

## SAVE THE DATES

October 2, 2020  
Fall Golf Outing

October 2-3, 2020  
Homecoming  
and Family Weekend

September 13, 2020  
OCU Offering



710 students graduated  
from OCU in 2020



NAIA sports including Esports



47/50  
states are represented  
in our student body



11/1 student per faculty  
member ratio maximizes  
quality of learning

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CIRCLEVILLE, OH 43113



OHIO CHRISTIAN  
UNIVERSITY

2020  
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### A WORD FROM PRESIDENT KULAGA

Greetings from YOUR school, Ohio Christian University!

As I write this, our state and country continue to battle the COVID-19 crisis. Many sectors of our economy seek to reopen amid state and national unrest over the national sin of systemic racial discrimination. It is almost impossible to use the word "unprecedented" too many times—because these are UNPRECEDENTED times. And while there is no crystal ball that allows us to see what the Fall semester will look like, we move forward with hope, because we serve a God of hope! We Praise the Lord that, despite all that 2020 has brought, Ohio Christian University was able to finish the fiscal year with a balanced budget, launch a new Master's of Education degree, and show a positive trend in traditional student numbers for the Fall.

However, we still covet your prayers as we lean into the Fall 2020 semester. There are many unknowns we must try to anticipate. How will the interruption in spring courses affect retention and Fall 2020 enrollment? Will a possible second wave of COVID-19 infections hit again in the Fall? How many students, who have chosen OCU, will be driven by family financial pressure to transfer to a lower-cost community college closer to home?

**We are in God's hands. He knows the future. We walk by faith.**

### COVID-19 UNIVERSITY RESPONSE

While the coronavirus pandemic imposed urgent financial pressure on most colleges and universities across the country, OCU was able to move our entire university to courses in an emergency remote online format within a few days. The university issued pro-rated refunds to displaced Traditional Undergraduate students for housing and meal plans totaling \$400K. The university has also issued, to date, \$667K of federal grant funding through the CARES Act directly to students. Our entire faculty and staff were able to Work-from-Home from March-May.

Since mid-March, we have been working with county and state Emergency Management Associations (EMA), public and private associations of higher education institutions, and all public health entities. The campus facilities have been shut down, are cleaned and sanitized regularly, and while we are hopeful and optimistic about face-to-face instruction in the Fall, we cannot be guaranteed what that means. Working groups are considering all options, smaller class sizes, larger classrooms, hybrid options, and looking into the implications for resident hall living and large mass gatherings. We are planning for a "normal Fall" with a "normal student move-in" experience, and we will be ready with all the appropriate equipment and protocols in place.

### TRAILBLAZER EMERGENCY TRANSITION FUND

In the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ohio Christian University sprang into action to assist our students with transitional issues and financial hardships. When campus closed during the Spring semester, OCU was immediately able to offer emergency remote learning to students.

To address additional financial hardships on our students, the Trailblazer Emergency Transition Fund was created. Donors gave more than \$8,000 to help meet student needs as they completed the Spring semester, and as they prepare to return to campus this Fall. One freshman student recalls, "I didn't have access to a computer, and I didn't know how I was going to successfully finish the semester at home." But, together, we changed a life! She continues, "When the university purchased and sent me a laptop through the Trailblazer Emergency Fund, it was such a blessing. I am now on track ... to complete all of my classes this semester. Thank you for helping me!"

Because of our collective efforts, she will be able to remain on track, complete her classes, and continue forward with her education next semester. And this is just one story of how your generosity is impacting students at Ohio Christian University. There are many more.



