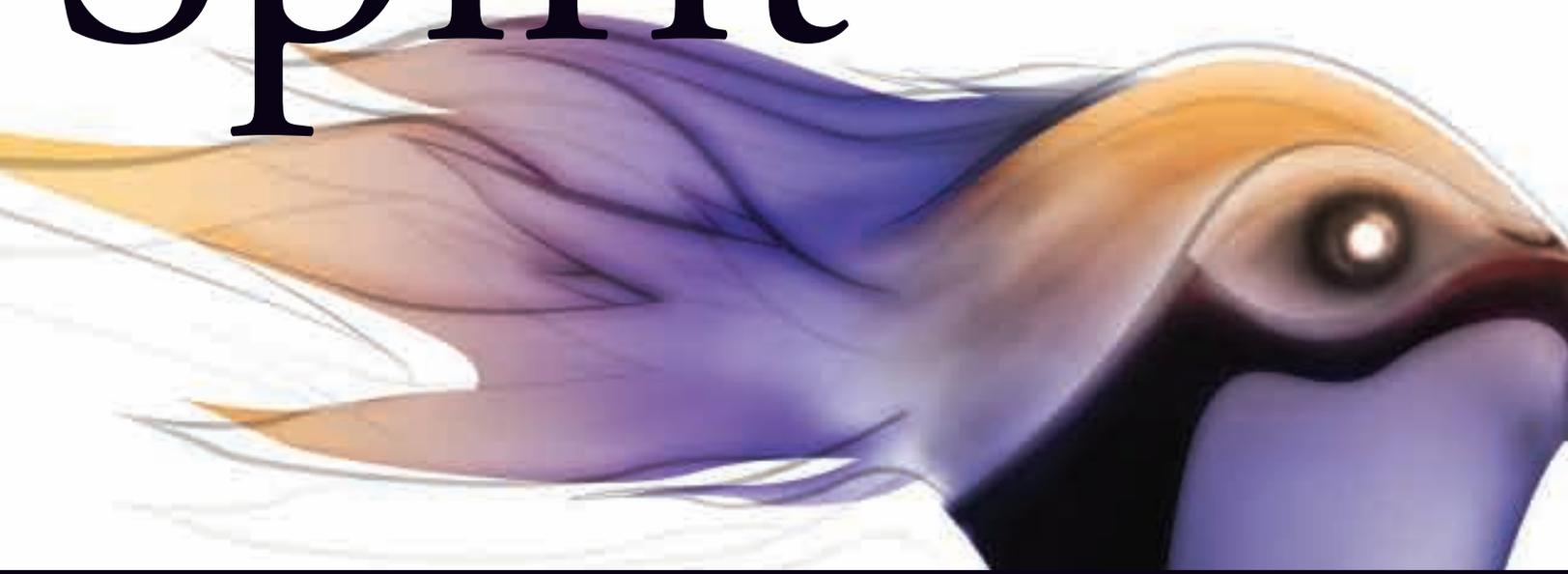


Ottawa Spirit



One component of Ottawa University's mission is educating students and preparing them for their chosen profession. It is equally important to remember that we are preparing our students to serve. Our graduates not only serve in their place of employment, they also serve in their communities, and beyond. The same is also true of our faculty and staff. As we serve, we progress in ways that perhaps we thought we never could. The spiritual leader of India, Mahatma Gandhi, said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

The theme of this edition of *Ottawa Spirit* is "Progress Through Service." Each section is filled with inspiring stories of how Ottawa University students, alumni, faculty, and staff members are serving in unique capacities. While the stories are different, the constant theme throughout is that individual service progresses to even further opportunities, both for the giver and the receiver. Ottawa University was founded on the ideals of service as Reverend Jotham Meeker and his wife, Eleanor, devoted themselves to improving the lives of the Ottawa Indian Tribe. After the Meekers passed away, the Ottawa Indians carried on the Meekers' strong desire to educate their children, which ultimately led to the creation of the University. That initial act of service has benefitted thousands of people for more than 140 years.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you for the opportunity to serve as president of Ottawa University over the past year. Be assured that while my time as president will soon come to a close, my days of service to this University are far from over. There is still much in the way of progress to be made through meaningful and lasting service. I will be right there with you.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred B. Zook". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fred B. Zook

Ottawa

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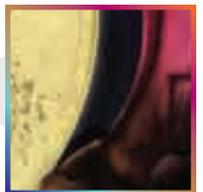
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Alumni News

pages 1-8

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L Alan's Zoom-Crested Showstopper

(Vigors's Puffin)

- Member of the family, *Officiumidae*, (service)
- "The Energy" of the service family capable of transforming any idea into power, easily in excess of 48,000 amps. (5,760 kilowatts)



The Showstopper is ever present, always providing the necessary charge to any member of the service family.

Full. circle

Ottawa University Names
21st President

The Ottawa University Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the selection of Mr. Kevin C. Eichner to be the 21st president of the University. Eichner, a member of the OU Board of Trustees since 1982 and past chair, succeeds Dr. Fred B. Zook, who has served as president since August of 2007. Eichner will assume his new duties on July 1, 2008.

Eichner most recently served as president, CEO and vice chairman of Enterprise Financial Services Corporation, the parent company of Enterprise Bank & Trust, a \$2.0 billion banking and \$1.7 billion trust company headquartered in St. Louis and with operations in Kansas City and Phoenix. A co-founder of Enterprise, Eichner has served as its CEO for the past six years and oversaw its emergence as a NASDAQ-traded company recognized for its high growth and performance in the financial services industry. He will remain active as the company's vice chairman and chairman of its subsidiary trust board.

"Kevin Eichner will serve Ottawa University well with his extensive background in strategic planning, organizational development, finance, marketing, and operations," said Patti B. Wolf, chair of the OU Board of Trustees. "His proven experience in leading complex, multi-line organizations in rapidly changing environmental conditions will be valuable in positioning Ottawa University as a leader in higher education. He has a long history of involvement with the University, and has a deep understanding of the OU mission, culture, strategies and many of its people."

Prior to his work at Enterprise, Eichner served as executive vice president and CEO of General American/MetLife for five years. In 1983, he founded a successful consulting company, Collaborative Strategies,



Inc., which provided consultation to a large number of management and strategic for-profit and not-for-profit organizations during his 14 year tenure prior to its acquisition by General American in 1997.

Eichner is a 1973 graduate of Ottawa University with a BA in social change. He went on to earn an MBA from the Harvard Business School in 1977. Firmly committed to lifelong learning, Eichner designed and launched Enterprise University for Enterprise Bank and Trust, which has enrolled over 3,000 executives and non-profit leaders in workshops aimed at enhancing their knowledge and skill sets. He has written business essays which have been regularly published in the *St. Louis Business Journal* as an advertorial series sponsored by Enterprise Bank & Trust. Eichner has taught workshops on numerous business and organizational topics over the past 25 years. He is known

as an accomplished strategic planning facilitator, having served over 100 clients in this capacity.

"Ottawa University is in my blood and its mission is in my heart," said Eichner. "I have been very blessed in my life and am deeply honored to now be able to dedicate the remainder of my career to advancing this University and its noble purposes."

Eichner and his wife Marylin, a 2000 graduate of OU-Greater Kansas City, are the parents of three adult sons, Adam (24), Andy (22) and Kyle (21). The couple will reside at Granger House at the residential campus in Ottawa, Kansas, while maintaining a residence in Phoenix.

ladder

Climbing the Fire Service

Fire Chief Phil Hodgdon
Reaches the Top

As a rookie firefighter, Phil Hodgdon '00 received the usual good-natured harassment from the veterans in his battalion for being "green." After one particular call, however, he was relieved of his position as the number one target by his veteran partner. Crawling through a house in search of the fire, Hodgdon accidentally opened a refrigerator door with his pack. Thinking the refrigerator light was the fire they had been searching for, the veteran firefighter full-throttled



their hose and splattered the entire kitchen with the refrigerator's contents, quickly becoming the new recipient of the fire station's jokes.

Since then, Hodgdon has spent 30 years in fire service, experiencing both the lighter and harsher sides of firefighting, including the devastating loss of two of his district's own. As he's climbed the fire service ladder from driver to lieutenant to captain and then to battalion chief, he has consistently earned the respect of those with whom he's served. In October 2007, Hodgdon reached the pinnacle of his career when he was promoted to fire chief of Johnson County (Kansas) Consolidated Fire District No. 2 (CFD2), where, like his father before him, he has served throughout his career. Though he admits that being behind the desk isn't quite as exciting as being behind the hose, this is the position Hodgdon has been striving for.

"It's been neat to start as a volunteer and hold every rank up through fire chief," said Hodgdon. "A lot of us have grown up together here, and it's very rewarding now to get to do things for these firefighters that help them do their jobs and keep them safe."

As fire chief, Hodgdon is responsible for the consolidated district's three stations that service eight cities in Johnson County. He tries to visit a fire

station every day and stay connected with firefighters on each of the nine weekly shifts. Much of Hodgdon's time is devoted to public relations, serving along with his staff as a liaison between the fire department and the communities by attending city council meetings. He is also responsible for the fire district's budget, procedures, safety issues, scheduling, and training.



“Phil has always been the type of person to think out of the box, which has enabled him to engage in finding ways to change a situation. I believe he will carry that characteristic on as fire chief,” said longtime friend and colleague Jeff Johnson, chief of Fire District No. 2.

Though the transition to administration has been “a big one,” according to Hodgdon, it certainly isn't the first time he's had to adapt to change. 30 years in fire service have consistently brought change within the industry itself. Hodgdon believes that one of the biggest developments has been in the area of safety. “I think there's been a real culture shift in fire service toward safety and protecting the firefighters,” said Hodgdon. “When I first started, we didn't have to wear seatbelts, the cabs were open, and we could ride standing on the back of the truck. Now you have to be sitting down with seatbelts on before they'll even leave the station,” he said. Other safety improvements include the use of air packs as standard, infrared cameras on every truck, daily fire service and physical fitness training, and the implementation of Rapid Intervention Teams (RIT). Dedicated to nothing but saving firefighters, RITs were implemented at CFD2 following the loss of one of the district's firefighters. Since then, CFD2 has initiated RIT training throughout the state and region, with over 1,000 firefighters participating to date.

Hodgdon has also witnessed a huge improvement in technology over the years. In addition to the safety equipment already mentioned, there are now computers in all fire trucks, trucks are routed to fires using satellite, and thermal energy cameras help locate fires inside a

building. With a smile he adds, “When I first started there were no doors on the truck cab; now we take trucks out of service because the air conditioning is broken!”

Finally, education has become a key factor in fire service, particularly in regards to receiving a promotion. Originally, firefighters moved up through the ranks simply because of their career longevity, but those days are gone. “I wouldn't have gotten the job as fire chief without a degree,” admits Hodgdon, who completed his bachelor's in business administration at OU's Greater Kansas City campus in 2000.

Of choosing firefighting as a career, Hodgdon said, “It's good pay, good benefits, and good time off. And it sort of gets in your blood.” A second generation firefighter (Hodgdon used to accompany his dad on calls and watch from the car), the legacy may continue on to a third generation as Hodgdon's son, a junior at Northwest High School in Olathe, Kansas, is expressing interest in the profession.

To read more about CFD2, the work they do and the opportunities they offer, visit <http://www.jocofire2.org>.

Did you know?

- Johnson County CFD2 was featured in a TV ad for the movie “Ladder 49.”
- The winner of CFD2's fire prevention contest gets to ride to school in a fire truck.
- The average on-scene arrival time for CFD2 is four minutes.
- In 2007, CFD2 ran 2028 fire calls and 2820 emergency medical calls, with a total dollar savings to property of \$212,748,425.
- CFD2 hosts a free summer camp for teenage girls interested in firefighting.
- CFD2 helps put on a Special Needs Day to cook for kids with special needs and give truck rides and demonstrations.

Devoted SCOUT

Dr. Sonny Hays
Brings Scouting Ideals
to OU Table

The Scout Oath:

On my honor, I will do my best.
To do my duty to God
and my country
And to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake,
and morally straight.

