



Presidential Report

PRESIDENT M. DUANE NELLIS
Emeriti Association

Leadership Updates



Dean, College of Business

- **Hugh Sherman** has announced his intent to step down as dean of Ohio University's College of Business (COB) at the end of the academic year (June 30, 2020).
- Search firm has been secured and the search committee has been formed. The executive search firm WittKieffer has been retained to lead the search efforts.



Interim Vice Provost for Enrollment Management

- **Candace Boeninger** has been named interim Vice Provost for Enrollment Management at Ohio University effective September 16, 2019.
- This search is in the position assessment phase.

General Counsel

- four candidates on campus this week

State of the University Address



STRATEGIC PATHWAYS



FEARLESSLY FIRST FRAMEWORK THEMES



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK INITIATIVES

1. Reimagine the Academic Enterprise
2. Student Success
3. Amplify Research and Scholarly Activity
4. Realize General Education Reform
5. Catalyze Strategic Enrollment Strategy
6. One OHIO Integration
7. Digital Transformation
8. Build a Dynamic Budget Model and Rebalance Budgets
9. Space Utilization and University Footprint
10. Elevate Marketing and Branding
11. Increase Alumni and Corporate Engagement

Ohio University welcomes the highest achieving class on record

The fall freshman class had an average GPA of 3.55 on a 4.0 scale. Also, 20.3 percent of the students came from the top 10 percent of their class, up from 17.6 percent last year.

The class includes the first full cohort of the OHIO Honors Program, consisting of nearly 350 students.



Strategic Emeriti Engagement

Enrollment Challenges

- College Credit Plus
- Ohio Demographic Profile
- College Going Rate

Enrollment Opportunities

- Reclaiming our “Small Town – Special Place”
- Recruiting Events
- Phone Calls
- Strategic Programmatic Information on Branding and Marketing
- National Faculty Recognitions



Rankings recognize student engagement, innovation, and value



The 100-place boost over last year's ranking was fueled by increasing scores in outcomes and student engagement.

OHIO placed 82nd out of 801 institutions with its engagement score. The score includes student engagement, student recommendations, student interactions, and subject breadth.



Ohio University is considered one of the Most Innovative Schools (tying for 77th) and Best Value Schools (tying for 122nd) in the latest rankings released by U.S. News & World Report.

OHIO recognized for national excellence in diversity for second consecutive year



Ohio University has received the 2019 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity Magazine, the second year in a row it has attained the honor.

OHIO and 94 other recipients will be featured in the November 2019 issue of INSIGHT Into Diversity Magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. **The HEED Award is presented to U.S. colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion.**

Interfaith Peace Walk promotes peace and unity as nation remembers 9/11 tragedy

The Interfaith Peace Walk is an annual event to unite people of all faith traditions and philosophical and ethical orientations for the common good.



Send Silence Packing installation



OHIO's Counseling and Psychological Services hosted Send Silence Packing installation on the Athens Campus College Green, displaying over 1,000 backpacks memorializing the students who die from suicide each year.



Through the Survivors' Lens project

"Through the Survivors' Lens" highlights the importance of listening to survivor voices as we strive to make culture change, not just at Ohio University but nationwide.

The project featured 52 photographs documenting survivors' responses to prompts such as:

- What does survivorhood look like to you?
- What did the experience of trauma look like to you?
- How does your assault or trauma still affect you?



Trial by Jury: A Case of Deportation

Ohio University alumnus and entertainment industry executive **Kyle Bowser** presented **Trial by Jury: A Case of Deportation**, as a part of the Challenging Dialogues lecture series.

The group was gathered to engage in meaningful dialogue and debate regarding immigration policy and its relationship to the elasticity of America's founding principles.



Interns in Washington, D.C.

President Nellis was pleased to visit with the impressive Ohio University students participating in the Capital Internship program and the Scripps in DC program, along with Washington Program Director Hebah Abdalla in September.



Community Symposium

On Friday, October 4 on the Athens Campus, Ohio University hosted the **Community Symposium on Opioid Interventions** as part of its ongoing effort to combat Ohio's opioid epidemic by providing experts and resources, and by creating partnerships with local and state leaders.



