

# OSURA

## News



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

June 2022

2200 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, OH 43210 | P.O. Box 14433, Columbus, OH 43214  
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## It's About the Students

By Nancy Wardwell

The members of OSURA have retired from every nook and cranny of the university – staff and faculty touching every part of the institution and its mission: service, research, teaching and learning. From time to time we need to look at our *raison d'être*: student population.

When Ohio State\* opened in 1873 with our first 24 students, two were women and they were from 11 of Ohio's counties. Tuition was free but they had to find their own room and board.

**According to the 2021 Enrollment Report, the total enrollment was 67,772 students.**

<b>53,189</b>	<b>11,278</b>	<b>3,305</b>
Undergraduate	Graduate	Professional

They were from all but four states in the United States and the top 14 countries they represented were China, India, Korea (Republic of), Taiwan, Malaysia, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Turkey, Bangladesh, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Vietnam, Indonesia, and Mexico.

*From Beth Hume, Vice Provost for Student Academic Success:*

- We enrolled the largest number of minority students in the Columbus campus freshman class in university history, with minority representation increasing to 2,196 students.
- We enrolled record numbers of Latinx, Asian and African American students at all levels on all campuses.

- First-year retention rose to 94%, and our four- and six-year graduation rates hit 70.8% and 88%, respectively — both record highs.

### POINTS OF PRIDE

Ohio State's first-year retention for the class of 2021 was 94%, well above the national average for four-year colleges and universities. Underrepresented minority students retained at very high levels: 92.7% of African American students returned for a second year as did 90.5% of Latinx students.

The cost of a university education in 2022 is staggering – far from the \$50 a quarter in 1958 when you could afford a degree by working at Kresge's! Undergraduate tuition is \$5509 per semester, plus books and fees (\$11,541 for non-resident students). If you don't live at home the rate for a 2-person room is \$4,548 per semester – a 4-person room is \$3541! Food plans are just too complicated to describe,

but suffice it to say that the cost of a plan that includes 14 meals a week is \$3541 each semester.

Already in place is the Ohio State Tuition Guarantee, which promises that tuition, housing and dining costs will not increase for each entering class of in-state residents; and textbook affordability programs that have made free and low-cost learning materials widely available in many large courses will remain – but still those expenses are staggering.

A recent EHE article in *Inspire* stated that

### 2021 Freshman Information

Total applications.....	63,138
Number admitted .....	33,247
Enrolled .....	8,350
Male/Female Ratio.....	46/54
Minority Students .....	26.3%
First Generation.....	21.2%
Ohio Residents .....	69.1%
Out of state.....	22.5%
International.....	8.3%

\*Called Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College until 1878

continued on page 2...

New  
Retirees—3

Annual  
Meeting—3

Calendar of  
Events—4

OSURA  
Spotlight—5

Fall Conference  
Program—6

Benefits  
Committee—7

### Officers

#### President

Gemma B. McLuckie

#### Vice President/President-Elect

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#### Secretary

Michelle B. Hobbs

#### Treasurer

Nancy Ingold

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Lynne M. Bonenberger  
Karen S. Bruns  
Suzanne Burge  
Shirley M. Flowers  
Darian M. Torrance

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#### Benefits

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#### Budget/Finance

Gerald H. Newsom

#### Bylaws

Marie T. Taris

#### Communications

Nancy S. Wardwell

#### Conference

Sally E. Dellinger

#### Event Planning

Cultural Arts – TBA  
Social – Elenore R. Zeller  
Travel – Alabelle Zghoul

#### Friendship

Sally E. Dellinger

#### Membership

Sandra I. Bell

#### Social

Elenore R. Zeller

### Representatives

#### Bucks for Charity Drive

David Crawford

#### Campus Campaign

Thomas L. Sweeney

#### Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee

Marilyn J. Blackwell

#### Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees

Nancy Wardwell and  
Gerald H. Newsom

#### Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Darian M. Torrance

#### State Teachers Retirement System

Gerald H. Newsom

### Historian

Raimund E. Goerler

### Emeritus Academy

William I. Ausich

### Newsletter Editor

Nancy S. Wardwell

#### OSU Foundation

OSURA Endowment Fund

Number – 605419

OSURA Fund to Combat Student

Food Insecurity – 316596

[osura.osu.edu](http://osura.osu.edu)

## FROM: The President



Hello, All,

Exciting news! Injecting spinal fluid from young mice into old mice improves memory!