The Scout Law:

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly,
courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave,
clean and reverent.



Dr. Sonny Hays

Since the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) was founded in 1910, both the oath and the law have remained unchanged. These words and the values they embody have been challenged from time to time, but in every case, even all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, the BSA has won the right to keep the oath and law as is. They are words that still have meaning to lifelong scouts like Dr. E. Earl “Sonny” Hays ’93, a member of the Ottawa University Board of Trustees.

Hays grew up in Kansas City, Missouri, and developed a love for scouting early on. He earned his Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in the BSA, in 1955. “The prestige of the Eagle rank is right up there where it’s always been,” said Hays, who later earned the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award presented by the National Council, Boy Scouts of America. “Sometimes I was asked the question, ‘Is scouting still relevant, does it still make a difference in the lives of kids and families?’ My answer was always ‘yes’, and then some.”

Hays spent 40 years professionally with the Boy Scouts of America, retiring in 2002 as the Scout Executive/CEO of the Grand Canyon Council, headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona. He began his career with the Boy Scouts during his senior year at Whittier College in Los Angeles. Hays then had stints at the BSA national headquarters in New Jersey, followed by tours of duty in California and Michigan before embarking on 20 years of leadership in Arizona.

As Scout Executive/CEO of the Grand Canyon Council, Hays was in charge of the eighth largest council in the nation out of 315. He managed nearly 60,000 scouts, 18,000 volunteer leaders, a professional staff, a multi-million dollar budget, and an eight-million dollar capital campaign. One of the many other duties that Hays

performed was working with volunteer committees in approving Eagle Scout projects. “I was blown away with all of the service projects that came across my desk for review,” said Hays. “They were always impressive and always outstanding.”

Though he is now retired, Hays says he still utilizes his experience as a Boy Scout executive in his service on the OU Board of Trustees, a position he has held since 2004. In fact, he believes his career in scouting gave him the credentials to be a better trustee. “In the Boy Scouts of America, and the role I had as the chief executive officer, I had the responsibility for recruiting, training, motivating, and sustaining members to the council and its executive board,” said Hays. That experience was very useful in Hays’ early days on the OU Board when he served on the trusteeship committee, which identifies trustee candidates from all over the country. Hays’ recruitment experience is also being counted on as he sits on the search committee for a campus executive officer of OU-Arizona, prompted by Donna Levene’s promotion to Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Hays is currently in his third year as chair of the development and alumni relations committee on the OU Board of Trustees. His charge is to find better ways to engage OU alumni, particularly those that graduated from one of the APS campuses where alumni associations are just getting off the ground. But no matter what committee he serves on or no matter how long he is a member of the Board of Trustees, Hays says one thing is for certain – he’ll give it his all. “I did not become a trustee for an honorary experience,” says Hays. “In the time that I serve, I want to be able to give good leadership and support the University financially to the best of my ability.” Given the Scout Oath and the Scout Law, it’s what you would expect from a dedicated boy scout.

When people ask Amanda Wells '07 what she does for a living, many times she gets “the look” when she tells them. Wells is a licensed funeral director and embalmer. That look is something she has to deal with on a consistent basis. “Everyday it seems as if I have to prove myself to someone, not only being a young funeral director, but also being female,” said Wells. “It’s not the typical or the norm for the funeral director that you may be used to or what you see on TV.”

Despite the daily battles against stereotypes, Wells has a passion for funeral service, particularly helping grieving families and preparing the body for a positive lasting memory by family and loved ones. “It’s really the last time they’re going to get to see their loved one, so if you do a nice job and you really put your effort and your time and skills into it, it can be very rewarding to know that you satisfied what they would like their loved one to look like,” said Wells.

Make no mistake; the funeral service industry is not for everybody. Wells describes it as a business where you have to be prepared at all times, to expect the unexpected and to be available 365 days a year. “It’s a demanding career and time-consuming, and also it can be quite emotional at times,” said Wells. “It’s hard to distance yourself, but if you are sympathetic, you will do a good job.”

Wells was raised on a thoroughbred horse farm in Lexington, Kentucky. After graduating from high school in 2000, she enrolled at the University of Kentucky and pursued a career in broadcast journalism. Wells landed an internship with WLEX-TV, the NBC affiliate in Lexington. However, during the internship, Wells says she came to realize TV news was not for her. “I decided that it was more exploiting people in times of need and I’d rather help people in times of need,” said Wells. “I started talking to some people in the business and I just found my niche in the funeral service industry.”

Wells enrolled at the Mid-America College of Funeral Service in Jeffersonville, Indiana, and graduated in 2005 with an associate’s degree. She was also the recipient of the 2005 Funeral Directors Association of Kentucky scholarship. Because of the articulation agreement between Mid-America College of Funeral Service and OU-Indiana, Wells was able to transfer all of her credits to Ottawa University, where she worked extremely hard to graduate in 2007. According to Campus Executive Officer Lonnie Cooper, Wells set a record at the Jeffersonville campus by taking four courses in one eight-week term. “I took it week-by-week and I worked more than full-time so it was busy, but it was really the best quarter that I had,” said Wells.

Wells earned a bachelor of arts in management degree from OU and says she would like to use her skills to eventually manage employees or other funeral directors and staff. In particular, she would like to be the manager of the funeral home she works at now, Louisville-based Owen Funeral Homes, a family-owned business that’s been around since 1939. Family-owned funeral homes are becoming a rarity in this day and age of corporate buy-outs. However, Wells says the family element really makes a difference. “It really makes the families that come in seem like family,” said Wells. “You see familiar faces and they get to know you.”

For now, Wells says she has plenty of opportunities to use her management skills by helping families manage and deal with death, sometimes for the first time in their lives. Her role is to help coordinate and control what goes on throughout the service and the visitation so the family can go through the grief process. Wells says if she’s done her job right and the family is pleased with what she’s done, that is the most gratifying part of her work. “It’s important to understand what the family’s needs and desires are and convey those in a way that they would be proud, and to feel that the deceased would be proud of the way their service was handled.”

Compassionate. service

Amanda Wells Helps Out at a Most Difficult Time



From Hallways to households

Garth Brokaw Redefines
AB Nursing Home Care

Great Aunt Hilde is in room 215. While weekend visits to her home on Sycamore Street used to stir up memories of fun family gatherings and fresh baked bread, the walk down the long medicinal corridor to her cookie-cutter room is a stark reminder of her recent move. A far cry from the home and life she left behind, weekend visits to the nursing home approach more with dread than anticipation now.

Though fictional, this scenario is all too common in nursing homes across the U.S. It was the scenario that College alumnus Reverend Garth Brokaw '69 encountered when he first went to work as chaplain of Fairport Baptist Homes and Caring Ministries (FBH) in Fairport, New York, just outside of Rochester in 1980. After becoming president/CEO of the 196-bed facility in 1990, Brokaw began to realize that FBH, though flourishing, could no longer be simply "the institution on the hill." Shifts in elder care were moving the institution towards community-based services, both externally and internally, and Brokaw took the opportunity to move the "gem of an organization" that he had been handed into the 21st century of care.

The major transition began in 1997 with a look at the facility's aging buildings and the large price tag for bringing them up to code. "If we were going to spend that kind of money," said Brokaw, "we decided we had best make sure it gave us the kind of product that we could market into the future." As a result, Brokaw was charged with conducting a national search to see what was new in nursing care. His search led him to nursing homes in Wisconsin and Washington that were experimenting with new housing models centered around "households" for the residents. "It was one of those 'hit you in the face' experiences," remembers Brokaw. "We don't live in dormitories most of our lives – we live in homes. So if you have a senior population that is frail physically and/or mentally and pluck them out of that setting and put them in a long hallway, we shouldn't wonder why they continue to decline."

The architect that accompanied Brokaw to Wisconsin knew that he was sold. "We have to tear up these plans, don't we?" he asked. "Yes," said Brokaw. "You know it's going to cost you," said the architect. "Yes," said Brokaw. And it did, but according to Brokaw, the outcomes have been incredible.

In just three years, FBH developed 20 households of 9-12 residents who now enjoy the familiarity of consistent surroundings, fellow-residents, and staff. Daily schedules for bathing and eating are designed around individual needs and routines to mirror their former home lives. Families can visit in a more comfortable setting, bring in or cook a meal, or play a game; and small children have access to toys while they visit their great-grandparents. Animals are also allowed, and children from the on-site daycare visit the residents regularly. In a nutshell, the seniors are no longer part of an institution, they're part of a community – with dramatic quality of life results.

Across the board FBH saw almost immediate improvement in food intake and healthy weight gain, and a decrease in incontinence, falls, skin tears, bruises, and loss of personal property. Resident to resident social interaction increased, as did resident to staff interaction. The amount of family involvement went up dramatically, and the acuity level of residents went down. They became more engaged in life, and FBH gave them a much-needed avenue to deal more openly with death. Overall, the move

from hallways to households has helped Brokaw fulfill his call to elder care by "assuring that elder voices are still heard, by helping them live to the best of their functional ability as long as they can."

Brokaw and FBH have carried that mission much farther than the facility's "hallways to households" project, however. Through the extensive services the Fairport Baptist Homes offer and their multiple partnerships with local organizations and agencies, FBH has become a senior service icon in the Fairport/Perinton community. Starting with the donation of land for senior apartments in coordination with 11 local churches back in the 1970s, FBH has since partnered with Fairport/Perinton Senior Living Council (SLC) and Perinton Churches Housing (PCH) to provide care management to the area's entire senior population of approximately 3,500. Conducting physical and medical needs assessment to connect seniors to required services, FBH responds to well over 1,000 inquiries annually, with an average caseload of 450 at any given time.

FBH also partners with the Fairport Apartments and SLC to provide weekly transportation to seniors, and coordinates with HUD housing to staff a medical adult daycare in the area, the only one of its kind in New York not operated in a nursing home.

On their grounds, FBH offers childcare services, skilled nursing care, end-of-life care, Alzheimer's special care, and rehabilitation services. "Our whole focus for the last 8-10 years has been – how do we establish programs that keep people out of our nursing home? That sounds backwards, but only because our focus is on the client – the elderly – and their well-being. It's not on the bottom line of money," said Brokaw.

Though he didn't know it at the time, Brokaw was in training even as a child for his current ministry. "I grew up in a home where my grandparents lived with us from the time I was born until the year I went to OU. I watched my parents care for them, as well as five widows and two elderly couples on our block. So the model was there, I just didn't figure it out until a lot later," said Brokaw.

In recognition for his work and achievements with Fairport Baptist Homes and the community at large, Brokaw was honored in October 2007 with the American Baptist Long Term Care Facility Merit Award during the Biennial meeting in Washington, D.C. In addition, FBH received the 1999 Innovation of the Year Award from the New York Association of Homes and Services for the Aging; Brokaw received the same association's James W. Sanderson Memorial Award in 2000. Most recently, Brokaw was named the Perinton "Citizen of the Year" by the Perinton Chamber of Commerce.

For more information about Fairport Baptist Homes, visit www.fairportbaptisthomes.org/.



Campus Updates

pages 9-14

writers:
Scott Miller
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photographer:
Lee Stadler



The Journeyman (*Toucan Splendens*)

- Member of the family, *Caprimulgidae*, (service)
- "The Supplier" - performs amazing feats of strength with paramount gracefulness.
- Retractable beak hooks allow not only an incredible internal payload, but a monstrous tow capacity, with a combined estimated total of 121,000 tons.
- The Journeyman's flight reach has never been measured. Builders only know that it appears when needed and gives all that it can.



Path to a Better tomorrow

Winners Receive a Free OU
Education and Much More

Four individuals are the recipients of a tuition-free education at Ottawa University courtesy of the Path to a Better Tomorrow scholarship contest. Some of the winners received cars and laptop computers to go along with the scholarship, but all are quick to say that the education will help them achieve their long-range goals.