DR. DAVID CASE

### DR. CASE | PROFESSOR EMERITUS

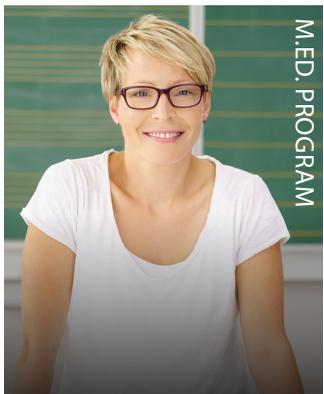
Dr. David Case has retired with the honor of Professor Emeritus. Provost, Dr. Bradford Sample had this to say when asked about Case's Professor Emeritus status, "Dr. Case has given his life's professional focus to OCU and the CCCU, and the depth of that dedication is rare and should be praised. OCU and more than two generations of students have been blessed by Dr. Case's teaching and his care for students and peers. He has agreed to continue to teach a course or two, so he won't be totally absent from OCU, but his full-time presence on campus will be missed."



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

The Lady Trailblazers finished their 19/20 RSC Tournament run with a 95-82 win against Indiana University Southeast and were named the River States Conference Champions. OCU had an uphill climb to the top, taking down two quality opponents on the road in the quarterfinals and championship. In all three tournament games, the Lady Trailblazers' margins of victory were in the double digits, as the squad averaged 93 points over that span. Perfect free-throw shooting was constant all night with OCU going 26 for 26 as a team and four OCU players scored in the double digits.



M.ED. PROGRAM

### NEW M.ED. PROGRAM LAUNCHES

Ohio Christian University has announced a new Master of Education (MEd) graduate degree. The degree is approved and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and the Ohio Department of Higher Education. Specializations include Special Needs, English as a Second Language, English, and Mathematics. "This is a degree created by teachers for teachers with real-classroom applications and relevant, current information," says Dr. Valerie Jones, School of Education Dean. "Students can also expect prayer, devotions, and the Christian Worldview in every class."



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM RATED

Our online Bachelor of Arts in Emergency & Disaster Management was recently ranked as the #2 program in the country by Intelligent.com. According to Intelligent.com, the rankings are based on an assessment of 1,604 accredited colleges and universities. Each program is evaluated based on curriculum quality, graduation rate, reputation, and post-graduate employment. Ohio Christian's Emergency & Disaster Management Programs prepare students for work in government, non-profit, and private emergency response organizations.

## HOW TO PRAY FOR OHIO CHRISTIAN

**Pray for Ohio Christian University to stay mission focused on providing a Christ-centered holistic education.**

*"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you."*

1 Corinthians 15:58a

**Pray for our students – that they would know and experience spiritual, emotional, and physical wholeness while attending.**

*"May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."* 1 Thessalonians 5:23b

**Pray for our students – that they would discover their mission for the Kingdom, whether it be in the secular marketplace of ideas, or full-time ministry.**

*"Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble."*

2 Peter 1:10

**Pray for our faculty/staff/administration – that they would know and experience a deep inner strength and wisdom as they teach and mentor our students.**

*"He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ."*

Colossians 1:28

**Pray for our board of trustees – as servant leaders – that they would know and experience a very real sense of God's leading toward the future direction of Ohio Christian.**

*"He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake."* Psalm 23:3b

**Pray that God would continue to connect OCU to people, foundations, and entities that can be a generous source of support for all our initiatives.**

*"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."*

Philippians 4:19

**Pray that God would continue to speak to the hearts of our legislators, political leaders, and judges to make decisions that do not threaten our religious freedoms and liberties as Christians, and as a Christian institution.**

*"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven."*

Matthew 18:19

**Pray for revival to sweep our country.**

*"Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?"* Psalm 85:6

## JOIN THE PRESIDENT'S GIVING CIRCLE

Make a significant impact on students at Ohio Christian University and join the President's Giving Circle by giving a minimum annual gift of \$1,000 to any OCU fund. Join the group of donors at varying levels and receive access to special publications, meetings with key University staff and deans, and perks like invitations to special events. We know you give because you believe in our mission. And, we want to thank and recognize those who give significantly and sacrificially each year to move our mission forward. Visit [www.ohiochristian.edu/presidentsgivingcircle](http://www.ohiochristian.edu/presidentsgivingcircle) for more information.