This research was reported last month in the New York Times, which immediately droned on about how hard this marvelous find is to actually use on mice. And forget humans. So disappointing because I certainly could use a shot of memory juice.

Recently, I have lost a pair of glasses, the remote control for a ceiling fan, tax documents, and a list of other things

I can't remember. My absent mindedness is nothing new. I've spent a lot of time in la-la land, practically since birth. Never trust my directions, dates, or numbers. I have puzzled many receptionists when I arrived at their front desks the month before or after appointments.

But once I got to a certain age, I started to think I need to worry.

My nurse said, "Remember these words: elephant, book, jump." He later asked me to recite the words. Me, "What words?" Then I remembered! I shouted, "Jump! Jump! Jump!" He said repeating one word three times doesn't count.

"I'm losing my nouns," a friend complains. O, so true. I fumble to identify places. My fragile grasp of people's names has weakened to the point of breaking. I forget things that have happened recently (sometimes very recently).

However, I won't forget the year I've spent as president of OSURA. I so admire the colleagues who keep this organization running, their dedication and willingness to give. The phrase "time and treasure" is so right. There are so many examples. Reaching the \$100,000 goal for the OSURA Student Food Insecurity Fund. Forging ahead despite COVID's determined assault on our association's traditions. Demonstrating old retirees can definitely learn new tricks (Zoom, anyone?).

I will be around next year, aiding President Hal Noltimier and the OSURA Board in any way I can. If I see you at Lunch Bunch, Dinner Series, or the Conference, give me a break – tell me your name!

Thank you for a wonderful year,

**Gemma McLuckie**  
President of OSURA

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**It's About the Students** | continued from page 1

the main culprits for increased higher ed costs are not inflated faculty salaries or even administrative cost - it's not that the overall cost of delivering the education is higher but it has been a policy choice at the state level in Ohio to decrease the subsidy to higher education.

The fact is, Ohio is on the lower end of the national scale. According to a 2017 Pew Research study, only seven other states provide less state funding per full-time student than Ohio!

### WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Ohio State President Kristina Johnson

announced in February an initiative to allow undergraduates to earn degrees debt free in a decade. Called the Scarlet and Gray Advantage, Ohio State will raise \$800 million for student scholarships, expand job and paid internships, and lowering the cost of attendance are among possible solutions.

"This is well within our reach, and we will lead the nation, as the first university to offer a zero-debt bachelor's degree at scale," she said at her first State of the University address.

*May our reach be in our grasp!*



## Welcome New Retirees

**Linda G. Jenrette**  
University Hospital

**Sharon L. Link**  
University Hospital

**Randy Ray Nemitz**  
OCIO

**Martele Roberts Biddy**  
University Hospital

**Deborah Marie Ross**  
Ross Heart Hospital

**Gretchen Ann Whitby**  
James Cancer Hospital

**Tamra Lynn Workman**  
OCIO



## Annual Meeting



Barbie Tootle

Celebrate “A Year of Success 2021-22” with fellow members as OSURA returns with an in-person Annual Meeting! Following a business program and installation of new officers, we will introduce the team that led successful efforts to reach the \$100,000 goal for the OSURA Student Food Insecurity Fund. A favorite speaker, Barbie Tootle, will ensure the celebration will continue. Barbie has many ties to the University, including membership in OSURA! Also on the agenda, we will honor the OSURA Outstanding Award recipient. Join in the fun!

