

OWENS COMMUNITY COLLEGE Foundation & Alumni



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024

In this issue:

- In Memoriam: [Former President Daniel H. Brown](#) and [Sergeant Luis Munguia](#)
- School of STEM: [New Dean, 2nd Annual Jill of All Trades, Plays Vital Role in Training Workforce](#)
- Department Announcements and Event Dates
- [Alumni Spotlight](#): Thomas R. Daniels & [Hall of Fame Nominations Now Open!](#)
- Conversations Podcast featuring [Roger Smith, Northwest Ohio Innovation Consortium](#)
- Your Foundation Support at Work: Join us in supporting the Owens Foundation!

In Memoriam: [Daniel H. Brown](#) and [Luis Munguia](#)



Former Owens President **Daniel H. Brown** poses with the Board of Trustees during a lunch in 2018. President Brown passed away on Wednesday, October 2. His obituary is posted [here](#).

Brown was a visionary who advanced the College's technology programs through partnerships and new construction and enhanced the arts and sciences programs for expanded access, leading Owens to become a comprehensive state community college. He was known for arriving early and staying late as well as for being hands-on with building projects and student initiatives. He wanted to ensure Owens helped students succeed and met workforce training needs.

"President Brown and his wife, Nancy, attended the grand opening of our Dana Center in 2021. They were so kind to me and were interested about the new advanced manufacturing training center," Owens President **Dr. Dione D. Somerville** said. "We are saddened to learn of his passing and extend our condolences to his family. President Brown leaves behind a profound and lasting legacy at Owens Community College. We will always be grateful for his vision, his commitment and his impact." [Read more](#)



Luis Munguia

Luis Munguia, proud U.S. Navy veteran and Sergeant with the Owens Department of Public Safety, passed away on Sunday, October 27. His obituary is posted [here](#).

Owens Community College extends heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and co-workers of Luis Munguia. Luis started working at Owens in June 2001. He will be truly missed.

The family will receive guests, Wednesday, November 6, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Newcomer SW Chapel, 4752 Heatherdowns Blvd., Toledo. The U.S. Navy will perform military honors Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. in the funeral home.

School of STEM Hires New Dean

Owens Community College is proud to announce the hiring of **Dr. Dan Burklo** as the new Dean for Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Burklo oversees the departments of Advanced Manufacturing, Computer and Information Systems, Life and Natural Sciences, Mathematics, Skilled Trades and Transportation Technologies.

"I am thrilled to be a part of the Owens team where the welcoming atmosphere is focused on learners, and the desire to meet students where they are and serve them is very clear," Burklo said. "It is exciting to support our region's ever-growing demand for STEM graduates, and all the opportunities this provides for our students seeking the STEM career paths." [Read more](#)



Dr. Dan Burklo

Jill of All Trades Showcases Potential of Skilled Trades to Local High School Students

The 2nd annual event was presented by Buckeye Broadband, Owens Corning, Magna, Enbridge and over 15 local sponsors!



Owens Community College hosted more than 80 students from 10 area high schools on October 24 for a day of fun and learning about skilled trades at the second annual Jill of All Trades.

"We're excited to provide this chance for young people to explore a future in the skilled trades," Owens President **Dr. Dione D. Somerville** said. "With the help of Jill of All Trades, we believe it's our mission to expose young people to potential careers and all of the things they could do with a future in the skilled trades."

Jill of All Trades was started in 2014 in Canada, providing hands-on experiences to young people in grades 9-12 and introducing them to the possibilities of a career in skilled trades. Owens was the first institution in the United States to host the event in December 2023. [Read more](#)

Owens Plays Vital Role in Training Workforce for Skilled Trades

Ohio is firmly positioned as one of the nation's leaders in manufacturing jobs and producing manufactured goods, and Owens Community College is a vital piece of that equation, training the next generation of the workforce that will continue that growth.

"Owens Community College plays a critical role in preparing individuals for the workforce by offering hands-on training and industry-relevant education in advanced manufacturing, transportation technologies and skilled trades," said **Baqer Jaber Aljabr**, Owens Assistant Dean for Advanced Manufacturing, Skilled Trades and Transportation.



Owens Community College student Sandra Glosch uses one of the robotics at the College's Department of Skilled Trades in the Dana Center.

At Owens, the Department of Advanced Manufacturing offers a variety of degree programs and certificates: associate degrees in Applied Engineering Technology, CAD Technology and Electrical/Electronics Engineering Technology, and certificates in CAD, Manufacturing Foundations, Semiconductor Technician and Water Treatment Professions. Owens also offers associate degrees and certificates in its Department of Skilled Trades and Department of Transportation Technologies.

The Dana Center at Owens is a \$9.6 million, 59,000-square foot facility dedicated to advanced manufacturing training on the Owens Toledo-area Campus. Students receive highly technical and integrated training in a modernized setting. The Dana Center includes technical labs, classrooms and faculty offices. [Read more](#)

Department Announcements and Event Dates

We would love to see you at one of the many on-campus activities available to our community! Please be sure to check details and RSVP for events which may require pre-registration due to limited seating availability.

OWENS COMMUNITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Volleyball Coach & Players Reach Career Milestones

Game Schedules Available:

All home games free to attend

[Express Men's Basketball](#)

[Express Women's Basketball](#)

Military Appreciation Night at Toledo Walleye Game

Free camo hat for first 1,200 attendees

[Walleye game tickets required](#)

Friday, Nov 8, 6pm, Huntington Center

Career & Transfer Services

"The Uniqueness of Community College Students."