Collaborative research and global engagement



Three Chubu colleagues are involved with Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL).

One active collaboration already in progress is between Professor Je-Tae Woo, Professor of Biochemistry at Chubu University and OHIO's Professor Shiyong Wu, Professor of Chemistry & Biochemistry and Director of the Edison Biotechnology Institute. This collaboration focuses on the study of natural compounds for potential medicinal applications.

Presidential Global Engagement Fund

Established by the Office of the President, the Office of Global Affairs and International Studies, and the Research Division, the Presidential Global Engagement Fund (PGE Fund) aims to increase Ohio University's global engagement to advance academic excellence and innovation in regions of the world and with selected partners of strategic interest to the University.

The PGE Fund is a strategic, globally-focused initiative to encourage and leverage global creative learning, engagement, research, and education with OHIO's Fearlessly First Framework.



New Certificate Program



The Patton College of Education and the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs have partnered to offer the Education Public Policy and Leadership Certificate (EPPLC) program, an engaging yearlong online program that begins January 2020.

The EPPLC was created to facilitate greater understanding of educational public policymaking and provide professionals experience in real-world theory and practice. The program will also foster leadership and advocacy in the education public policy arena.

Rededication of Bicentennial Park art installation

Ohio University was honored to host **Maya Lin** on September 20th for the rededication of the Bicentennial Park art installation, "Input." Faculty, staff, students and Athens High School students turned out to welcome her back to Athens.



Black Alumni Reunion

Over 1,000 Ohio University graduates returned to the Athens Campus for the **2019 Black Alumni Reunion**.

Vice Chair of the Ohio University Board of Trustees and Master of Ceremonies Janelle Coleman stands for a picture with the event's Keynote Speaker and two-time Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Clarence Page.



Advancing Access



The **Ebony Bobcat Network** raised more than **\$324,000** in partnership with The OHIO Match to endow its first Urban Scholarship Fund and presented a check to the Ohio University Foundation at the 2019 Black Alumni Reunion Gala.

Establishing a legacy



The dedication of a room in Baker University Center commemorates the 100th anniversary of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Phi Chapter, the **first African-American student organization and fraternity at Ohio University.**

Gift increase of \$22 million



Alumna **Dr. Violet Patton**, who recently celebrated her 103rd birthday, increased her gift commitment to Ohio University to a total of \$64 million in support of education and the arts.

The additional \$22 million gift commitment will support the capital projects for which Patton has demonstrated unwavering commitment and passion for nearly a decade: The Patton College's facilities and the new Violet L. Patton Center for Arts and Education.

Dr. Patton and President Nellis pose for a picture taken during a May 2019 visit.

School renaming

The J. Warren McClure School of Information Telecommunication Systems has combined with the GRID Lab and changed its name to the **J. Warren McClure School of Emerging Communication Technologies**.

The first of its kind in the region, this merger allows for the expansion of faculty, staff, and student research and creative activity.



Research funding

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has awarded \$1.5 million to **Jason Trembly**, Russ Professor of Mechanical Engineering and director of the Institute for Sustainable Energy and the Environment (ISEE), to develop engineered composite decking boards from coal.

Industry partners are providing an additional \$500,000 in funding.



Appalachian Regional Commission invests in Ohio University and other partners

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) announced a multimillion-dollar investment package to expand and diversify the economy in Appalachia's coal-impacted communities across nine Appalachian states.

Ohio University and its surrounding communities will be positively impacted through:

- **\$2,500,000** ARC grant for the **Southeast Ohio Broadband Backbone** project, to install 168 miles of fiber to reach unserved and underserved areas in Athens, Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, and Vinton counties,
- **\$1,496,585** ARC grant for the **LIGHTS Inclusive project** (Leveraging Innovation Gateways and Hubs Toward Sustainability) to broaden its entrepreneurial training program to include members of the substance recovery community, and
- **\$1,235,727** ARC grant to **Rural Action Inc. in The Plains, OH** for a project to construct, promote, and curate 31 new miles of the mountain bike trail system Bailey's Trail in the Wayne National Forest.