The Path to a Better Tomorrow scholarship contest originated at the Ottawa University-Greater Kansas City campus in 2006. The contest was expanded in 2007 to include all adult professional studies campuses by teaming up with local radio stations to seek nominees. Individuals could nominate someone they knew or themselves. Four finalists were chosen and each nomination letter was posted on the station website. Visitors to the website voted for the person they felt could best benefit.

On the following pages are close-ups on each winner and how OU has put them on a Path to a Better Tomorrow.



Karen Guadnola

OU Arizona

Winning the Path to a Better Tomorrow scholarship contest sparks mixed feelings for Karen Guadnola. On the one hand, she is excited and nervous about returning to school after a 16-year hiatus, but that's just the beginning. "For the past 13 years, my life has been focused on other people and for a change, it's actually about me, and I'm not used to that," said Guadnola.

Guadnola's 11 year old daughter, Hannah, is mentally handicapped and thus, Guadnola spends a lot of time caring for her needs, both at home and at school. She takes that involvement a big step further by serving as the PTO president at Boulder Creek Elementary School in Phoenix, which has 700 students. She describes the job as "exciting" and is currently putting all of the pieces in place for a spring carnival as a fundraiser. "The reason I do that is so that I can see how (my daughter) is doing and just be more involved with the teachers and see how that's going," said Guadnola.

Guadnola's husband, Mark, stands firm in her return to school and was the one who entered her in the Path to a Better Tomorrow contest via the 99.9 KEZ radio station website. As with other contest winners, Guadnola was completely unaware that she was in the contest until she received a phone call from the radio station saying that she was one of the finalists. And like some of the others, she thought someone was pulling her leg. "I kind of thought it was a joke and so I called (my husband) and said, 'Did you really enter me in something like this?' And he said, 'Well, yeah,'" recalls Guadnola. "So from that point on, all of my friends got on and voted for me. It was pretty exciting."

Guadnola says that she and her husband were thrown a curve ball with their daughter's condition. However, because of her daughter, Guadnola will pursue a degree in special education at OU. "I actually want to do special needs or special education because I have the inside voice as to how the parent is thinking and how it is to live with somebody like this," said Guadnola. "So I can get a little bit closer with the students and try and figure out what point they're trying to get across."



Guadnola is looking forward to studying at OU-Arizona, saying she had heard of the University through commercials and word-of-mouth prior to the contest but never thought much beyond that. Since winning the contest, she's found out much more from a number of sources. "Some of our teachers recently graduated from Ottawa University, so they've been able to encourage me to look into different things that way," said Guadnola. "It sounds like it caters a lot to people going back to school, which I'm excited about."

Guadnola is originally from Illinois and has lived in Arizona since she was five years old. After graduating from high school, she attended Apollo College and became a certified medical assistant. In her spare time, she enjoys being with her family and traveling to the happiest place on earth. "Actually, I'm a Disney freak so we go to Disneyland whenever I can," said Guadnola.

Courtney Richter

OU - Greater Kansas City

Growing up in Grandview, Missouri, Courtney Richter had never heard about Ottawa University until she received a phone call from one of the Cumulus Broadcasting radio stations in Kansas City telling her she was one of the finalists in the Path to a Better Tomorrow scholarship contest. Needless to say, she found the whole thing a bit hard to swallow. "When they told me I was in the contest, I thought it was all a joke, you know like being 'punk'd' or something." Of course, the additional prizes she was told about that she could win may have also been a source of disbelief – a Hyundai Accent and a laptop computer from Gateway.

A quick visit to the Ottawa University website verified that the contest and the University were legitimate. She looked a bit closer at the academic programs offered and found one that sparked her interest – communications. However, communication about how her name actually made it in the contest was severely lacking. It turns out that her two young cousins, Jennifer and Justin, wrote an essay and sent it to the radio station about what a college education could do for their aunt. The reason they didn't tell her anything about the contest is because they did not want to get her hopes up. Here's an excerpt from their letter:

"Courtney is an amazing person who has so much potential. She is a talented leader, who deserves the chance to make a better life for herself. She is the most caring and lovable person I know. She is a dedicated student who has recently started her college career. A scholarship would help her fulfill her dreams. She has always wanted to help people, and a chance like this would enable her to succeed her every goal. Her drive and enthusiasm never falters. With an opportunity like this, Courtney could help so many people. I know that if you give her the chance, she will open her wings and soar."

And you can bet Richter was soaring sky high on that December day when she arrived at Shawnee Mission Hyundai to claim her prizes. "When I first walked in, I felt like a celebrity," said Richter, who was interviewed on the radio and had several pictures taken. "They had the car with a big red bow on it." But make no mistake, Richter is certain about which is the top prize. "The scholarship is the most important," said Richter. "The car is just an added bonus."



The scholarship could not have come at a better time for Richter, who is a first-year student at Longview Community College in Lee's Summit, Missouri. Her grandparents are footing the bill for junior college, but moving up to a four-year institution is something that Richter says neither she nor they could afford. So she was left with two options: join the military or take out student loans to pay for her degree. "I'd still probably be paying (student loans) by the time I'm 60, so this is good for me," said Richter.

Richter will finish out the 2007-08 academic year at Longview before enrolling at OU-Greater Kansas City in the fall. She enjoys the small, one-on-one environment at Longview and believes the environment will be even better at OU. Richter came away with that feeling after she recently attended a reception for her at OU's campus in Overland Park, where she met faculty and staff members for the first time. "Now that I met some of the faculty, they are so nice and so sweet and they've been very helpful to me," said Richter. "I'm just really grateful for everything that Ottawa University has done for me already."

As for her aspirations with communications, Richter says the idea of being a television news anchor/reporter a few years after graduation sounds intriguing. "You know, I think that would be pretty cool, turn on the television and see me," said Richter.

Marla Edwards

OU Indiana

OU-Indiana CEO Lonnie Cooper (left)
Marla Edwards (right)

Unlike the other Path to a Better Tomorrow scholarship contest winners, Marla Edwards is a current student at Ottawa University. She enrolled at OU and began studying for her BA in management in March of 2007. However, due to financial difficulties, she had to sit out a couple of terms. One might have thought that when the contest was announced, she would have been the first one to enter. However, Edwards didn't know anything about it until her mother called her about the scholarship and all of the additional prizes, which included \$1,000 worth of furniture, a \$500 spa makeover, a \$100 gift card, and \$2,400 worth of groceries. When all was said and done, she won with 40 percent of the vote.

Edwards says winning the scholarship and all of the prizes will put not only her on a Path to a Better Tomorrow, but her five-year-old son, David, as well. In June of 2007, David was diagnosed with a mild form of autism. Much of Edwards' financial resources go to keeping him in the Endeavor Program at Carriage House, a specialized pre-school for children with autism, and the only one that is offered in Louisville. "I have very, very high hopes for him, especially with all of the publicity that autism is getting and all of the research and development that's coming out of the vaccination theory," said Edwards. "He is benefitting greatly from all of the research that's being done now to find effective treatment for the disorder."

Edwards is a customer service representative for the Presbyterian Church (USA), where she has worked for the past three years. Following a day of processing supply orders at church headquarters and shipping them out

to the requesting churches, she picks her son up from school and then it's off to therapy. Edwards says although treating her son's autism is both financially burdensome and time consuming, it's worth everything she endures as her son is her pride and joy. "It's a miracle, the improvement that he's made," said Edwards. "If you or anybody could see the child he was just a year ago and the child he is today, you wouldn't believe it."



As for the rest of the prizes, Edwards says they are all "absolutely fabulous," and each one in some way will help ease the burden of raising a child with autism. For instance, the groceries will help her purchase the somewhat expensive dietary supplements and food items to keep her son on the much-endorsed Gluten-Free/Casein-Free Diet. The free furniture will allow her to replace her bedroom set damaged in a fire last year. Perhaps the most coveted prize is the spa makeover. In fact, Edwards says her sister has told her if she's not going to use it, she would be more than willing to take it off her hands. "I live a real hectic life, so to be able to take half a day or few hours in a day to get a facial is something that I'm really looking forward to," said Edwards.

Edwards is on schedule to graduate in 2011, and though she does not yet know how she wants to use her degree, other than to make more money, her son's autism is the force behind her long-term goals. "My desire is, at some point, to establish and manage a foundation to benefit children with autism," said Edwards. "I want to be able to provide scholarships and money so that low-income families or single-parent families can afford some of the services and activities that will benefit their children."

Vicki Pontell

OU Wisconsin

Vicki Pontell (left)
OU-Wisconsin CEO Elaine George (right)

It's better than winning the lottery! That's how Vicki Pontell describes winning the Path to a Better Tomorrow scholarship contest at OU-Wisconsin. "This is going to change my life extremely and it's something that I have been praying for. It's just a God-send," said Pontell.

And the timing of winning the scholarship couldn't be any better for Pontell, who works as a journeyman/electrical technician for a company she's been with for 31 years. She can retire in five years at age 55, which is when she is planning on graduating from OU with a double major in psychology and human services along with a business administration minor. At that point, Pontell says she would like to work with and counsel battered women. "I'd also like to get into the prison system and do some counseling there," said Pontell. "I'm really excited about being able to give back."

Winning the contest was also a boon for Pontell's charity work with a toy collection drive for Christmas. In addition to the scholarship, Pontell won a laptop computer and printer, an I-Pod Shuffle, \$100 worth of gasoline, and \$2,400 in groceries. She recently used some of the grocery certificates to purchase ingredients for lasagna dinners, which allowed her to donate 100 percent of her profits to the toy collection drive. "I think of the children that I see out there today that don't have that support and it would break my heart if they wouldn't get a Christmas," said Pontell.

If the old adage "What goes around, comes around" ever applied to a situation, it would certainly apply to Pontell's nomination and the voting process. In the nomination letter that appeared on the sponsoring radio station's website, WKTI, Pontell was described as someone that had touched a lot of lives through her charity work. Also noted was her desire to get into school, but finding the money to pay for and time to go to school was an issue. Thanks to a massive spread-the-word-via-e-mail effort that went beyond the U.S., the payoff came when the votes were counted.

"I was told there were about 9,000 votes and I had 7,000 of the votes," said Pontell.

Pontell enrolled at OU-Wisconsin in January 2008, which marks her first foray into a degree-seeking program. As with all other students, her first course is Proseminar, which she says makes her reflect on herself, her learning styles and her learning ability. Pontell also says the research portion of Proseminar is a new challenge. "Research for me is a totally different life than I've been used to," said Pontell. "I'm a mechanic, so I don't really know how to do research papers." Thankfully, Pontell says her partner of eight years, Sandra Martin, helps out quite a bit with her research papers. "She's a teacher and she has a master's degree in education," said Pontell. "So when I'm stuck on the computer, she helps me out. I couldn't do this without her, because I'd be lost."

Other than the increased research, Pontell says her first few weeks at Ottawa University have been "awesome." She says the majority of her fellow students are close to her age, but there are a couple of young ones, as well. However, mingling with them is not an issue. "I'm a pretty social person, so I can get along with just about anyone," said Pontell. "I used to be painfully shy, but now I'm growing out of that I guess."

Pontell has three sons, Travis (32), Josh (22) and Luke (18). Her oldest son works where she works, her middle son is working towards an electrical apprenticeship and the youngest will be enrolling at diesel mechanic school. Pontell's family also includes her parents, four sisters and two granddaughters. "I've been there for them, so they're always there for me," said Pontell.



Staking a claim

OU Adds New Online Learning Unit

As a small liberal arts school with roots in rural Kansas, Ottawa University has been steeped in tradition since its founding in 1865. But the University hardly rides its traditions' coattails. Instead, it has often proven to be an educational pioneer, blazing trails in adult learning, program development, and technology use.

The introduction of Ottawa University's new online learning unit in January 2008 sets yet another milestone in its enterprising history and allows the school to expand its individualized, innovative educational programming beyond the traditional campus into the virtual frontier.

Similar to the introduction of its adult professional studies (APS) program 30 years ago, which now has five campuses nationwide and is a major part of the school's enrollment, the online learning unit is poised to move the University into a new era.