**Date:** June 16

**Time:** 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Place:** Longaberger Alumni House Grand Lounge

**Registration required:** Register at [osura.osu.edu](https://osura.osu.edu)

**Cost:** \$22

**Contact Person:** Gemma McLuckie ([mcluckiegemma@gmail.com](mailto:mcluckiegemma@gmail.com) – Executive Board)

# Calendar of Events

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### June 7 (Tuesday) Benefits Committee

**Time/Place:** 9:30 a.m.,  
Longaberger Alumni House

### June 14 (Tuesday) Board Meeting

**Time/Place:** 9:30 a.m.,  
Longaberger Alumni House

### June 22 (Wednesday) Membership Committee

**Time/Place:** 10 a.m.,  
Longaberger Alumni House

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

### June 23 (Thursday) Dinner Series

Speaker-Professor Mike Para. Since 2019 there have been over a quarter million scientific publications on COVID-19. This evolving and expanding flood of info has challenged the public, medical and scientific communities. This presentation will discuss what is understood about the virus and how it spreads, review the clinical manifestations and diagnosis and examine approaches for preventions.

**Time/Place:** 5:15 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. lecture; OSU Faculty Club  
**Cost:** \$35 (service charge included)  
**Registration Deadline:** Register at [osura.osu.edu](http://osura.osu.edu) or call 614-292-2281 by June 20  
**Arranger:** Carol Newcomb  
([newcomb.28@osu.edu](mailto:newcomb.28@osu.edu) – Dinner Series SIG)

## Book Club

Having successfully used the *You Are There* play format to “meet,” and with next year’s books chosen from the over 80 possible titles annotated in our Big Book List (providing a variety of personal reading pleasure), the OSURA Book Club is now on summer hiatus until September. We always welcome new members.

**Contact:** Lee Hill ([hill.30@osu.edu](mailto:hill.30@osu.edu) – Book Club SIG)

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### June 16 (Thursday) OSURA Annual Meeting and Celebration

Celebrate “A Year of Success 2021-22!” Following a short business program and the installation of new officers, we will introduce the team that raised \$100,000 for the Student Food Insecurity Fund. A favorite speaker, Barbie Tootle, will ensure the celebration will continue and we’ll cap it off by honoring the 2022 OSURA Outstanding Service Award recipient. Don’t miss it!

**Time:** 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Cost:** \$22; cost includes brunch

**Registration Required:** Register at [osura.osu.edu](http://osura.osu.edu)

**Contact Person:** Gemma McLuckie  
([mcluckiegemma@gmail.com](mailto:mcluckiegemma@gmail.com) – Executive Board)

### July 20 (Wednesday) Union Terminal and the Great American Ball Park & Museum Tour

Cincinnati, OH  
**Challenge Level 3**  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

We will tour Union Terminal train station, Rotunda and Cat Walk and make it to Eden Park for a box lunch. Our last stop will be a tour of the Great American Ball Park and Museum.

**Meet by:** 7:15 a.m., Tremont Center (Tremont Road, opposite Upper Arlington Library); bus leaves promptly at 7:30 a.m.  
**Return:** approximately 6:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$84; cost includes tour fees, box lunch, motor coach transportation, snacks, tips

**Registration/Refund**

**Deadline:** Register at [osura.osu.edu](http://osura.osu.edu) or call 614-292-2281 by July 13.

**Arrangers:** Jessica Pritchard and Cindy Giles  
([jjpritch6@gmail.com](mailto:jjpritch6@gmail.com) – Travel Committee)



## Registration Instructions

- 1. Registrations requiring payment:**  
Registrations can be made by going on-line to [osura.osu.edu](http://osura.osu.edu) or by calling 614-292-2281 or 1-800-762-5646. Your registration is not complete until payment is made, so have your credit card ready. Checks are no longer being accepted.
- 2. Registrations NOT requiring payment:**  
Registrations will be made through the Arranger’s email provided in the description of the event.

## CHALLENGE LEVELS

- 1 Light** – may include a few stairs.
- 2 Moderate** – may include a few sets of stairs.
- 3 Moderate +** – may include climbing many stairs and/or uneven terrain.
- 4 High** – may include lots of walking, climbing stairs, hilly walkways and/or extended weather exposure.