Faculty Newsmakers

Congratulations to the OHIO Faculty Newsmaker award winners and to all faculty members who elevate the university's profile through media coverage.

Congratulations to **Dr. Larry Witmer**, Top OHIO Faculty Newsmaker!



Ohio University Kennedy Lecture Series

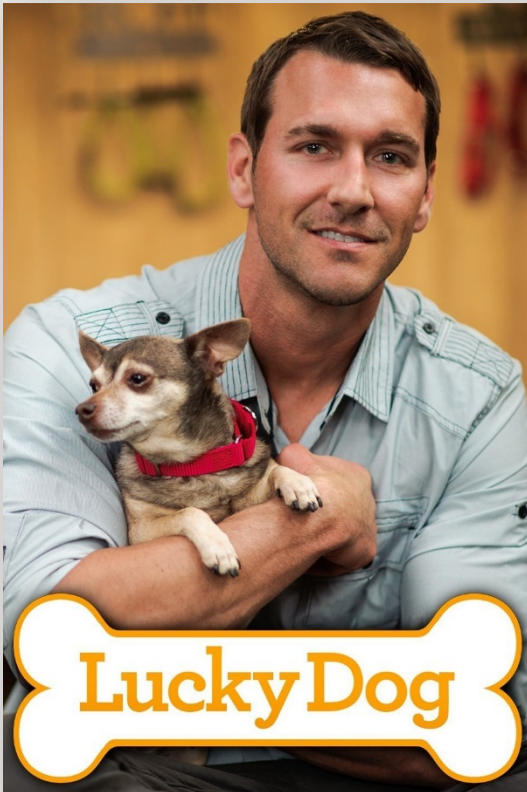
Julie Cohen was the guest lecturer at a previous Kennedy Lecture Series event and is the co-director and producer of the Oscar-nominated documentary RBG.



President Nellis hosted Ms. Cohen and a small group of guests at a reception before the lecture.

Ohio University Kennedy Lecture Series

Brandon McMillan was our most recent guest lecturer for the Kennedy Lecture Series event and is a 3-time Emmy® winning host and producer for the CBS show Lucky Dog.



President Nellis hosted Mr. McMillan and a small group of guests at a reception before the lecture.