OU President Fred Zook has been a driver of both initiatives. "When we launched the APS concept, we were addressing a new population of learners at the time – the working adult learner. Later we addressed the international population when we branched into the Pacific Rim, and in the 80s we reached out to adult learners at the graduate level by introducing our masters program in the Phoenix area.

"We're doing the same thing with the online division," said Zook. "There is a whole new student demographic out there with a new mindset. People are growing up with technology and don't necessarily want to come to the classroom. This is an obvious next step for us, to take the classroom to them, wherever they are."

By staking its claim in the online territory, OU will no longer be bound by the traditional constraints of geographic location, scheduled courses, local faculty, or student availability. While its physical campuses will continue

to serve a vital local population, the online division will further extend OU's presence on the global educational stage. "The possibilities are unlimited," said Zook.

Though the University has been offering online courses through its various campuses for the past several years, the new online division gives students the opportunity to earn a number of complete degrees, at both the bachelor's and master's levels, fully online. Academic Dean for Online Education Fred Romero stated there are a number of students — and OU alumni — already enrolled in the online program. "We had our first students begin classes in March. Included in that group were soldiers on active duty in Kosovo and Iraq. We also have OU alumni who have enrolled in the master's programs, including students in Delaware, Florida, Texas, and Malaysia. We are very excited about meeting the needs of students around the country and internationally," said Romero.

But can OU truly infuse today's virtual student with its hallmark liberal arts education in a "caring, Christ-centered community of grace" as its mission states? The University is banking on it. "We will not sacrifice our commitment to the individual simply because we're not meeting him or her in the classroom," said Zook. "Nor will we sacrifice program quality."

To illustrate, Zook said that the new learning unit will provide a 24/7 nationally-based technical support team, as well as an academic concierge service to regularly interact with the student. Faculty and students alike will be fully oriented to and stay connected with the OU culture and community through ongoing communication. Quality teachers from around the world will be selected for the program, and students will receive the same personalized assessment of their former education, life experiences and goals to tailor an educational program specifically for them.

"That's what the online student will receive at OU," said Zook. "We are a learner directed university. This program is in direct response to that."

For information about degree opportunities through Ottawa University's new online division, visit the school's website at www.ottawa.edu.

24-7

Round the Clock IT
Support Now Available

It's 3:00 a.m. and you're pulling another late-nighter to finish up the class project that's due tomorrow. With droopy eyes you create your last slide and press "Save." To your dismay, PowerPoint displays an error message and closes, refusing to reopen. Aaaaah! You frantically try every command you know – nothing. What are you going to do?

Well, as of February 15, Ottawa University students, staff and faculty can contact OU Help, the University's new 24-hour help desk. Gone are the days of 8 to 5 technology support, referrals to product websites or to individuals who "might" know the answer to your software question. Now, IT help from a U.S.-based OU representative is just a phone call, e-mail or text chat away, with an average answer time of 90 seconds for calls and 30 minutes for e-mails.

How is this possible, you ask? Through OU's new IT co-sourcing partner Connected Learning Network (CLN) and its affiliate RightAnswers.

Hearing your cries for help, Ottawa University's information technology team formed a committee to address the need for extended IT support. Originally focusing on OU's online learners and instructors, the question quickly arose, "Why not provide this kind of support University-wide?" Why not, indeed? Knowing, however, that such sweeping support was financially unfeasible in-house, the committee began searching for companies with whom the University could partner to offer 24/7 support, not only to residential, APS and online students, but to all faculty and staff as well. CLN became the obvious choice.

IT Manager of User Services Deanna Brown said of partnering with CLN, "Connected Learning felt like talking to our own help desk. They were kind, considerate and caring without being condescending." Brown stressed that OU is not out-sourcing the support, but rather co-sourcing it. "We'll be working together," said Brown. "CLN has a record of solving almost all issues during the first inquiry. What's great, though, is that Connected Learning can answer the calls in the middle of the night or on Christmas Day that we aren't staffed to handle."

OU constituents can expect two levels of service and support through the 24/7 partnership. The first is broad-based live technical support and remote desktop assistance for almost any conceivable computer technology problem: help with Blackboard, online course registration, CX issues, inserting a picture in a Word document, formatting a table in Excel, sorting or filtering email, printing a research paper, recovering from a computer "crash" – you name it.

The second level of support will be provided through Connected Learning's new partner RightAnswers, a self-service knowledge base provider. Students, faculty and staff can search the knowledge base for up-to-date information on over 200 software products for both Apple and PC computers. What's more, RightAnswers allows Ottawa University to add answers or instructions specific to its own policies and procedures. This added component has been shown to significantly increase support capacity while reducing overall support costs.

"Another really exciting part of this partnership is the ability to determine where our deficiencies lie in regard to technology service for our users," said Brown. "Through regular reports supplied by Connected Learning, we can see where we need to improve."

Carine Ullom, the new director of academic services for Ottawa University, foresees several additional benefits of the new 24/7 support service. "First of all, this shows the OU community that we care about their needs and that we're committed to providing quality IT support," she said. "Not only will our international, APS, online and residential students enjoy access to support 24/7, but our faculty and staff will be able to use tools that perhaps they weren't comfortable using before because now they have the support and knowledge they need to utilize them."

Dean of Instruction for OU-Arizona Kim Coffman-Romero wasted no time utilizing the new service. "What a pleasurable experience to have help from the 24/7 help desk over the weekend when I was unable to logon to Blackboard. The technician helped me with his patience and expertise, and I found out the problem was on my end from our in-home router. What a wonderful asset to have the help when needed most."

Dean Hoke is Connected Learning Network's Chief Operating Officer. "We are honored that Ottawa University has selected Connected Learning to provide live helpdesk support for its students and faculty worldwide. We are fortunate to be associated with an institution with such a strong commitment to higher education and its constituents," he said.

Connected Learning was founded in 1999 and is located in Louisville, Kentucky. The company provides helpdesk live support to nearly 100 organizations throughout the U.S. RightAnswers is an industry-leading provider of end-to-end self-service and support analyst solutions and has been in operation for over 10 years.  

Access to OU-Help can be made the following ways:

E-mail: ouhelp@ottawa.edu

Toll-free Phone: 877-717-6988

Live Chat: www.ottawa.edu/ouhelp/textchat

Faculty Features

pages 15-22

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Continental Stone Mallet

(Common Species)

- Member of the family, *Officiumidae*. (service)
- "The Builder" - able to construct highly complex structures of infinite size with great ease - often in minutes instead of months or years.
- Earthy coloring is adaptive to environment allowing the Stone Mallet to continuously build, deflecting attention away from itself and on to the task at hand.



Across the street

DeGraffenreid Connects People to a World in Need

or around the globe

Click. We've probably all done it. We're watching the evening news and disaster after disaster is blared like shock waves into our living rooms – tornadoes, bombings, refugees, HIV, floods, starving children – overwhelming both our heads and our hearts. So to tune it all out, we simply turn it off or change the channel. It's so much bigger than us; what can we do about it anyway?

Jeff Degraffenreid, EdD, of Heart to Heart International (HHI) helps answer that question by bringing disasters down to a personal level. As stated on his business card, he “connects you to a world in need,” whether “you” are an individual, corporation, organization, civic group, or trained professional. “Our mission at Heart to Heart is to inspire, empower and mobilize individuals to serve the needs of the poor, whether it's in their own communities or around the world,” says Degraffenreid, who is the non-profit's chief programs officer and an adjunct instructor at OU's Greater Kansas City campus. Specifically, Heart to Heart is committed to improving health worldwide; delivering resources, education and hope to those in desperate need; and providing opportunities for meaningful service. “We've found that people want to help, but so often they don't know how. We give them that avenue,” Degraffenreid said.

Starting out in 1992 with a 75-ton shipment of medical aid to Russia, Vietnam veteran Dr. Gary Morsch and his local Kansas City Rotary Club coordinated “the largest volunteer project in U.S. history at the time” with a handful of volunteers, a cargo plane provided by the State Department, and medicines donated by pharmaceutical companies. That project gave birth to Heart to Heart International, a world-class organization that has since provided over \$500 million in medical and humanitarian aid in over 100 countries worldwide.

How does an organization with less than 50 employees, two percent overhead and minimal facilities accomplish so much? “We're all about partnerships at Heart to Heart,” says Degraffenreid, who has been with the organization just over two years. One example of such a partnership is FedEx, HHI's primary freight carrier. Not only do they provide gift in kind shipping for the non-profit, they also house four international response centers which allow HHI to get medical and relief aid to disaster areas much more quickly.



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Traditional values

Dr. Kayong Holston Lives Her Time-Tested Values



Korea is known as “The Land of the Morning Calm” and its history spans more than 5,000 years. It is a collective land where the people have a warm personality and stand at the ready to give up whatever asked for the common good. It is a land where values and respect, particularly respect for elders, are firmly entrenched in the public education system. These are some of the beauties of Korea as described by Dr. Kayong Holston, director of business graduate studies at Ottawa University-Arizona.

Holston grew up in Gwangju Metropolitan City, the capitol of the South Korean Province of South Jeolla. Holston earned her bachelor’s degree at Chosun University, one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in South Korea. After earning a master’s degree, she taught at the University of Seoul before first coming to the United States in 1986. In America, Holston became a U.S. citizen and worked for the federal government over the next 14 years. During that time, she says she saw how systems worked and felt that some could be improved, which caused her to do some soul searching. After speaking with a professor that asked her to think about her future, Holston says she decided to pursue a PhD. “I always believe that knowledge is power,” said Holston, who earned her doctorate degree from Nova-Southeastern University in 2002. “If you know, you are a better person.”

An Ottawa University faculty member since 2003, Holston says she selected OU because of its mission statement. Specifically, she says the words “quality liberal arts and professional education” and “Christ-centered community of grace” captivated her. Because of that, Holston says she feels strongly that she is doing God’s work. “I tell my students, ‘I want to be an influence to the people and you. I’m not telling you what to do. Inside, I want to share all of my knowledge so you can take it and apply it in your life to make it better,’” said Holston.

Holston calls the OU faculty “wonderful” and is impressed with the qualities each member brings to the table. That extends to the University-wide faculty, not just at OU-Arizona. She looks forward to OU Board of Trustees meetings, held three times a year, where she and her colleagues share ideas and concepts and encourage each other to use them at their respective campuses. “This camaraderie is really hard to find,” said Holston.

The value of respect Holston was taught while growing up remains a strong part of her life. She admits that the lack of respect young people in the U.S. have toward their elders is unsettling, but she says it is not her place to judge. Rather, she focuses on sharing two important principles with the younger generation. One, nothing is free in the world; and two, you have to learn on your own. “Some things you can buy with money, some things you can learn from your parents, some things you can learn from your neighbors, and that means you have to give and share. That’s how you learn something,” said Holston.

Because Holston was once the new person in a new land, she happily goes the extra mile to make sure the international students at OU are okay. “Those students also have a culture difference,” said Holston. “They don’t know other people, so generally, I step in.” Holston also shares her knowledge with a couple of students back in Korea through the use of internet technology, and she looks forward to serving several other OU international students. “Since our University has an international program set aside, I would like to get involved and give it something of what I can do,” said Holston. Her alma mater, Chosun University, is also benefitting as she serves as a visiting professor by traveling back to Korea every two or three years to lecture students there. Many of Holston’s former university classmates are now professors themselves, and she maintains a very close relationship with them.

Outside of her teaching and administrative duties at OU, Holston loves to play golf and says she never turns down an opportunity to play. Her handicap is in the single digits and she has made two memorable holes-in-one. The first occurred when she was living in Korea. “They gave me a first-class, round-trip ticket to anywhere in the United States,” said Holston, who selected Tucson, Arizona, as her destination. She and her husband played golf every day for two weeks. Holston’s second hole-in-one occurred after she returned to the U.S. However, this one wasn’t quite as grand as the first. “When I hit the hole-in-one here, they didn’t give me anything,” recalls Holston with a smile on her face. “That guy (the course owner) is so cheap!”