### September 21 (Wednesday)

### OSURA Annual Conference

See current newsletter issue detailing the sessions.







## OSURA Spotlight

### Meet **Elizabeth McPherson**, a pharmacist and clinical instructor

My career as a pharmacist and clinical instructor at The Ohio State University started in 1987 on the cancer unit of the medical center. At that time it was basically only the 10th floor of the hospital. Within a couple years I moved with the hematology/oncology patients to the shiny new James Cancer Hospital at the OSU medical center. A couple decades later I moved again to the shinier, newer The Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. So I experienced “time and change” during my 29.5 years at the university. I had the opportunity to work with some wonderful people and experience vast improvements in cancer therapy—even though they occur as baby steps.

I grew up in Baltic, Ohio, which is on the edge of Amish country in Tuscarawas County. I graduated in a class of 91 students from Garaway High School in Sugarcreek, Ohio. Along with a handful of my classmates I entered OSU feeling like a deer in the headlights (my dormitory had more residents than my home town) but enthusiastic. After graduating with a degree in pharmacy, I chose to stay in Columbus for better career options.



John McFarland and Elizabeth McPherson

Since retirement, my husband of 30 years, John McFarland ‘52, and I have traveled as much as possible (before the pandemic). The most pleasantly surprising city we have visited was Budapest, Hungary and the most exotic excursion was hiking into Komodo Island to see Komodo dragons on their own turf.

We enjoy attending all the home Buckeye football games and one or two away games each year. We volunteer with Charity Newsies twice a week and for Pelotonia on ride weekend. I have also had the eye-opening experience of serving on the board of our condominium association ever since my husband nominated me during a meeting I could not attend.

The COVID issue has kept us at home for the most part, but after being vaccinated and maintaining precautions we are feeling more comfortable to move about, engaging in outdoor activities. Soon after the pandemic was declared, we, along with a friend, purchased equipment and hired a trainer to have three times a week outdoor exercise classes which kept us sane during the lockdown, even though we have to wear thermal underwear under our gym clothes during the winter.

The first OSURA conference I attended, a month after I retired, impressed me with the quality of lectures. I happened to mention this during lunch and a program committee member sharing the table encouraged me to become involved. I have very much enjoyed helping the committee and participating in the many activities offered by OSURA. This organization is packed with interesting members.

## *In Memoriam*

**Phillip A. Adelsberger**

April 26 | Facilities Manager, 62

**William E. Bond**

April 4 | Athletics, 84

**Walter Burnside**

April 18 | ElectroScience Lab, 79

**Alix Noan Fausnaugh**

April 7 | Microbiology and OSURA, 83

**Jeff Layman**

April 20 | OSU Extension, 69

**John Mills**

March 14 | John Glenn School of Public Policy, 71

**Victor Michael Rentel**

April 14 | Education, 88

**Vincent T. Ricca**

April 11 | Engineering and OSURA, 86

**Duane Lee Rigbsy**

April 27 | OSU Extension, 62

**Nancy Jo Siclair**

April 21 | Student Admissions, 74

**Richard Albert Weaver**

May 3 | Assistant Dean of Students, 89

**Wofgang Wittkowski**

August 21, 2021 | Philosophy, 96

## Fall Conference Program | September 21, 2022

### Opening Remarks

OSU President Kristina M. Johnson

### Keynote

*"An Academic Lifecycle for the 21st Century"* – Melissa L. Gilliam, MD, MPH, Executive Vice President & Provost

Provost Gilliam will explain the goals for excellence President Johnson has established to make Ohio State the model land-grant university for the 21st century. The provost will then discuss the academic plan being developed by the Office of Academic Affairs. She will describe how the President's goals and OAA's planning efforts inform our thinking about the lifecycle of the university's faculty, students, and staff, including creating a life course approach to interacting with the institution through technology and digital innovation.

### Breakout Sessions | Group 1

**1. The James Cancer Diagnostic Center:** Raquel Reinbolt MD (Director), Dareth Gilmore APRN-CNP, Scott Rowley APRN-CNP (AP manager), will discuss the importance of early diagnosis in the treatment of cancer and the role the Diagnostic Center plays in making that happen.