Reimagine the Academic Enterprise

Guiding Principles for Decision-Making

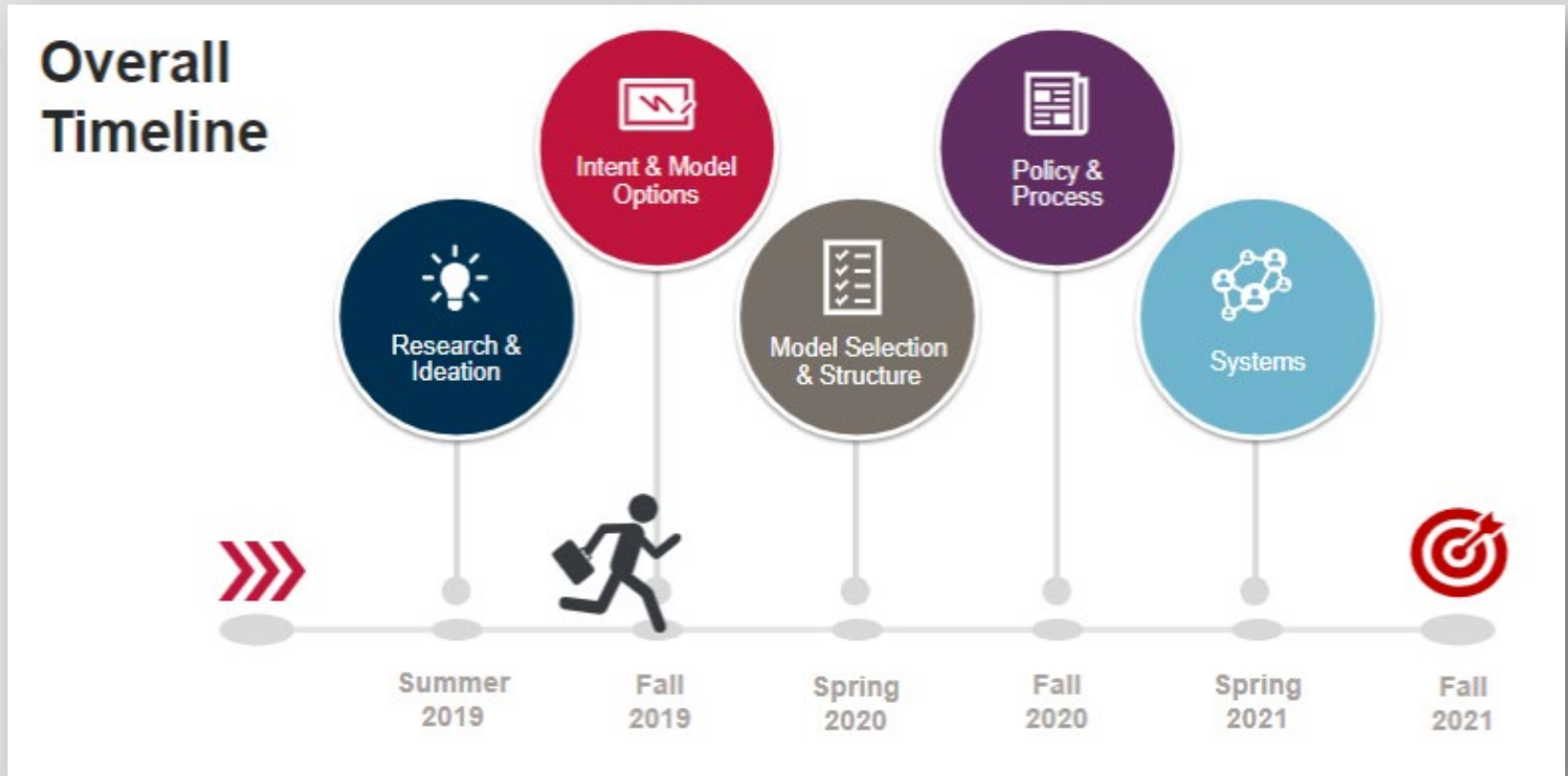
- Act with the best interests of Ohio University's core mission of teaching, research and creative activity, and service.
- Protect and prioritize student success, academic quality, and scholarly excellence.
- Embrace accountability, shared governance, and shared responsibility.
- Embrace data informed decision-making.
- Identify and address potential cross-unit impacts including consideration of all campuses and locations.
- Eradicate internal competition and duplication of courses, programs, and services.
- Streamline programs and course offerings with a focus on clear pathways to completion.
- Prioritize areas for strategic growth.
- Reshape allocation of resources to position the University for new academic endeavors.
- Take necessary near-term action in the context of longer-term institutional strategy.

Realize General Education Reform

- ✓ **Creation of Reimagining Gen Ed Task Force**
- ✓ **Creation of Advisory Group**
- ✓ **Principles for General Education Reform**
- ✓ **Proposed General Education Model(s)**
- ✓ **Poster Event (open house)**
- ✓ **Hold open discussion hours**
 - Updates & Feedback
 - Gen Ed Model: First Reading
 - Gen Ed Model: Second Reading and Vote