Mission

ACCOMPLISHED

Elaine George Looks
Back and Beyond



A search is underway and soon a new campus executive officer (CEO) will be named at Ottawa University-Wisconsin. Elaine George has been serving in that capacity on an interim basis since December of 2006 and will soon step down. However, her days with OU-Wisconsin are far from over as she will continue working on expansion efforts. As she prepares for the change, George says she is particularly proud of the teamwork and program expansion she has seen during her time as CEO.

George credits the teamwork of her staff combined with technology, which has resulted in a more effective and efficient admissions effort. She says OU-Wisconsin has one of the highest rates among the adult professional studies locations in terms of overall conversion from inquiring about Ottawa University to enrolling in a course. George says the addition of two new faculty members to help out with advising new students has also made a difference, even for her. "When I went into the role, I personally had 150 advisees because we were short of faculty advisors," said George.

In the area of program expansion, the MBA program, which she continued to oversee in addition to her CEO duties for the first seven months, has continued to grow at a rate of 15 percent per year. Potential students can now choose to earn their degree totally online, which adds three more concentrations to the MBA program, for a total of five concentrations in the MBA, as well as a master of arts in human resources. In addition, there are now two tracks for the undergraduate major in health care management. "I think a lot of adult programs have struggled this past year, part of it being the poor economy, so a lot of students are holding off on their decision to start school," said George. "I'm proud to say that we are holding our own in spite of increased competition from other schools."

George is not a candidate in the CEO search because she says she looks forward to new ideas being brought to the table by someone who may be completely new to the University. "I feel we need the new blood of an outside person who has developed a number of adult sites and can take us to the next level," said George.

Because of her duties as CEO, George has not been able to teach courses, which is something that she misses. Now, she might have an opportunity to be an adjunct instructor. "I always love teaching a new course because it allows me to become a mini-expert through my research and teaching, as well as what I learn from the students themselves," said George. As CEO, she served on the University Academic Council and would like to continue serving on the council as the OU-Wisconsin representative.

George says she has mixed feelings about leaving the CEO position, as she's been able to meet and work with some very influential people, including her fellow CEOs and members of the OU Board of Trustees, which has given her a better sense of the history of the University than she had before. "It's incredible the commitment and the love that these folks have for the University," said George. "They always have the University on their list in terms of what can they do and how can they support the University in a variety of ways."

As she prepares to turn the CEO office over to whoever will occupy it next, she has this one bit of advice for her successor. "There is a lot of creativity with the OU-Wisconsin team group, so just make sure to give them room to try out their ideas," said George.

Dual schoolrooms

Melissa Helms Pulls
Double Duty



When Melissa Helms arrives at Ottawa University-Indiana to teach in the evening, she may look a tad weary. That's because she is a fifth grade educator at Blake Elementary School in Louisville, Kentucky, and has spent the day dealing with all of those ups and downs. While there are some educators that would wince at the idea of a double-dose of the classroom, Helms loves the challenge. "For me, teaching adults is just a treat," said Helms. "It's a wonderful relief that (OU students) are here because they want to be here."

Helms, who comes from a family of elementary school teachers, has been teaching at Blake Elementary for 14 years. Although she is currently working towards a PhD in education, Helms plans on retiring from elementary school teaching with full benefits in another 14 years. For now, teaching college is her second career. "I'm happy coming in once or twice a week," said Helms. "To me, Ottawa University is a great place to experience and learn and try."

Helms has been an adjunct instructor at OU-Indiana since 2002, teaching a wide range of courses, including business math, basic computer skills and her favorite, Proseminar. Helms is especially mindful of her Proseminar students, as some of them have not been in the classroom for several years. "They need to be encouraged just like little kids do. People need to be cared about no matter what age they are or what grade they're in."

Helms encourages her Proseminar students much the same way she does her elementary students, by making it fun and interesting. Early on, Helms teaches the concept of prioritization through survival techniques. "We do the 'Cascade Mountains' simulation where they get to pretend like they're part of a group that's lost in the mountains," said Helms. "They have to rank in order their supplies to see which ones are most important."

As the course progresses, so does the complexity of assignments. For another project, Helms has the students combine computer skills along with the reading, writing and discussion in a PowerPoint presentation about the Constitution where they get to pose arguments and counterarguments. It's all part of preparing her OU students for what lies ahead. "Your work has to be good," said Helms. "If you're not going to be able to make it in college, you're going to find out (in Proseminar)."

Just like her elementary school students, Helms rejoices when any one of her adult students finds success after working hard to achieve it. One example is that of Terry, a student who enrolled at OU-Indiana after being out of school for 20 years and whose son was in college at the same time. Helms says when Terry began with Proseminar, she didn't own a computer or a typewriter and asked if she could hand-write her papers. When she was told no, Terry got a computer and called Helms numerous times asking how to use it and if everything was set up the right way. "I think she rewrote every single paper she did two or three times because she really wanted that grade to be better," said Helms.

Terry's story gets even better as Helms had her the next semester in her basic computer course. "She was the last one to leave every week," recalls Helms. "She struggled all the way through and she had the best portfolio of any of (the students). Every time I passed her in the hall, she would say, 'I really can do this!'"

Whether it's the elementary classroom or the college classroom, Helms takes a simple, yet serious approach. "(The students) are here to be successful, to get on with their lives, to meet whatever goal they've set for themselves. And it's my job to help them get there."

Shaping Lives that Shape the future



Amy Hogan Prepares the
Educators of Tomorrow

Starting out in public education, Amy Hogan excelled at finding creative ways to entice her students to learn, whether it was reading survival novels around a classroom “campfire” or having students form “governments” to explore ancient civilizations. After earning her Master of Liberal Arts degree in 1995, however, Hogan received varied opportunities to teach other educators, and it began to dawn on her that she could have a much broader impact on children in that role than as a teacher of 25 fifth graders . . . not to mention the fact that she had always had ambitions of being a department chair.

And so the wheels were set in motion for Hogan’s transition to higher education. What started out as instruction of a few night courses in technology and curriculum in the Shawnee Mission school district led to team teaching a series of summer technology courses with Sherri McClelland in the OU-Greater Kansas City PEP program. After leaving the Shawnee Mission school district in 2002, Hogan began teaching various courses at both The College and the Kansas City campuses, and eventually assumed her current position as education division chair at The College in 2006. Hogan is currently pursuing her doctoral degree from Capella University (MN).

Higher education has afforded Hogan diverse opportunities for shaping both future educators and education itself. For example, by participating in the accreditation process at the public school level just prior to similar standards being adopted for teacher education training, Hogan understood the educational rigor required to complete the process at OU. She was especially adept at analyzing data to determine how the University could do its job better while meeting the No Child Left Behind and title requirements.

Opportunities to contour education have also come through presenting conferences around the region in the areas of technology, reading and curriculum writing. At the state and local levels, the opportunities have come through serving on a number of committees, such as the Kansas Teacher Education Program Review and Accreditation Team, the Kansas Performance Assessment Advisory Council, and the Kansas Performance Assessment Task Force.

“Serving on the state level committees is so important because it helps me see that what we choose to do at the state level makes sense in education today – that it’s purposeful and creates better practitioners in the field,” said Hogan.

Where Hogan enjoys molding educators most, however, is through her position as division chair. “OU allows you to take a program and construct a vision – to take something further than it’s been before and keep asking, ‘what’s next,’” said Hogan.

“I’ve probably brought the teacher education program at OU the furthest by building a staff of faculty and educators that are interested in creating very diverse, experience-based opportunities for our candidates,” said Hogan. Experiences like observing or teaching a class in the Gordon Parks charter school in Kansas City; conversing with educators in Topeka; participating in the Gold Chair System by which candidates enjoy an open door policy at Ottawa schools to observe targeted classes or behaviors; visiting the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta; or having regular interaction with an instructor who might also serve as the student’s onsite observer and evaluator. In the future, Hogan would like to see such opportunities expanded even more. “I’d like our candidates to see how educators are changing school districts in Chicago, or Memphis or Washington, D.C.,” she said. “I’m also working with the local school district to utilize cameras in various classrooms so our students can see classes as they’re actually happening and get immediate feedback from the teachers via video cam.”

What kind of teachers are being turned out from such an innovative education program? According to Hogan, ones who are very prepared and very qualified. “Students tell me once they’re hired and out in the field that there isn’t a question that arises that they don’t feel prepared to address, whether in classroom management, assessment practices, instruction styles, or parental issues,” she said. She receives similar feedback from district administrators. “It’s not uncommon for an administrator to call and tell me that they’re very pleased with the educator that they’ve hired,” said Hogan. During her brief time as division chair, graduates have been awarded the Kansas Horizon Award and others have been sought and hired by local school districts. More evidence of the program’s excellence shows up when the educators complete their licensure.

Across the street

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FedEx uses its own employees to retrieve the product, load it on the plane and get it where it's going. "It's a logistical dream," said DeGraffenreid. "The best part is, they treat us like their highest paying customer."

These same kinds of partnerships are formed in all need areas of the organization, with extreme integrity. For example, pharmaceutical companies can donate medicines with peace of mind because they know HHI tracks them all the way to the local doctors, even to the persons to whom they are prescribed. The non-profit also has a strong relationship with the American Academy of Family Physicians in Leawood, Kansas, which trusts HHI with access to its 95,000 members. So if HHI is looking for a medical professional with a specific expertise, they can usually find one. Government officials and health agencies in more than 60 countries are also key HHI partners, as are more than 300 U.S. agencies and countless volunteers they work with to accomplish joint goals. "When something happens in the world, it's highly likely that we already know someone there that's doing work. My job is making those connections," said DeGraffenreid.

What makes nations, companies, individuals, and professional groups so willing to partner with Heart to Heart? In a word – excellence, as seen in the organization's long tradition of efficiency, its quality service and product, and its fiscal responsibility. On average, HHI is able to leverage each \$1 donation to procure and deliver \$25 worth of medical aid. More than 98 percent of all contributions goes directly to humanitarian operations. HHI is also known for its willingness to work with and help people regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, or personal beliefs. When responding to a recent crisis in Lebanon, for example, HHI provided assistance to those on both sides of the conflict.

Heart to Heart's assistance to those in need has three primary components: healthcare development, global distribution services and global crisis response.

Perhaps most recognized is Heart to Heart's response of "precision aid" in times of crisis, both within the U.S. and internationally. It is carried out in five critical stages: readiness, response, recovery, rebuilding,

and restoration. Not content to simply provide band-aid services, HHI is committed to taking the communities and the people they assist all the way through to the healing process. "When we were in Greensburg, Kansas (following the F5 tornado in 2007), we provided services until the hospital was able to come back on board, then we drew back. But we didn't leave the community," said DeGraffenreid. "We continued to provide volunteers and help in the transitional phase. And we invested in the people. When they opened their first building back up on Main Street, HHI was the largest donor of the building. And we're still there providing food and clothing through a ministerial association in the community," he said.



One of Forbes magazine's Top 200 Charities in America in 2006, Heart to Heart has responded to recent crises in Kenya, Sri Lanka, Tennessee, Jordan, Indonesia, India, Vietnam, New Orleans, and a host of other locations. The organization also supports ongoing, sustainable healthcare initiatives in China, Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, Zambia, and the Philippines.

To learn how to become a volunteer, to make a donation, or to learn more about the following aspects of Heart to Heart, visit www.hearttoheart.org. 

- GO Teams
- People Agenda
- Ready Relief Boxes
- SchoolPacks
- Core Values
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Current Projects

Of note

Arizona

Karen Bryson, PhD and assistant professor of psychology & human services, recently completed the training and certification process necessary to become a distance credentialed counselor. Distance counseling is a counseling approach that takes the best practices of traditional counseling as well as some of its own unique advantages and adapts them for delivery to clients via electronic means in order to maximize the use of technology-assisted counseling techniques.

Donna Levene, campus executive officer, is sharing the fruits of her labor with Ottawa University. As chair of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Arizona, she has made presentations during the last two Arizona legislative sessions seeking expansion of the Private Postsecondary Financial Assistance program. That effort paid off as OU-Arizona students were offered \$250,000 in Arizona state scholarships for the 2007-08 academic year. The scholarships came through two recently created scholarship funds for private university students.