**2. Transforming Central Ohio's Waste into Resources:** Kyle O'Keefe, Director of Innovation and Programs at SWACO. Creating a robust circular economy may play a pivotal role in addressing key societal issues ranging from supply-chain challenges to climate change. Kyle will discuss some of the efforts Central Ohio is undertaking to reduce waste and increase reuse and recycling efforts in order to create a more resilient community.

**3. The Changing Face of College Athletics:** Gene Smith, Senior Vice President and Wolfe Foundation Endowed Athletic Director, will share why the intercollegiate athletic model that has existed for decades is no longer sustainable. The ecosystem we serve demands change – political interests, legal issues, and changing demographics have changed, making us to get comfortable with the uncomfortable.

**4. Old Bones From A Frozen Continent:** David Elliot, Academy Professor, Earth Sciences, will discuss the digression on OSU Earth Sciences and Antarctic vertebrate fossils. Why is a dinosaur skeleton in Orton Hall?

### Breakout Sessions | Group 2

**5. The Aging Heart:** Carl V. Leier, MD, Professor Emeritus, Cardiology; Sitaramesh Emani, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine, Cardiology. Aging increases the frequency and/or the severity of most cardiac conditions. These experts will

focus on a common condition, diastolic dysfunction heart failure, and a less common, but very interesting Takotsubo (stress-induced) cardiomyopathy.

**6. Adventures in Broadcasting:** Christopher Purdy, Broadcast Manager/On-air host WOSU Public Media/Classical 101, will share the fun and drama of broadcasting through Central Ohio, from concerts presented 'live' in Carnegie Hall, the Ohio Theater and local churches and concert halls, to unexpected participation from audience members on and off mic. Trust me, this won't be dull.

**7. A Deeper Look at Tai Chi for Falls Prevention:** Sifu Mike Grigsby. As Head Instructor for the OSU Kungfu Club for 36 years, Mike has an intimate knowledge of Tai Chi and Kungfu, balance, and body mechanics. He will present some "instant" lessons to improve your balance, to prevent falls, and how to land as safely as possible.

**8. Future of the Waterman Agricultural and Natural Resources Laboratory:** Andrew "Dewey" Mann, Ph.D., Director of Waterman Agricultural and Natural Resources Laboratory, Interim Director of the Chadwick Arboretum, will share the complexity of the Waterman. Waterman serves as a core for teaching, research, and community engagement and a university hub for leading innovative science and public engagement in the food, agricultural, and environmental sciences. It is where our many partners join us to advance knowledge and industry, communicate science, and prepare future leaders. The innovation district, Waterman, the Wetlands, and Chadwick Arboretum all comprise the Columbus-based CFAES system supporting work on the grand challenges facing society.

### Lunch Program

#### Bold, Beautiful Music

We will have the pleasure of listening to Ohio State's exceptional Men's Glee Club, under the direction of Robert Ward, OSU Director of Choral Activities, and will also learn how 72 voices, each with a distinct timbre, size, and vibrato, are shaped into a formation that best enhances the piece to be sung. Nothing left to chance – every singer must have an assigned spot.

### Breakout Sessions | Group 3

**9. Searching for Habitable Worlds and Life with JWST:** Scott Gaudi, OSU Professor of Astronomy. As the James Webb Space Telescope starts sending observations back to Earth, astronomers and the public at large are anxious to see if it will find evidence of life on planets around other stars. Scott will share how astronomers try to find out the latest to answer that question.