Angie McGinnis, Manager for Owens Career and Transfer Services, featured on the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) website.

CULTIVATING *the* ARTS

[Walter E. Terhune Art Gallery](#)

Athena Art Society:

Fall Juried Art Exhibition

Opening Reception Nov 7, 5-7pm

2024 Faculty Art Show

Opening Reception Nov 14, 5-7pm

[Fall 2024 Student Production](#)

Dead Man's Cell Phone

November 7-10, times vary

[Creative Noises Live!](#)

24th Annual Harp Recital

Wed, Nov 13, 7pm

Something Old, Something New

Thurs, Nov 14, 7pm

Owens Community Band

Sun, Nov 17, 7:30pm

Owens Pop Ensemble Concert

Thurs, Nov 21, 2pm

[Accent on the Arts](#)

Signal Quartet

Wed, November 20, 7:30pm

Work & Play

Fall enrichment classes:

[Ceramics](#)

[Culinary](#)

[Photography](#)

[DIY Home Repairs & Renovations](#)

African American Leadership Council

"I Invest in ME" Conference

Advance *reservations* required

Thurs, Nov 14, 9am-1pm

Dental Hygiene Clinic

Dental Hygiene Symposium

November 12, Veteran's Hall

Second year Dental Hygiene students will present informative posters about current trends and topics in dentistry.

Volunteer evaluators sign-up [here](#)



[Sponsorship Opportunities Available](#)
[Catch up on BIG Read Podcasts!](#)

Alumni Spotlight

[Nominations for the 2025 Alumni Hall of Fame Awards are now open through December 31, 2024!](#)

Faculty/staff alumni are eligible for nomination. Please feel free to continue sharing your Owens alumni success updates [here!](#)

Thomas R. Daniels' success started at Owens Community College when he attended as a non-traditional student, earning his Associate of Applied Science degree in the Marketing and Sales Technology program with Highest Honors in 1993. He continued his dedicated pursuit of higher education with a Bachelor of Arts (Magna Cum Laude) from University of Toledo in 1998 and a Master's of Organizational Development from Bowling Green State University in 2006. This solid foundation for his professional endeavors and community engagement has helped him carve a niche in Northwest Ohio as a trusted coach, adviser, speaker and volunteer.

His passion lies in empowering leaders to make a significant impact in their communities, which he believes starts with recognizing everyone's innate leadership potential and desire to contribute positively.

For nearly 20 years, Daniels has remained actively engaged as a proud advocate for Owens due to the affordability and access to higher education and training offered by community colleges. As Chair of the Alumni Connections committee, his leadership was instrumental to the launch of the inaugural [Alumni Hall of Fame Awards](#), recognizing the achievement of outstanding Owens alumni who have excelled personally and professionally. Heavily involved in the community, Tom also serves on the boards of Avenues for Autism, Leadership Toledo, and as Chair of Networking for the Northwest Ohio Human Resource Association.



Thomas R. Daniels

Conversations Podcast with Dr. Dione D. Somerville

The award-winning Conversations podcast features Owens President Dr. Dione D. Somerville sitting down with community leaders each month. The Conversations podcast is available on Amazon, Apple, Google, iHeart Media, Spotify and many more podcast streaming platforms. Also check it out on the podcast's host site: [Listen Here](#) Then join the conversation - tell us about YOU by taking the four-question [Listener Survey!](#)



[Listen here](#)

In this episode, Dr. Dione D. Somerville sits down with **Roger Smith** who has been a key figure in the glass industry of Northwest Ohio for more than 20 years. His journey began with an Associate degree from Owens Community College, followed by a Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering from the University of Toledo. Roger then went on to earn his MBA from Bowling Green State University.

Roger currently serves as the President of the Northwest Ohio Innovation Consortium, an organization dedicated to fostering collaboration among private sector industry, education, workforce development and economic development in Northwest Ohio. His leadership and vision continue to make a significant impact on the region's competitiveness and technological growth. Roger's contributions to the industry are recognized by his deep knowledge of continuous improvement and innovation, as evidenced by several patents he holds in the field of packaging and manufacturing. [Listen here](#)

Your Foundation Support at Work



Thank you to the 44 employees who made a gift or pledge during the Foundation Employee Campaign in October - totaling over \$16,000 in support of students through scholarships and program enhancements!

Owens faculty and staff do so much more than contribute their time and talents. Their financial support demonstrates true dedication to the Owens mission of changing lives for the better through affordable, accessible high quality education and training.

Please consider joining them by making a gift to the scholarship or program of your choice by selecting the appropriate designation from the "I want to support" dropdown menu of the [online giving form](#).

To make an in-kind gift to the Owens Community Connections Harvest Food Pantry, Career Closet, Free Store, Garden, Apiary, or Giving Tree Holiday program, visit the [current donation wish list](#) or email connections@owens.edu.

To discuss in-kind contributions of program specific supplies or equipment, please email foundation@owens.edu.



Contact us!

foundation@owens.edu
owensalumni@owens.edu
 567-661-7100

Join the New Facebook Page to Engage Further

You asked and Owens answered - new and improved ways to engage with fellow alumni and friends!

PLEASE VISIT AND FOLLOW [OUR NEW FACEBOOK PAGE FOR ALUMNI AND FOUNDATION FRIENDS!](#)

If you like the new monthly enewsletter, just wait until you see our new and improved Facebook page - be sure to like and follow to stay up to date throughout the month and [join the conversation with other newsletter readers!](#)



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