



## **REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES – November 3, 2021 – Exhibit No. 8**

Dione D. Somerville, Ed.D., President

Denise Smith, Ph.D., Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs/CAO

Jeff Ganues, Vice President, Business Affairs/CFO

Amy Giordano, Vice President, Enrollment Management and Student Services

Lisa Nagel, Vice President, Administration

### *VISION*

*As the premier two-year college in northwest Ohio, Owens Community College will be the first choice for students seeking career credentials and university transfer, and will be recognized as an indispensable partner for businesses, educational institutions and community organizations.*

### **ACCREDITATION(S)**

Early Childhood Education Technology program participated in the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) virtual accreditation site visit, October 24-27. During the site visit, a team of peer reviewers from NAEYC had a virtual tour of campus, and met with faculty, students, alumni, administration, and community stakeholders regarding the program's ability to meet the rigorous NAEYC accreditation standards. The self-study, including site visit, takes place every seven years during the reaccreditation process.

### **PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES**

The inaugural cohort of the Child Development Associate (CDA) certificate program to an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education Program was kicked off with an orientation. The innovative program, in partnership with the YWCA of Northwest Ohio, has a goal of breaking down barriers for students seeking to enter the early childhood education profession through the Owens certificate program with the YWCA. The students in the cohort are paired with the Owens Aspire Program to provide support in critical areas of student development, such as Math and English. The collaboration with Aspire lets students take content classes and college-preparation classes. The Ohio Early Childhood Education Summit featured the unique program demonstrating Ohio's model for advancing articulation (<https://youtu.be/KtXS92tsfIU>). Additionally Owens faculty and students joined the Summit's interactive presentations and on-demand sessions with early childhood professionals from across Ohio.

All GOV111, GOV205, and PSY220 classes will use free, open educational resources beginning Spring Semester 2022, to assist with making classes more affordable for students. PSY101 classes began using free, open educational resources, Fall Semester 2021.

## PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES ~ *Continued*

The College was designated as an Ohio Cyber Range Institute Regional Programming Center. As such, this partnership will “*support and deliver of programming activities related to the education, workforce, and economic development missions of the Ohio Cyber Range.*” According to the Institute, there are 15 organizations designated as a regional programming center. The College offered its first courses in Spring Semester 2021, which were free for the public and focused on basic security for electronic devices, such as phones, ipads, and tablets.



## STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2022

### **GOAL 1: Increase enrollment, completion and student success**

There were a total of 160 degrees and 565 certificates awarded for Summer 2021. These numbers are higher than previous summer semesters because of a dedicated outreach that was conducted.

The annual Open House was held on October 11. Prospective students and their families learned about academic programs, support services, clubs, sports, and organizations. Participants were able to receive assistance with the application and filling out the FAFSA and take a campus tour. The university Express partners were on hand to discuss the seamless pathways those programs offer. A new offering this year was Selective Health Admissions Information Sessions. Prospective students had the opportunity to learn about the process of being evaluated for our selective health programs. The Toledo-area campus had 185 guests and the Findlay-area campus had 17 guests.

Marketing created a series of advertising assets in-house to promote the Open House held at both campus locations Monday, October 11. The featured asset was a 15-second TV/digital commercial and a complementary 30-second radio/audio commercial. These commercials were written, storyboarded, shot and edited in-house by staff. Professional voice talent was secured. Other assets included a website, postcard, social media posts and a news release.

*Video commercial:* <https://youtu.be/kEuKPA2kJ18>



*Digital ad:*

To further strengthen the relationship between Owens and Penta Career Center, the Admissions office coordinated Owens Week at Penta. During this week, faculty in a variety of academic departments visited a class at Penta and served as a guest lecturer. Faculty in health, teacher education, business, and IT participated in the inaugural event. The goal of these visits to develop the relationship between the students and the Owens professors early so Owens becomes a natural choice for the students upon high school graduation.

Admissions coordinated Expo Days in September and October for programs: Nursing and Health Professions, Technical Arts, Culinary and Hospitality, Public Safety, and Skilled Trades. A November 1 Expo Day will be held Penta Career Center nursing and health students. During these visits, prospective students can tour our facilities, speak to faculty and staff, observe hands-on demonstrations, and enjoy lunch on campus.

Testing Services administered 73 onsite Accuplacer Exams for incoming students. Three hundred and thirty-eight tests were taken from various high schools and career center students who wish to participate in Owens' College Credit Plus Program. In addition, 49 exams were given to First Solar Employees to test eligibility for the Industrial Mechanic Partnership program.

The School of Business, Hospitality Management and Public Safety's OPOTA (Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy) Police Academy held one of its two graduation ceremonies in September. The ceremony included Sylvania Police Chief Rick Schnoor. The 18 graduates who took the exam all passed with grades ranging from 97.5 percent to 79 percent, and a mean of 90.14 percent continuing the Academy's high pass rate and overall high score averages.