## FROM: The Benefits Committee

### STRS News

By Jerry Newsom

The elections for STRS Board members gave a clean sweep to the three challengers: active teachers Julie Sellers and Steven Foreman and retired teacher Elizabeth Jones. It was an election with scare tactics, abundant misinformation, and dark money, which is not what usually happens in elections for board members of a retirement system. We have no way of knowing where a lot of the money came from for the campaign, or what the motivation was to provide the funds. Those opposing the more traditional Board members will control 5 of the 11 seats, very likely to make a major change in how the Board functions. In previous years, STRS had a retreat where a facilitator worked with the Board to identify strengths and weaknesses, which I found enlightening. There was a discussion of how well the Board worked together and if everyone was treated with respect, and the Board came out looking good. Should such a discussion be repeated now, I suspect the conclusion would not be nearly as positive. The facilitator emphasized the Board needed to support the staff, while providing overall supervision, and again the consensus was that this was working well. After the last STRS Board meeting, one Board member circulated a report entitled "Incompetence or Deceit?", a rather caustic criticism of two of the senior leaders of the STRS staff, ending with the statement that these leaders should resign. I'm afraid the atmosphere at earlier Board meetings, of Board and staff working together to further the interests of active and retired teachers, will be rare in the future. Problems are compounded by the external constraint of decreasing investment returns as the stock market has major declines, increasing pressure on pension systems everywhere.

I would love it if my assessment above turned out to be way too pessimistic and the Board, with its new members, restores annual COLAs for retirees without weakening the system that active teachers will inherit. Time will tell.

**10. Visiting Your Quarry Trails Metro Park:** Ryan Mader, Park Manager-Quarry Trails Metro Park, will discuss information on the area, how it all started, the activities available, and the area's wildlife and fauna. You'll also learn of its present and future development plans.

**11. A Ritchie Boy:** One Young Immigrant's Journey to America... and Back to Europe to Help the Allies Win World War II: Linda Kass, Author, will share the little-known story of the Ritchie Boys, many of them Jewish German-speaking immigrants, who worked in US Army Intelligence and helped the Allies win the Second World War. Her novel, *A Ritchie Boy*, based on her own father's early life, conveys the decade-long journey of her young protagonist's life: of 'becoming and belonging' in America—from Vienna to Camp Ritchie to the theater of war and back.

**12. Where is Ohio (and American) Politics Going?:** Herb Asher, OSU Professor Emeritus of Political Science, will share the current status of Ohio politics which has been very active. He will provide you the opportunity to ask questions that will stimulate the discussion. Be ready, he will be!

### Healthcare/Benefits Sessions

**H-13 – STRS:** This session, presented by Gary Russell, will include any changes to the members' plans for benefits or health care programs for 2023 and an update on the status of their retirement in general.

**H-14 – OPERS Funding:** This session, presented by Karen Cacciatore, will include any changes to the members' plans for benefits or health care programs for 2023 and an update on the status of their retirement in general.





**The Ohio State University Retirees Assn.  
Customer Service**  
Longaberger Alumni House  
2200 Olentangy River Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43210



## Do you have a healthy low back and neck?

You can help researchers learn how measurements of low back and neck motion can be used to track and treat patients suffering from low back and neck pain.

**You may be eligible if you:**

- ☐ Have never seen a medical provider for low back or neck pain
- ☐ Are not currently experiencing significant low back or neck pain
- ☐ Are over the age of 18

If you participate in this study, you will complete questionnaires and wear a motion monitor that will assess your back and neck. Each study session will take 40-70 minutes. You will be paid \$10 for each visit.

To learn more, contact Sarah Grim at [spinestudyinfo@osu.edu](mailto:spinestudyinfo@osu.edu) or go to [go.osu.edu/pheno-osura](http://go.osu.edu/pheno-osura) to complete a short survey.



## WELCOME & THANKS Board Officers

**Following the May elections, please join us in welcoming our new board officers and those continuing in different roles.**

President.....	Hallan C. Noltmier
Immediate past president .....	Gemma B. McLuckie
Vice president/president-elect.....	Sally E. Dellinger
Secretary .....	Pamela "PT" Thomas
Members at large .....	Mary Jo Fresch
	Paula Hook
	Darian Torrance

**We thank those who are leaving the board for their service.**

Immediate past president .....	Jerome G. Dare
Secretary .....	Michele B. Hobbs
Members at large .....	Suzanne M. Burge
	Shirley M. Flowers