Greater Kansas City

Gus Breytspraak, director of graduate studies, gave a workshop on “The MBTI and Leadership” to 25 participants in the Leadership Training Program of the Kansas City Chapter of Junior League on March 13. Breytspraak is the president of the KCMETRO Chapter of the Association of Psychological Type.

The College

Karen Ohnesorge, PhD and assistant professor of English, has written an article, “Uneasy Terrain: Image, Text, Landscape and Contemporary Indigenous Artists in the United States,” that appears in the winter 2008 issue of *American Indian Quarterly*. The piece explores how Native artists have engaged in a critical dialogue with the tradition of landscape art.

Douglass Smith, ITS program chair, recently completed all coursework and dissertation leading to a PhD in applied management and decision sciences at Walden University. His dissertation focused on the differences between the public and private sectors in adopting and implementing technology. Smith’s research resulted in a new version of the technology adoption model that deals with the public sector.

Marylou DeWald, division chair of business & public policy, received her DBA in entrepreneurship from the University of Newcastle in Australia. Her dissertation focused on the reasons why corporately downsized individuals that start small businesses as an alternative to returning to traditional employment, have significantly higher failure rates than the norm. DeWald’s work led to the creation of a new theory, the Theory of the Threshold of Consequence. She was also recently selected as Best Reviewer, Academic Papers, at the 2007 USASBE conference.

Lora K. Reiter, former faculty member (1969-2004) and Ottawa, Kansas, author, has written a new book of essays, “Animals Galore and Love Unconditional: Essays Glad, Sad and Mad about Creatures Who Share the Earth.” The book is available at several local Ottawa businesses and can be ordered through bookstores or the websites www.publishamerica.com or www.amazon.com. 

Athletics

pages 23-26

writers:
Scott Miller
Paula Paine
Katie Tooley

photographer:

Kathleen Rockers
Lee Stadler



Gabriele's Rah-Rah

(Bovine Apparatus)

- Member of the family, *Officiumidae*, {service}
- "The Rally Call" - a very unique addition to the family, the Rah-Rah serves as the main encourager, often congregating by the thousands to show support.
- Rah-Rah's rally not only their own kind, but every kind, displaying the type of camaraderie needed in service.
- A single Rah-Rah is capable of producing song in a 5-octave range at decibel levels close to that of a sonic boom.



Heavy medal

Where There are Honors,
There is Ottawa University



The Ottawa University men's basketball team made history on the morning of March 12 by defeating eighth-seed King College (TN), 70-65. The victory marked the first time in program history that the Braves had recorded a win in the NAIA Division II National Tournament, earning them a spot in the "Sweet 16." OU came close in the second round, but Bethel College (IN) advanced by the final score of 86-81.

The appearance in the national tournament rounded out a 24-9 season in which OU captured its 22nd conference and 15th Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) Championship. The 24 wins tied the school record for most victories in a season. The original record was set by the 1979-80 team that captured the Heart of America Athletic Conference title.

Four Braves players earned All-KCAC honors. David Birch and Phil McClintock were first team All-KCAC selections and Birch was awarded KCAC Player-of-the-Year. Birch is the first Brave to earn the league Player-of-the-Year award since Bret Lickteig did so in 2005. Matt Green and Marquis Washington were Honorable Mention All-KCAC selections, with Washington also being selected to the All-KCAC Defensive Team. OU head coach Andy Carrier (pictured) earned his third KCAC Coach-of-the-Year award, marking the fifth time in his coaching career that he has garnered coach-of-the-year honors. For the first time in program history, OU had two players earn NAIA All-American honors in the same year. Birch was a third team selection and McClintock earned Honorable Mention honors. Five Braves were named NAIA Scholar-Athletes (page 26).

The Ottawa University women's basketball team featured a pair of players earning All-KCAC accolades. Rachel Brown earned Honorable Mention honors, while Emma Hartzler was named to the All-KCAC Freshman Team. Additionally, five Lady Braves players were named NAIA Scholar-Athletes (page 26).

2007-08

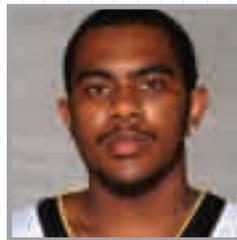
Basketball Post-Season Awards

David Birch



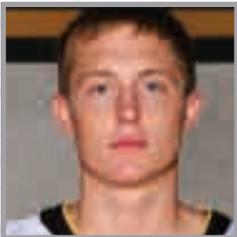
*1st Team - All-KCAC
KCAC Player-of-the-Year
All-American 3rd Team NAIA*

Marquis Washington



*Honorable Mention - All-KCAC
All-KCAC Defensive Team*

Matt Green



1st Team - All - KCAC

Rachel Brown



Honorable Mention - All-KCAC

Phil McClintock



*Honorable Mention - All-KCAC
Honorable Mention - All-American NAIA*

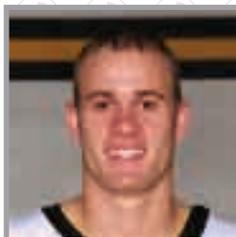
Emma Hartzler



Freshman Team - All-KCAC

Heavy medal

Bryant Derley



Mallory Mueller



Nathan Haussmann



Kelsey Nelson



Ryan Janzen

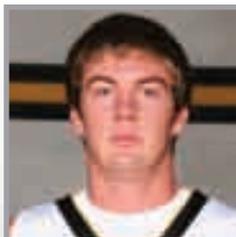


Stef Randa



NAIA Scholar-Athletes

Joel Vandervelde



Sam Reno



Clay Fagan



Jara Vance



Service

pages 27-30

writers:
Scott Miller
Paula Paine

photographer:
Lee Stadler



Horned Amber Grand Spectacle

(Tubulus Conductor)

- Member of the family, *Officiumidae*. (service)
 - "The Architect" - Amber Grands are renowned for their unsurpassed design in every field, able to memorize and draft blueprints for whole nations - at will - with details sketched down to the atomic level.
 - Grands are known for humility in spite of ability, which often includes memorizing the entire Library of Congress and reciting pi to 100,003 decimal places.
-



AS

it has
come
to be

known,

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a “day on, not a day off” for many who commemorate the civil rights legend and his message.

On January 21, Ottawa University’s APS campuses embraced the opportunity to take a day off of classes to serve worthy causes and organizations within their communities, while The College held a series of events to educate students and the public about social justice.

a day on...

OU-Greater Kansas City

Faculty, staff and students from OU-Greater Kansas City spent Martin Luther King, Jr. Day volunteering at the Rose Brooks Center, a comprehensive domestic violence agency in the Kansas City area. “We felt we could really help the community by serving an agency that provides domestic violence prevention programming, crisis intervention and other supportive services to thousands of women and children each year,” said Campus Executive Officer Ted Collins. The Center sheltered a total of 687 women and children in 2006. That same year, the Kansas City Police Department responded to 4,197 domestic violence reports. “Rose Brooks Center relies on valued volunteers exactly like the service-oriented faculty, staff and students at Ottawa University to continue to save lives and protect those dealing with domestic abuse,” said the Center’s Marketing Manager Corin Gilbert. In 2006, nearly 3,500 people provided more than 15,000 volunteer hours to the Center.

OU-Indiana

Noah’s Ark Children’s Village in Jeffersonville was the recipient of OU-Indiana’s service efforts in January. The campus collected disposable diapers and wet wipes over a period of several weeks to donate to the non-profit community for foster children. “We greatly appreciate OU’s help in the diaper and wet wipe drive that they conducted for us,” said Volunteer Coordinator Nancy Kennedy. “This has been a tremendous blessing to us as we continue to take care of children sent to us as they go through the storms in their lives.” Noah’s Ark Children’s Village is situated on 88 acres that, when fully developed, will include 14 homes housing up to 70 foster children. There will also be a lodge, a chapel, a barn, gardens, and a retirement community, with the hope of replicating the village in other locations. To learn more about Noah’s Ark Children’s Village, visit www.noahsarkinc.org.

OU-Arizona

1,800 – that’s how many emergency food boxes OU faculty, staff and students filled for St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance in Phoenix on MLK, Jr. Day, which exceeded their target by 800 boxes. The food bank team said that Ottawa University demonstrated the best teamwork they had ever witnessed. “Without the help of volunteers like those from OU-Arizona, the Food Bank would not be able to fulfill its mission of promoting the elimination of hunger in Arizona,” said President and CEO Terry Shannon. Given to clients of qualified partner agencies in the area, each box contains a three-day supply of food designed to meet the immediate needs of a family or individual during a time of crisis. To learn more about the food bank, visit www.firstfoodbank.org.

continued on page 34



Precious

Author Sena Jeter Naslund Speaks at
Hostetter-DeFries Cultural Event

"Like everyone, I am born naked. I do not refer to my actual birth, mercifully hidden in the silk folds of memory, but to my birth as a citizen of France . . ."

So begins the latest novel of renowned author Sena Jeter Naslund, "Abundance: A Novel of Marie Antoinette." Bringing the infamous queen to 21st Century life, Naslund exposes many of the myths and mysteries surrounding the historical figure's life and legend. According to USA Today, "Naslund's writing is sumptuous and personal, and she manages to make that most remote of subjects – an 18th century queen – relatable to modern times." Through impeccable research, Naslund has captured Antoinette as a woman of hopes and dreams, fears and shortcomings, rebelliousness and bravery, compassion and criticism, and produced a "beautifully written" novel that "fills gaps in the landscape of literature." (Harper Perennial) When asked why she chose Antoinette for her subject matter, Naslund replied, "I try to introduce my readers to the preciousness of human life. Marie has had a bad rap in history, but her life is precious, as are the lives of the four girls who died in the fire in Birmingham (depicted in her novel "Four Spirits")."

Naslund expounded on her two latest books, as well as her career, as the speaker at Ottawa University's annual Hostetter-DeFries Endowed Cultural Event on Wednesday and Thursday, February 27 and 28. Wednesday provided a welcome reception for the author, followed in the evening by her lecture on "Abundance: A Novel of Marie Antoinette" in the University Chapel. Thursday's event was a lecture on her book "Four Spirits" during the University's weekly chapel time.

Born in Birmingham, Alabama, Sena Jeter Naslund studied writing at Birmingham-Southern College. After graduating, she was accepted by the prestigious Iowa Writer's Workshop at the University of Iowa, where she received her MA and PhD in creative writing. In 1971, Naslund was hired as a visiting professor in the MFA program at the University of Montana. The following year, she accepted her current position at the University of Louisville in Kentucky, where she is writer in residence, program director of the Spalding University brief-residency MFA in writing, and current Kentucky Poet Laureate. Recipient of the Harper Lee Award and the Southeastern Library Association Fiction Award, she is co-founder of *The Louisville Review* and the Fleur-de-Lis Press.

Naslund's fiction has been published in numerous journals. She has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Kentucky Foundation for Women, and the Kentucky Arts Council. Prior to her current novel, Naslund authored "Four Spirits", which draws on her own experiences while growing up in Birmingham, and the blockbuster "Ahab's Wife: or, The Star-Gazer," a novel whose inspiration came from a brief passage in "Moby Dick." Other books have included "Ice Skating at the North Pole," "The Animal Way to Love," "Sherlock in Love," and "The Disobedience of Water."



Naslund was introduced to the OU community through Facilities Assistant Jeanne Haggard, who completed Naslund's Brief Residency MFA in Creative Writing Program at Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky. "Sena is a very nurturing and caring person," said Haggard. "The MFA program has heart, and the atmosphere in Louisville during residency, while intense, is also very, very special – similar to what people here refer to as 'the OU spirit.'"

Naslund's visit to Ottawa University was funded primarily by the Hostetter-DeFries Family Endowed Cultural Fund, which was established in 1999 by Ottawa University alumni Dr. Stanley L. '50 and Alice Jo '51 (Hostetter) DeFries. The goal of the fund and annual cultural event is to host guest speakers who have contributed significantly to the social, artistic or cultural improvement of society.