Owens chairs and deans were on the road to showcase Owens programs, certificates and job market data to prospective students:

- Transportation Technologies - to more than 160 students at Clay High School, Archbold High School, Sentinel Vocational Center (Tiffin), Careerline Tech Center (Grand Rapids, MI), and Tri-Rivers Career Center (Marion).
- School of Nursing and Health Professions – to 140 students at Penta Career Center. Program Chairs Suellen Barnum (Magnetic Resonance Imaging), Christine Smith (Radiography), and Julie Posey (Sonography) presented at Penta Career Center, “A Day in the Life of a Medical Imaging Student” to both juniors and seniors in Medical Technologies programs.
- Health Information Technology– to students at Millstream Career Center in Findlay and Penta Career Center to promote the Health Information Technology Program and Medical Coding Certificate.

2022-2023 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) was made available to students on October 1. Student Financial Services will be promoting FAFSA awareness and the importance of completion of the application through the following:

- In-person Owens FAFSA Workshops, with outreach to high school guidance counselors to share information.
- Financial Aid Nights at local high schools. These nights generally include a small presentation followed by a FAFSA Workshop.
- 1 to 2 social media posts each week using short clip videos created by Federal Student Aid.

It is important to educate students and breakdown the barriers that many of our students are met with when completing the FAFSA. This will essentially help students to be financial prepared for when they start their 2022-2023 academic year.

Student Financial Services Advisors worked on a financial aid ‘Mid-Term Tracking Requirement’ phone outreach, which included 876 students currently enrolled in Fall 2021 who have submitted a FAFSA, but their account reflected unsatisfied financial aid requirements. It is important to note, these are students who were not dropped for non-payment. The students in this outreach were those who have not fulfilled all financial aid requirements to allow for aid to disburse. This outreach offers a reminder of the unsatisfied financial aid requirements, and places emphasis on the importance of getting the requirements completed should the student wish to obtain financial aid for the semester.

### **GOAL 2: Improve and enhance the student experience**

Multiple college offices are in the process of implementing the Cadence Mongoose texting platform as an additional means of communication to students. Fifteen student facing offices on campus will have the access to Mongoose to send one-on-one text messages, all campus text messages and messages to certain segments of the student population.

Counseling Services hosted 8 student mental health screening tabling events in honor of September’s Suicide Prevention Awareness month on general mental health, suicide prevention, warning signs and protective factors, gather information through brochures and stress balls, and schedule appointments with the Counseling Center. Counseling Services also displayed the Pinwheels for Prevention project on both campuses. This project allowed students, faculty, and staff to place a purple pinwheel in the ground in memory of a loved one lost to suicide, or in solidarity of mental health awareness and suicide prevention.

Owens Outcomm Student Media Center students assisted in the September 17 presentation of *Athleticon* Fall 2021. This was a collaboration between students in Broadcasting, Visual Communications, Music Business and Commercial Photography with the Owens Athletics program. Students utilized technical skills in a practical setting by capturing Owens student athletes for print, broadcast and/or digital distribution. The hands-on opportunity provided insight and work-experience for such responsibilities of a creative agency, capturing student athletes for print, broadcast and/or digital distribution. Students actively problem-solved technical issues, athlete availability, and timing issues to keep the event moving forward and accomplish a successful capture of the student athletes.

Dental Hygiene second-year students provided free dental care for children in celebration of Give Kids A Smile and Dental Hygiene month. Over 50 children were scheduled for dental cleanings, x-rays, fluoride treatment and dental sealants. Kimberly Moore, Instructor, was featured on Channel 11 WTOL News to promote Give Kids A Smile. <https://youtu.be/2OGySSPzuku>

Owens Library hosted its first Human Library. The Human Library Organization is a worldwide organization that seeks to break stereotypes and biases and asks people to “unjudge” others. It was started in Denmark in 2000. Humans are the “books” and readers “check out” a book on a topic that they may be interested in or know nothing about. The following book titles were checked out during the Owens Human Library: Gender Identity, Single Mom, ADD and Anxiety, Finding Happiness through Art, Invisibly Disabled, Fitting In, Eating Disorder and From Foster Care to Adoption.

Humanities department launched the 2021-22 Big Read: *How We Fight for Our Lives* by Saeed Jones. The goal for the Big Read is to bring awareness of different perspectives through books and related activities on campus and in the community. The kick off included Andrew Erickson, Professor, Philosophy, and Steve Ross, Professor, Psychology, presentation on “Confronting Biases.” Additionally, the Owens Community College Radio will feature weekly, Jen Hazel, Professor, English, and Jane Berger, Director of Library Services, talk about The Big Read on their radio show, “Let’s Talk Big with Jane and Jen.”

Kathy Schnapp, LSW, OCPC, Prevention Education Provider from Harbor/Lighthouse/The Central Community Health Board presented in Dr. Tiffany Ludwig’s NUR 201 nursing lecture on the current opioid crisis in Northwest Ohio. She provided students with real world experiences related to caring for patients in the community setting. Channel 13 news was on campus to film part of Ms. Schnapp’s presentation and also interviewed Professor Jennifer Mier, MSN, RN about providing resources to help guide care the students provide to patients with addictions.

