

# SUCCESS Report

Spring 2012



OWENS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION



## Introducing Dr. Mike Bower, Sixth President of Owens Community College

Owens Community College is proud to announce that Dr. Mike Bower has been selected as the College's sixth President. He will formally assume his new position on July 1, 2012.

"The Owens Community College Foundation is delighted to welcome Dr. Mike Bower to Owens Community College and Northwest Ohio," said Tom Pounds, Chair of the Foundation Board of Directors. "We look forward to working with Dr. Bower to continue to grow the Foundation in support of our college and our students."

Dr. Bower has over seventeen years of community college experience as a faculty member and administrator in North Dakota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nebraska and Indiana. He has served as President of Lake Region State College in Devils Lake, North Dakota since July 2008.

Prior to working in higher education, Dr. Bower was employed for more than nineteen years in various leadership positions with Ford Motor Company and Thomson Consumer Electronics (formerly RCA television) in Ohio and Indiana.

For Dr. Bower's complete biography and resume, please visit [www.owens.edu/president-search](http://www.owens.edu/president-search). ■

## Foundation Raises \$170,332

The 2011 Annual Giving Campaign, A Day in the Life, set a goal of raising \$150,000 for student scholarships and program initiatives at Owens Community College. Our donors gave generously, enabling us to surpass our goal and raise \$170,332 in gifts and pledges! Thank you to all the community members, faculty and staff who gave from their hearts to make a difference in our students' lives and helped us set a new Annual Giving Campaign Record.

For more information on supporting a scholarship fund or other Foundation programs, please call Ann Savage at (567) 661-7184, e-mail [ann\\_savage@owens.edu](mailto:ann_savage@owens.edu) or visit [owens.edu/foundation](http://owens.edu/foundation).



## Why do Owens' employees give?

"Students frequently thank me, but little do they know how much I appreciate them. I learn from them every day and admire their hard work and desire to learn." — LINDA HOMOLKA, FORMER ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, MEDICAL IMAGING TECHNOLOGIES

"I enjoy hearing from our graduates and how what they learned was/is valuable to their success. Our grads make us proud!" — ROSE KUCEYESKI, INTERIM CHAIR OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

"I enjoy helping our students reach their goals by encouraging them to see the possibilities." — SHARON LIBBY, DIRECTOR, CHILD CARE SERVICES AND FIELD PLACEMENT

# Terri Leary Profile

Terri Leary is a wife, mother of five and now a college graduate. And not just any college graduate, she is an honors graduate in business management with a 3.89 GPA. Capping her career at Owens, Leary represented her graduating class as the December 2011 Commencement class speaker.

After losing her job two years ago, Leary came to Owens to earn an associate's degree in business. She took classes part time for one semester and then decided to enroll full time in August 2010. Though she wasn't sure she would fit in with her 18- and 19-year-old classmates, she learned that her classes were full of people her own age.



Leary quickly excelled in her studies, becoming an honors student and earning the right to represent Owens Community College as one of twelve finalists in the 2011 National Economics Insider Symposium Contest. One of just two community college students selected, she presented her paper on improving the economy by providing prescriptions for seniors in front of a distinguished audience in Washington, D.C.

Awarded the George D. Allesee Memorial Scholarship for the 2011-2012 academic year, Leary carried 24 credit hours during the fall semester in order to graduate in December.

"It was a comfort to receive the scholarship. It really came in handy as I worked to pay for my books, tuition and other expenses this last semester," said Leary.

Leary plans to take additional courses at Owens during the Spring 2012 semester before transferring to Bowling Green State University's School of Business in the fall to pursue a bachelor's degree. Her ultimate academic goal is to earn a master's degree and her goal in life is to make a difference by helping others. She has been nominated for a 2012 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, a national scholarship that honors excellence by supporting outstanding community college students with financial need as they transfer to and complete their bachelor's degrees at four-year colleges and universities. A maximum of 50 community college transfer students each year are selected for the scholarship, with each scholar eligible for up to \$30,000 annually. ■



# The *Future* of Nursing

## **\$1.4 Million Grant Funds Health Programs**

In Fall 2011, Owens received a \$1.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor for targeted training and workforce development to help dislocated workers seeking to move into health care professions. The three-year grant will allow the College to focus its efforts on academic curriculum and professional development, advising, experiential learning resources and employment services. One highlight of the program is an Owens career services representative providing “on-site” career and educational assessment advice to incumbent health professions workers at area health care organizations, such as ProMedica.

“It is our responsibility and our mission to prepare our students to become caring and compassionate health care professionals, skilled in providing excellent care and service in an ever-changing and diverse healthcare environment,” said Dawn Wetmore, Dean of the School of Nursing.

Through a Department of Education Carl D. Perkins grant Owens has purchased two Med Dispense systems, new IV pumps, PCA pumps, wireless cameras and microphones as well as i-clickers to provide evaluation/feedback for the classroom, and a complete curriculum redesign.

## Owens Partners with Lourdes

Also in Fall 2011, the School began a new partnership with Lourdes University. Lourdes' students, studying for bachelor's of science degrees in nursing, are now using Owens' Human Patient Simulator labs. Many of Owens' RN graduates go on to study at Lourdes to pursue bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing. The new partnership allowed 39 students and nine faculty to rotate through the labs, participating in a variety of patient care scenarios. The program was expanded in 2012 to allow for more students and faculty from Lourdes to gain additional hands-on experience.