Realize General Education Reform



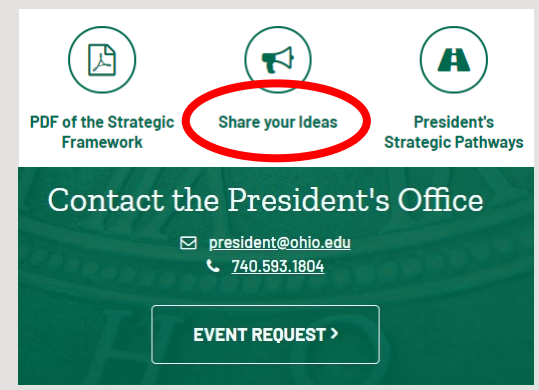
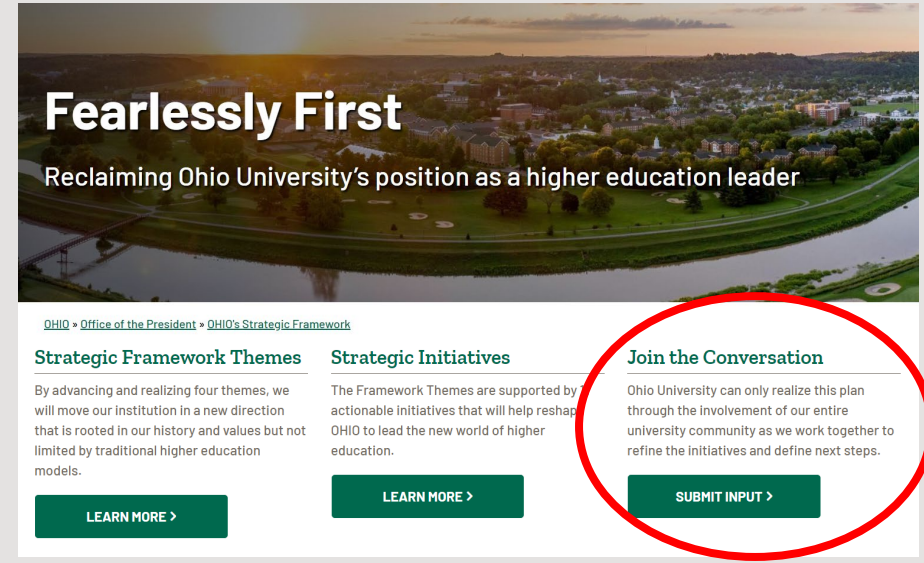
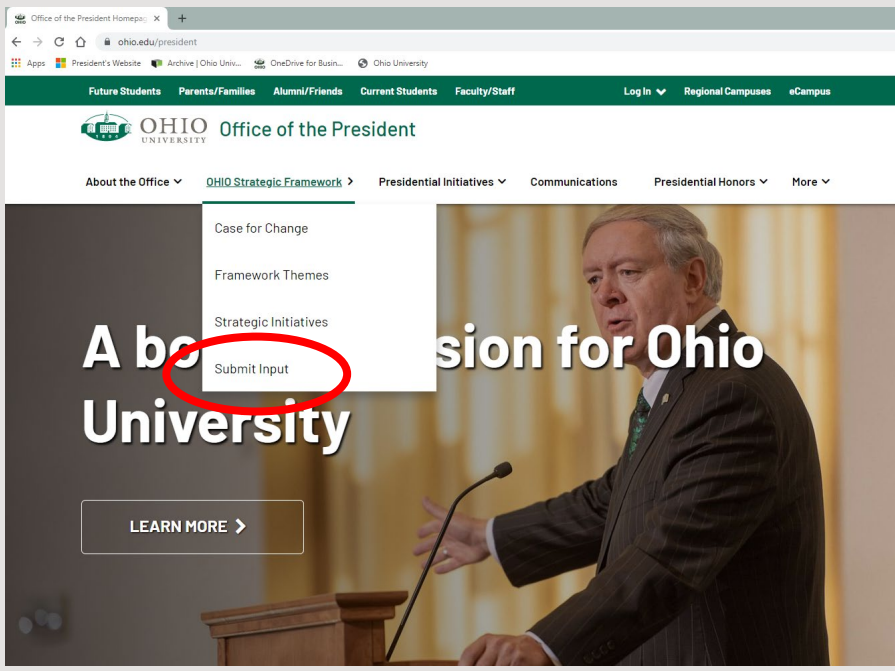
Corporate Engagement

- ✓ **Create an Office of Corporate Engagement**
- ✓ **Form Corporate Engagement Council**
 - Establish University-level Corporate Engagement Advisory Board
 - Develop Centralized “corporate-friendly” contracting function
 - Create robust assessment/referral process
 - Determine metrics to assess the progress and impact of the corporate engagement ecosystem
 - Unify technical solutions for partner and relationship data collection and analysis

Strategic Framework: Feedback from website

There are three places that navigate visitors of the President's website to provide input.

ohio.edu/president



Strategic Framework: Feedback from website

Question 1:

Who are the learners of the future, and how will we be the compelling preference as their university of choice?