Dance Steps of grace

Speakers Share Faith Adventures during Annual Event



(from left to right) Glenda Schmidt, Roger Fredrikson, June Wiley, Dave Hale, and Ramon Schmidt

When lifetime Ottawa University Trustee Roger Fredrikson '42 went through a battle with leukemia, his son Joel '75 wrote him a letter in which he said, "Dad, I guess you're going to have to learn some new dance steps. If your feet get tangled up and you fall down, just get up and start dancing." Following that difficult period, Roger realized that what God has been teaching him all these years through life's tangles and falls is new dance steps of grace. And he wouldn't trade the dancing lessons for anything.

During The College's annual Adventures in Faith (AIF) event February 5-7, eight speakers visited campus at the senior Fredrikson's invitation to share their own stories of choreographing faith, life and career to the tune of grace. Over three days, participants attended several unique events featuring the speakers, including a gospel concert on Tuesday night, classroom visits on Wednesday and Thursday, a visit to Trustees Ramon '61 and Glenda Schmidt's new eco-friendly home on Wednesday, and a wrap-up chapel service on Thursday morning. In addition to inspiring anecdotes shared by longtime Trustee Kevin Eichner '73 and Pastor of Ottawa's First Baptist Church Joel Fredrikson, six speakers told their stories of successes, failures, hardships, and redemption.

Scott Selen '73 had not been back to OU for 35 years, but old memories flooded in when he and the junior Fredrikson performed during Tuesday's gospel concert. Though music was his passion, Sellen says the music in his life had stopped until 1983 when he "allowed God to be Lord of my life." It was then that he hooked up with Richie Furay of former bands Buffalo Springfield and Poco. Furay is now the pastor of Calvary Chapel Church in Broomfield, Colorado, and Sellen is the worship leader and director of music.

Dave Hale '69 is probably best remembered as a Brave who made good, playing defensive tackle for the Chicago Bears between 1969-1974. But he'll quickly tell you that that period almost cost him his marriage to Ramon Schmidt's younger sister Nori '69, and not until he turned to Christ in repentance and appropriated God's grace in his life did he get on solid ground. After owning his own business in Illinois for six years, Hale served as the Chicago area Director of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), then opened Hale Agency in 1985 as a financial consultant. Hale regularly speaks to high school and college youth about his experiences and their futures, much as he did during AIF.

A surgeon and a nurse, Ramon '61 and Glenda Schmidt needed and applied daily doses of grace as they lovingly raised their three adopted children, two of whom had learning disabilities. Following 40 years in medicine in Garden City and Salina, Kansas, the Schmidts moved to Ottawa in 2006 where they have built a "green" home as a means of being good stewards of the environment. The home is Energy Star rated and will be featured on a Kansas City solar homes tour in October.

Starting out as assistant professor of human services in 1990 and ending as dean of instruction in 2007, Dr. June Wiley had a long history with Ottawa University-Arizona, but she has an even longer history with her faith. "My faith has to be something that's not just done on Sundays but something that's evident in the way I operate in the world," she said. Wiley initially went into social work as a means of demonstrating the message of Christ to people that were different from her – adjudicated youth, dysfunctional families, women prisoners. When she transitioned into education, she lived out the same message before her students and peers. Wiley is currently the vice president for academic affairs at Marymount College in Rancho Palos Verdes, California.

Fortunately for The College, Gordie Fosness was Roger Fredrikson's ride from South Dakota to Kansas for Adventures in Faith, and as such, was a speaker almost by default. As the men's basketball coach at Dakota Wesleyan for 22 years, member of the NAIA Hall of Fame, former NBA player, and director of South Dakota's FCA for 20 years, Fosness has, in Fredrikson's words, "dealt with a lot of people that needed a second chance." And that's the message Fosness brought to the athletes at OU. "We need to rally around persons that have problems and have made mistakes," said Fosness. "We ought to be Christ-like and forgiving. When someone is down, it's a golden opportunity. God is at work."

The popular show "Dancing with the Stars" may display some fancy footwork, but it has nothing on these eight speakers who spent three days in February teaching the OU community new "dance steps of grace."

Other News

pages 31-39

The House

(Dedicated)

Though rare, members of the service family do rest. Pictured is an actual roost made by the 'officiumidae' members, carved into a mountain's rugged face, overlooking the world. A poem is found inscribed at the base of this particular roost - anonymous homage to the family of service. This poem has been transcribed in full and is shown below.

Peace shall have them,
Night shall fall,
And all around
Hope's beckon call.

To quicken fast,
As servant's stilt,
Long last!
The house that service built.

- Anonymous



writers:
Scott Miller
Paula Paine
Janet Peters

photographer:
Lee Stadler



Planned Giving defined



Janet Peters, director of planned giving

A User's Guide to Bequests

In the Ottawa University Office of University Advancement, one of the areas we focus on is planned giving, which is defined as “selecting – from a menu of gift-giving opportunities – a way to make a charitable gift that is favorable to you.” A planned gift can have two purposes. Primarily, the gift is to help the charity of your choice, such as Ottawa University. A secondary purpose is to plan the gift in a way that can provide personal or family financial benefits to the donor.

Perhaps the easiest planned gift to make is a bequest under a will. Making a bequest is as simple as adding a few sentences to your will. Here is a sample of the official legal bequest language for Ottawa University:

“I, _____, of _____,
(name) (city, state)

give, devise and bequeath to Ottawa University

(written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property)

for its unrestricted use and purpose.”

As noted in the legal bequest language, a bequest to Ottawa University can be considered in several different forms.

- You can use a specific dollar amount, knowing you can amend the document to increase or decrease your gift.
- Use a percentage of your estate if you want the gift to grow (or shrink) in proportion to the value of your estate.
- You can bequeath specific property, either real or personal.
- You can make either an unrestricted bequest, in which Ottawa University determines where the funds are utilized, such as to the Greater Ottawa fund. You may also make a restricted bequest where the donor determines how the bequest shall be utilized, such as OU Athletics or OUPatre.
- A bequest can be endowed, where the principal is invested in the University endowment permanently and only the interest is spent for the benefit of the University.

Two important financial benefits for the donor of a bequest under a will are that you get to continue to use the asset during your lifetime, and the value of the property will be removed from your taxable estate, reducing estate taxes. Of course, the primary benefit of making a bequest is to support your belief in the mission and work of Ottawa University.

If you would like to know more about making effective bequests or any other Planned Giving vehicles, please contact the Director of Planned Giving, Janet Peters, JD, at 785-229-1034 or janet.peters@ottawa.edu. You can also check out our website at www.ottawa.edu and under the “Advancement” tab, click on “Planned Giving” to access information and e-brochures about various topics.  

New Director in OU Alumni Relations Office

The Office of University Advancement is pleased to announce the promotion of Galen Bunning to Director of Alumni Relations, succeeding Charlotte Krebs, who served in the position for five years. Bunning, who previously served as alumni outreach manager, graduated from OU in 1997 with a broadcast and business communication degree. He began his employment with OU in 2001



as an admissions counselor and advisor to KTJO, the student radio station. Bunning resides in Ottawa, Kansas, with his wife, Blakely '98 and their four children.

Summer Fun

Come join the alumni adventures this summer. On June 19, alumni are invited to meet at the Heart of America Shakespeare Festival's production of "Othello." Admission is free, but bring a lawn chair and blanket to Southmoreland Park in Kansas City, Missouri, for the 8:00 p.m. show. On August 1, alumni will enjoy a Kansas City T-Bones baseball game. Tickets are \$5; concessions are available at the park. Enjoy the Ottawa University spirit together this summer with Alumni Adventures. Check out the website www.ottawaalumni.org or call the Alumni Office 866-324-8788 for more information.  

MLK, Jr. stories

continued from page 28

OU-Wisconsin

The Children's Outing Association (COA) provides camping, education and activity programs to families in the greater Milwaukee area. On MLK, Jr. Day, OU-Wisconsin volunteers helped COA with some much-needed interior painting and provided assistance with a HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) family gathering night. OU-Wisconsin's Senior Enrollment Coordinator Cassandra Donahoe was involved with COA's 11-day Camp Helen as a child and was excited at the volunteer opportunity. "As a 'city kid,' I cannot express what those times mean to me," said Donahoe. "COA knows how important it is to get children involved in their own communities, but also teaches them about other communities and other ways of living," she added. COA's Executive Director Tom Schneider was grateful for OU's helping hands. "The faculty and student volunteers from Ottawa University provided a real service to COA. We deeply appreciate their help and their commitment to helping others."

OU-The College

Focusing on education relating to social justice, The College encouraged the participation of students, faculty, staff, and the community in events held throughout the week. On Monday, students could watch the documentary entitled "Skin Deep" and participate in a talk-back session about racism on American college campuses. Tuesday offered another film, "Mirrors of Privilege: Making Whiteness Visible" followed by a talk-back session, while Wednesday featured a student panel discussion on the topic of white privilege centered around two articles: "Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack" and "Why are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria." Inspired by Dr. King's "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," the final event was held Thursday in the OU Chapel and was labeled a "social injustice slam" of poetry readings and songs. On display during the event was the "museum of hatred vs. museum of healing," which, according to Associate Professor Andy Hazucha in a quote to the Ottawa Herald, was set up to "explore the subjugation of the 'other' – women, gays and lesbians, but especially people of color – through artifacts and quotations, and then to offer additional artwork that might serve as a counternarrative to begin the healing of the hatred."

...not a
day off

News and Notes

Weddings

Michael Conner '86 and Artemis Ioannides
August 25, 2007

Births and Adoptions

Nicole (Zoltowski) '01 WI and Erik Bacon
Carter Joseph James
February 3, 2006

Spencer '02 and Kim Cave
Grace Elizabeth
March 4, 2008

Alicia (Roberts) '98 and Damian Deters
Cole Aren
October 20, 2007

Joy (Morony) '98 and Collin Freeman
Constance Joy
September 25, 2007

In Memoriam

John Patrick Delaney '00
Milan Lambertson '49
Robert Moore '49
Patricia (Peterson) Hanson '50
Thearle (Beemer) Burton '55
Thomas Dillen '57
Charles Hamilton '60
Carol (Krispence) Riffel '60
Wakana Takahashi '00

60s

Andrew Honeycutt '64 is supporting his wife, Dr. Deborah Honeycutt, who is running for U.S. Congress in Georgia's 13th congressional district. Visit www.honeycuttforcongress.com or www.honeycuttmeansbusiness.com for more information. 

John Simmons '64 was invited to be a speaker at the American Health Care Association's 2007 annual meeting in Boston in October. He spoke on behalf of nursing home administrators across the country on the topic, "Proud Again to be an Administrator." Simmons is the administrator of Macclenny Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Macclenny, Florida. He continues to serve on the Board of Directors for the Florida Health Care Association and was a speaker on their 2008 continuing education cruise to Mexico in January. John lives in Jacksonville with his wife of 40 years.

70s

Cheryn (Elliott Mistishin) Evans '71 and her husband Merle are retiring after many years with the Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. They plan to settle in northeast Texas after taking time to RV and reconnect with family and friends. Evans would love to hear from anyone at The College that remembers her.

Anne (Craig) Manna '71 retired from teaching in January. She taught in the Abington, Massachusetts, public schools her entire career – the same schools she attended as a child. She taught second and third grade and was later a reading and literary specialist. She and husband Tony live in Hanover.

Carl Cleveland '76 has become a grandfather of three, with two more on the way!

Edwin Putnam '78 is a licensed mental health practitioner with a specialization in Christian-based marriage and family counseling. He is also a certified domestic and violence counselor and has been in practice 14 years in the Holdrege, Nebraska, area. Putnam appears on a weekly TV show to provide tips on healthy families and marriages. He is also a CASA volunteer.

90s

Laura Deware-Jones '90 completed her nursing degree from Regis University in 1999. She has been in Mauritania since September of 2006 working as an RN with the organization Mercy and Truth.