"We are very grateful to Owens Nursing and the Simulation Lab staff for the opportunity to experience the high-fidelity simulation," said Mary Anne Kubat, Associate Chair, Undergraduate Clinical Education in the College of Nursing at Lourdes.

"Our students became more comfortable and confident with each successive scenario," Kubat explained, "and our instructors got immediate feedback that they have used to improve and enhance their teaching methods and the overall clinical experience for our students."

The School's recent move allowed this partnership to take place. Heritage Hall, located on the Toledo-area Campus, provides students with realistic learning opportunities in a hospital setting. It includes a centralized nurse's station, a 2 West, 2 East, an ICU and a Peds/OB Unit in addition to other state-of-the-art

technology and equipment.

The nursing lab on the Findlay-area Campus has also received upgraded equipment, including a brand-new Human Patient Simulator (HPS).

Owens Community College's registered nursing program has provided highly qualified health care professionals to area acute care agencies, physician offices, long-term care agencies and outpatient ambulatory for more than 40 years. Today, in addition to the registered nursing program, the School of Nursing offers associate's degrees through a licensed practical nurse to RN progression program, a paramedic to RN bridge program, and a medical assistant program as well as certificates in practical nursing and nurse's assistant (STNA) in Toledo and Findlay. ■





# Foundation Aids Retention Efforts

The mission of Owens Community College is to serve our students and our communities and to promote student success.

Initiatives that increase course completion and graduation rates, or retention, is one of the ways the College promotes success.

The Owens Community College Foundation supports student retention with student scholarships, as well as retention initiatives funded by grant dollars that flow through the Foundation. Recently grants have supported major retention efforts focused on cohort groups, advising and academic readiness support.

The College received \$1.68 million in grant dollars from the U.S. Department of Education over the last five years to implement a comprehensive retention effort aimed at students enrolled in their first 30 credit hours. Initiatives included a first-year experience (FYE) course; a mentoring program; and a supplemental instruction program. Research has shown that each resulted in enhanced course completion rates. The grant laid the groundwork for a series of other retention-related initiatives, including:

- The Bridge to Success Program – a summer program that introduces students to college life and the resources at Owens. Many Bridge students enroll thanks to the Foundation's Success Program, which bridges the gap between the cost of tuition and fees and the amount of federal grant aid they receive.

- Project DEgree – a learning community which helps developmental students graduate in three years or less.

Based on the experience gained through these programs, the College applied for and was awarded two significant grants in Fall 2011.

The College, in partnership with Toledo Public Schools, will use a \$325,000 grant from the Gateway to College National Network, to provide academic and support services to high school dropouts. In addition, Campus Compact awarded a \$175,000 grant to expand and enhance the College's peer advocate program focused on providing support services to at-risk students. The grant also includes a service learning component for students and peers.



Focused on supporting College initiatives that champion student success, the Foundation is committed to continue to do its part by attracting funding for student retention initiatives. ■

# The Grainger Foundation Donates \$10,000 for Scholarship and Equipment

The Grainger Foundation donated \$10,000 to the Owens Community College Foundation in July 2011 to enhance the new Alternative Energy and Sustainable Systems Technology Program at Owens Community College. This cutting-edge degree program provides students with the opportunity to receive hands-on experiential learning using many of the College's state-of-the-art academic resources specific to solar thermal power, wind power and photovoltaic power.

The donation from the Grainger Foundation is being used to fund 16 technical education scholarships for the 2011-2012 academic year as well as the purchase of tools and equipment for the program's new laboratories on the College's Toledo-area and Findlay-area campuses.

"The School of Technology is extremely appreciative to The Grainger Foundation and their commitment to the Alternative Energy and Sustainable Systems Technology Program," said Randy Wharton, Dean of the School of Technology.

Wharton explained that the laboratories play a crucial role in supporting the Alternative Energy and Sustainable Systems Technology Program, providing invaluable hands-on experience to students who intend to embark on a new career in installation and/or maintenance repair of wind turbines, solar cell arrays and a variety of other alternative energy systems.

"Owens Community College is delighted to partner with The Grainger Foundation and extend this new scholarship opportunity to our students," said Ann Savage, Owens Executive Director

of College Development and Executive Director of the Owens Community College Foundation.

Robert Hoagland, Branch Manager of W.W. Grainger Inc.'s Perrysburg location recommended the donation. Grainger has been a part of the Perrysburg business community for more than 75 years as the leading broad line supplier of maintenance, repair and operating products. The Grainger Foundation, an independent, private foundation based in Lake Forest, Ill., was established in 1949 by William W. Grainger, founder of W.W. Grainger Inc.

"We are proud to recommend the programs offered by Owens Community College Foundation," said Hoagland. "We understand the need for strong technical education programs at Owens Community College." ■





## New Members of the Board of Directors

In 2011, the Foundation Board of Directors welcomed several new members dedicated to serving their communities by supporting higher education and life-long learning, including:

**Linda J. Ewing**

Vice President, Community Affairs, Fifth  
Third Bank

**Sharon Gigandet**

Educational Service Representative,  
Medical Mutual of Ohio

**Louise A. Jackson**

Partner, Spengler Nathanson

**Anthony N. Justice**

Vice President, Human Resources,  
Composites Business Group, Owens  
Corning

**Katherine T. Kreuchauf**

President, The Findlay-Hancock County  
Community Foundation

**Larry G. McDougale**

Owens Community College, Retired