- Active and collaborative learners
- Professionals looking for workforce development and certificates
- People returning to finish an incomplete degree or folks looking to change career paths altogether
- Students with a strong interest in sustainability and planet stewardship
- People who see education as a means to an end, to advance their current career
- Learners of the future will be non-traditional students who drop in and out of the university to take one or a few courses as they need them
- Students who prefer “experiential learning” over “content education”
- Emotionally intelligent people who are starved for their work to connect meaningfully to the real world

Strategic Framework: Feedback from website

Question 2:

What can we do to foster a stronger intellectual culture that nurtures and celebrates research and discovery?

- Sanction a teaching load that allows time for research
- Create faculty research clusters across campus and provide administrative support
- Foster more interdisciplinary research and creative activity, producing collaborative groups of pedagogical researchers
- Provide more undergraduate scholarships for research activities
- Create an Office of Sharing and Collaboration, or more informally an “Idea Factory,” that cultivates and protects openly shared research
- Deemphasize research funding and reward all kinds of intellectual contributions
- Shift from the predominant traditional teaching model to one that is much more student-centered, problem-based, and driven by curiosity and real-life difficulties and conditions

Strategic Framework: Feedback from website

Question 3:

The structure of the current academy is based on traditional academic departments defined by discipline and contained within colleges. What is the right model for the future?

- Reconsider space on campus, reconfiguring or rethinking teaching space options
- Expand full-time faculty and rely less on adjuncts
- Seek new degree program opportunities that take our strengths across the university system and recombine them into new packages that have relevance in today's changing world
- Offer more blended courses (hybrid of classroom instruction and online learning)
- Regardless of the structure, any redesign must maintain curriculum control, and protect academic rigor and freedom
- Organize all programs to be housed in their main departments on the Athens campus

Strategic Framework: Feedback from website

Question 4:

What are the obstacles to cross-unit collaboration in teaching, research, and engagement? And what can we do to remove those obstacles in the coming year?

- Eliminate competition between units and/or campuses
- Overlap, change, and move study and classroom areas
- Add a section to faculty P&T which encourages cross-collaboration efforts
- Foster relationships and understanding between the Athens campus and the regional campuses
- Focus post-tenure reviews more on teaching quality and service engagement
- Encourage long-term thinking and reward effort
- Consider micro-credentialing, to enable people interested in similar topics to cross paths and learn together
- Continue to raise the perceived value of arts and creative activity relative to the perceived value of sciences and college of medicine

Strategic Framework: Feedback from website

Question 5:

How do we ensure that every student has the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and abilities to succeed and thrive throughout their lifetime? How can we reimagine general education to support this?

- Use “digital badges” for Gen Ed requirements, as they are easy to understand and manage
- Focus on the classic skills of critical thinking, logic, and the ability to express reasoned thoughts verbally and through writing
- Emphasize project-based learning over testing and exam scores, especially in the younger populations
- Have one common learning management system for coursework, regardless of program or faculty, that can integrate with OHIO enterprise systems
- Provide unlimited and free tutoring and mentors to all students beyond “special populations,” send faculty progress reports for all first-year students, and require swipe access to all students for attendance purposes
- Remove grades below a “C” and only grant course credit to students who make progress, omitting transcript notation for those who do not make progress

Strategic Framework: Feedback from website

Question 6:

How do we embrace risk responsibly?

- We need to acknowledge that innovative approaches are likely to involve risk, and although some experiments may fail, much can be learned through failure
- Partnerships, collaboration, and investment
- Invest wisely through design, redesign, allocation, hiring and retiring carefully and thoughtfully
- Utilize data analytics to identify and correct redundancies and inefficiencies
- Empower the members of the OHIO community who have proven their vision, success, and devotion such as our top scholars, top teachers, and top students
- Develop and maintain digital, real, and financial resources to incubate innovation

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