**First Generation College Student Celebration: There is POWER in OUR Voice** will take place for Owens “first gen” students and student advocates, November 1-8. It is a collaboration with TRIO Student Support Services, Academic Advising, Career/Transfer Services, Center for Campus and Community Connections, Counseling Services, Disability Resource Center, Fast Track Program, Library, OutComm Student Media Center, and Veterans Services. First Generation College Student Day is celebrated nationally on November 8, to honor the anniversary of the signing of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965. HEA was intended to help level a playing field that for too long had been weighed against Americans from minority and low-income backgrounds

Link: <https://www.owens.edu/trio/firstgen/>



**GOAL 3: Develop workforce and labor market outcomes**

Vascular Sonography program obtained ProMedica Monroe Regional Hospital and Tiffin Mercy Hospital as clinical affiliates. These locations will bring additional educational opportunities to vascular sonography students, as well as additional job placement opportunities.

#### **GOAL 4: Cultivate community image and advancement**

Department of Teacher Education and Human Services sponsored the October 8 virtual EC3 Early Childhood Education Forum, entitled *Rethinking Readiness: From Child to Community*, for early childhood education professionals and students from all across the region. The keynote speaker was the Rev. John Jones, President of HOPE Toledo, who spoke on: *Equity in Education: A Comprehensive, Community-Based Approach to Early Care and Education*.

#### **GOAL 5: Improve college culture and quality of life**

##### **Recognitions of Students, Faculty and Staff**

- **Jordyn Rife**, second year Vascular Sonography student, was chosen as the 2022 Society of Vascular Ultrasound Student Director. There is only one student chosen nationwide following an application and interview process. She will be a full-voting member of the Society of Vascular Ultrasound Board for the 2022 calendar year. She will succeed the 2021 Student Director who was an Owens Community College student who recently graduated.
- **Gargie Pathak**, Owens graduate and Adjunct Faculty, Therapeutic Services Department, was honored at the 2021 Ohio Occupational Therapy Association annual conference in Dublin, Ohio as the Occupational Therapy Student of the Year. Ms. Pathak is completing her doctorate in Occupational Therapy at the University of Findlay.
- **Russell Bodi**, Professor of English, hosted the October 14-October 16 Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference at the College. There was an authentic Shakespeare Era meal prepared by the students in the Culinary Arts Program.
- **Skytha Fleming**, M. Ed., RHIA, Health Information Technology and Medical Coding Certificate Chair, and **Wenona Pryor-Williams**, College and Career Readiness Center Office Manager, will serve as the joint advisors for the new Black Student Union.
- **Simone Spruce**, Adjunct Faculty, Fine Art, will be featured as an Artist-in-Residence for Unbounded Artist Development Community, LLC. *Out of the Dark into the Light: It's Raw!* exhibit from October 9-October 30. Through a grant with the Ohio Arts Council, Simone Spruce will be an Artist-in-Residence working with conservation organizations on the Oak Openings region and habitat to create a temporary installation from September-May 2022.
- **Kevin Schroeder**, Professor, Fine Art, work is featured in the following exhibits: *Lore Degenstein Gallery's 12th Annual Figurative Drawing and Painting, Exhibition*, Lore Degenstein Gallery Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA; *14th Annual Contemporary Figurative Show*, Hilliard Gallery, Kansas City, MO; *Southwest Artists Inc., Small Works 2021 National Exhibition*, Mena Art Gallery, Mena, AR.
- **Robert Ticherich**, Associate Professor and percussionist, performed with the True North Chorale and Chamber Orchestra in a memorial concert entitled *We Remember*, in honor of 9/11 in Avon Lake, Ohio.

**GOAL 6: Build financial strength and capacity**

Office of Financial Aid was notified of the FY 2018 Cohort Default Rate on September 27. Along with the help of EdFinancial Owens has been able to decrease the FY 2018 rate to 11.0%. The following is the College’s improved final cohort default rates over time:

- FY 2011: 32%
- FY 2012: 26.3%
- FY 2013: 22.5%
- FY 2014: 24.2%
- FY 2015: 18.6%
- FY 2016: 17.8%
- FY 2017: 15.2%
- FY 2018: 11.0%

It is important to mention that since March 2020 there has been a pause (National Forbearance) on student loan repayment, interest, and collections that is due to expire on January 31, 2022.

Looking ahead to the FY 2019 cohort, Owens current rate at the end of August 2021 was 3.06%. The cohort officially closed on September 30, 2021 and the Office of Financial Aid will be notified of the draft rate in February 2022. The FY 2019 rate will only include loans that defaulted prior to March 13, 2020, resulting in a much lower rate than FY 2018 due to the pause for essentially 18 months of the 3-year monitoring period. The institutions FY 2021 final cohort rate will not be published until September 2024, the outcome over the next few years will be skewed rates. The partnership with EdFinancial will continue, the investment the College is making right now in default prevention will help our institution end in a better position in terms of delinquencies post pandemic.

Marketing’s Erin Holmberg, Creative Manager, concepted and designed the Dana Center Donor Wall, which was installed for the October 6 Dana Center Grand Opening. Marketing worked with local vendor 2Scale for manufacturing and fulfillment on this Foundation project.