Wallace Smith '95 returned to Kansas in January to start Journey Community Church in Shawnee. Sponsored by the American Baptist Churches of the Central Region, the church will launch this fall and operate in a creative partnership with Central Baptist Theological Seminary, sharing building space and serving as a “teaching lab” for seminary interns. Smith previously served as associate pastor at First Baptist Church of Indianapolis for 10+ years. His wife Christy is teaching in the Shawnee Mission school district. They have two daughters, 6 and 3.

Adrienne (Wheeler) Allen '97 was named executive director of the Salina (KS) Symphony in February. She will handle event operations, contracting of guest artists, marketing, fundraising, ticket sales, education, outreach, and internal/external relations.

00s

Floyd White '02 recently graduated from U.S. Army Officer Candidate School. His wife Theresa is a national sales account representative for Clear Channel Communications. They have a two-year-old son who participates in dance and gymnastics.

Jean Kester 03, MA '05 AZ and her family moved to Aberdeen, Washington, in the summer of 2006. Kester retired from her job as a police dispatcher with the City of Goodyear, Arizona, after 12 years. She is now a reading tutor with the Washington State Reading Corps. Kester and her husband are raising their three grandchildren. She continues to make quilts for families in need but is hoping to find a job utilizing her degrees from OU in public administration and human resources.

Kristine Young '02 KS recently agreed to serve as acting associate provost for international programs at Kansas State University. She currently serves KSU as administrative director for the office of international programs. She earned her bachelor's from K-State, a master's from OU, and a doctorate from Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky.

Clarence (Nick) Scott '05 was recently featured in the *Kansas City Star* for his inspirational story of being paralyzed in a car accident and then rising to become a top wheelchair bodybuilder.

Diana Redlich '04 WI, CPSM, has been hired as a senior marketing manager for HGA Architects and Engineers in their Milwaukee office.

Carlos Prieto '05 KS will graduate in June with an MBA in health care administration from the Loma Linda University School of Public Health. Previously a volunteer at the University's Children's Hospital, Carlos is now working at the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center in the chief of staff's office.

Have an Update?

Send your own news and notes to

Annette Ferguson

Events Coordinator

at:

alumni@ottawa.edu



Spirit 36

Student Accomplishments

CAPS Award – AZ

Cooperative programs student Edie Moore was awarded third place in the national student paper competition by the Christian Association for Psychological Studies (CAPS). The topic of her paper was animal/pet assisted therapy. In addition to the award, Moore was honored at a luncheon during the CAPS annual conference and presented her paper at a conference poster session.

Diversity Champion Award – WI

Vivian Vera '06 received the "Diversity Champion" award at the "Women Putting Their Stamp on Metro Milwaukee" awards luncheon on March 14. The award is sponsored by the United States Postal Service in celebration of Milwaukee women's achievements. Vera, current MBA student, is the human resources director for the United Community Center of Milwaukee.

OURS Projects – TC

The Ottawa University Research Service (OURS) is a service-learning program that allows Ottawa University students to become active in the Ottawa community by researching and meeting agency-identified needs. These students are involved in the following projects:

- Stacy Dryden, senior, is researching grant opportunities for the Franklin County Day Care expansion.
- Colt Coffin, junior, is creating informational brochures for the Elizabeth Layton Center on mental health issues.
- J.T. Ridenour, first year, and Anna Owen, junior, are working with Ottawa/Wellsville Infant Toddler Program to update their website and create a website directory of relevant links.
- Taylor Leftwich, sophomore, is working with FRETSA, the Franklin County Emergency Temporary Shelter Association, to gather data on the number of transient homeless persons needing assistance as they pass through Ottawa.

Non-traditional Student Honors – TC

Maria Miller, junior, and Mary Ann Chambers, senior, have been honored by and admitted into the national honors society Alpha Sigma Lambda for non-traditional students, Omega Upsilon Chapter.

Free Tax Prep – TC

Ottawa University accounting students, under the supervision of Assistant Professor Dr. Marylou DeWald, provided free preparation of income tax forms for members of the local Ottawa community, particularly people in the low to moderate income range and senior citizens. The student preparers were Jesse O'Toole, junior (lead preparer); Phuong Huynh, senior; Douglas Crawshaw, Jr., junior; and Marshall Stuckey, junior; with occasional assistance from Ryan Jansen, junior, and Nathan Haussmann, senior.

Phonathon Tops \$40,000 – TC

Under the direction of Director of Annual Giving Brooke Riffel, the 2008 Spring Phonathon surpassed its goal of \$40,000 just 21 days into the 30 day campaign. "Ringing in the Spring," the Office of University Advancement had seven returning callers from last semester and four new student callers. The top three student callers were Jennifer Johnson, senior; Phuong Huong, senior; and Douglas Crawshaw Jr., junior. Combined, these three callers raised over \$25,000! The other student callers were Garrett Alley, first year; Colt Coffin, junior; Benjamin Crawshaw, sophomore; Tabatha Doggett, first year; Andrew Moore, senior; Timeca Moseby, first year; Travis Redden, first year; Joanna Woolens, first year.

Theatre Successes – TC

Meagan Wilcox, sophomore, and Lauren Frazier, first year, received call-backs for summer stock theatre jobs after auditioning in the Irene Ryan Acting Competition during the American College Theatre Festival January 20-26 in Omaha, Nebraska.

First year students Erica Weaver and Lydia Shontz recently performed with OU Theatre Director Jeanne Stanley during a fund-raising event at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, which raised \$3,000 for a battered women's shelter in the area.

20 students, along with faculty and staff, raised \$600.00 for theatre programs and scholarships by hosting a mystery dinner theatre at Driver's restaurant in Ottawa on February 1.

Sundance Festival – TC

Ten OU students attended the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, January 21-28, as part of a cross-discipline educational experience. The students who attended were Will Allison, junior; Chelsiegh Cobb, sophomore; Stefan Cook, sophomore; Jami Deghand, junior; Robert Fleming, sophomore; Tara Frint, sophomore; Ryan Huene, first year; Rebecca Loe, junior; Erin Smith, first year; and Krystal White, senior. Assistant Professors Shannon Dyer, Amy Hogan, and Karen Ohnesorge accompanied and guided students on the film analysis excursion.

Ottawa University Alumni Association

Award Nomination Form

The Ottawa University Alumni Board is pleased to announce the 2008 Alumni Award winners. This year's winners were honored at the Reunion Celebration weekend.

Esther Ruth Award:

Dr. Ramon '61 and Glenda Schmidt

Distinguished Service Award:

Rev. Margaret Zipse Kornfeld '58

Outstanding Achievement Award:

Norman W. Jeter '34

Otoniel Gonzaga '65

Honorary Membership in the OUAA:

Dr. Bill and the late Alice Myers

The OUAA needs your help to identify nominees for these awards for 2009, excluding honorary membership in the OUAA. Any alumni or friend* of Ottawa University is invited to inform the OUAA of deserving individuals that should be considered for the alumni awards. A brief description and criteria for each award are listed below along with a nomination form (page 39). If you have questions or if you are uncertain which category is the best for your nominee, call the OU Alumni Relations Office. The toll-free number is 866-324-8788. The deadline for all nominations is September 1, 2008.

The Esther Ruth Award – This award recognizes individuals for their volunteer service that has enhanced student life at The College and benefitted Ottawa University as a whole. Established in 1987, recipients are named annually in honor of Esther Ruth Bemmels, who provided loyal and steadfast service to OU students for more than 30 years.

Criteria:

- Alumni or friend of the University
- Has given a significant amount of time to volunteer service for the benefit of Ottawa University
- Shows initiative, understanding and leadership
- Promotes the University's mission and purpose
- Exemplifies the Ottawa University spirit

Distinguished Service Award – This award recognizes individuals or couples who have demonstrated exceptional service in the church and/or community over a span of time. Established in 1974, the Distinguished Service Award is the cornerstone of the OUAA award system. No more than one or two awards are granted each year.

Criteria:

- Alumni or friend of the University (individual or couple)
- Has demonstrated professional competence, accomplishment and/or service within their church or community
- Exhibits abiding loyalty to Ottawa University

Outstanding Achievement Award – This award, established in 2005, recognizes individuals who have made an impact in their chosen field of endeavor, whether over a span of many years or in a relatively short time frame. Recipients become members of the OU "hall of fame" and their life stories demonstrate what one can do with an OU education. The number of awards given annually varies.

Criteria:

- A graduate of the University
- Has made accomplishments in the context of their paid career, or for a civic personal interest which they have pursued, with or without pay
- Accomplishments have had an impact on the world, nation, state, or community (e.g. volunteer community leadership roles, lobbying for important legislation, humanitarian accomplishments, help filling gaps in the social safety net, etc.)
- Demonstrates a strong sense of ethics consistent with the values of a Christian education, and is admired for both their accomplishments and their personal values
- Exemplifies the best of the Ottawa University spirit and serves as a meaningful role model for current and future OU students

* A friend of the University may include anyone who has shown an abiding interest in and devotion to Ottawa University.

Form On Reverse



OUAA Form

Please select which award your nomination is for:

Distinguished Service Award

Esther Ruth Award

Outstanding Achievement Award

Nominees for Distinguished Service and the Esther Ruth awards may be alumni or friends of The University. Nominees for the Outstanding Achievement award must be graduates of Ottawa University, either from The College or one of its adult professional studies campuses. Review the criteria for the appropriate award which are contained in the criteria and guidelines.

Name of nominee:

OU Class Year (if appropriate)

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

E-mail

YOUR Name

OU Class Year (if appropriate)

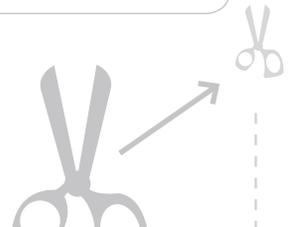
YOUR Phone

YOUR E-mail

Nominee's professional and/or personal background and suitability for this award:

Please share a brief explanation of this individual that will help the selection committee understand why he/she would be an exceptional choice for this award.

PLEASE BE SURE that each page in this nomination packet is easily legible. Mail them to:
University Advancement | Ottawa University | 1001 South Cedar Street, #16 | Ottawa, KS | 66067



Ottawa Spirit



Board of Trustees

Mission Statement

The mission of Ottawa University is to provide the highest quality liberal arts and professional education in a caring, Christ-centered community of grace which integrates faith, learning and life. The University serves students of traditional age, adult learners and organizations through undergraduate and graduate programs.

For more information about the *Ottawa Spirit* magazine please contact:

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Ottawa University Calendar of Events

Ottawa
Spirit

Spring 2008
Volume 7 Issue 3

May		
1-3	Reunion Celebration	TC
16	Commencement Ceremony, 7 p.m.	WI
17	Commencement Ceremony, 10 a.m.	KS
17	Commencement Ceremony, 2 p.m.	TC
26	University Offices Closed	UW
June		
2	Early Summer Term Begins	TC
19-21	Board of Trustees Meeting	UW
28	Graduate Summer Term Begins	APS
30	Undergraduate Summer Term Begins	APS

For the latest in Ottawa University Athletics news,
please visit:

www.ottawabraves.com

*For the most up-to-date calendar, please visit
www.ottawa.edu.*

Legend: APS – Adult and Professional Studies campuses
(Arizona, Greater Kansas City, Indiana, Wisconsin)
TC – The College campus (Ottawa, Kansas)
UW – University-wide

*NOTE: Not all campuses offer all programs.
Please contact your campus for more details.*

Ottawa University – The College
1001 South Cedar Street
Ottawa, KS 66067-3399
800-755-5200 | 785-242-5200

Ottawa University – Arizona
Phoenix and Tempe
10020 North 25th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85021
800-235-9586 | 602-371-1188

Ottawa University – Indiana
287 Quarter Master Court
Jeffersonville, IN 47130
812-280-7271

Ottawa University – Greater Kansas City
4370 West 109th Street
Suite 200
Overland Park, KS 66211
888-404-6852 | 913-266-8660

Ottawa University – Wisconsin
Brookfield and Oak Creek
245 South Executive Drive
Suite 110
Brookfield, WI 53005
866-228-4262 | 262-879-0200

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4370 West 109th Street
Suite 200
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888-404-6852 | 913-266-8602

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