

Wright State

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



Green and A Golden Anniversary

Snapshots of
our first 50 years

FALL 2017





wright.edu/50

Explore Wright State University's first half-century in depth on our 50th Anniversary website. Scroll through the interactive timeline, browse historical photos, and submit your own 50-word Raider story.

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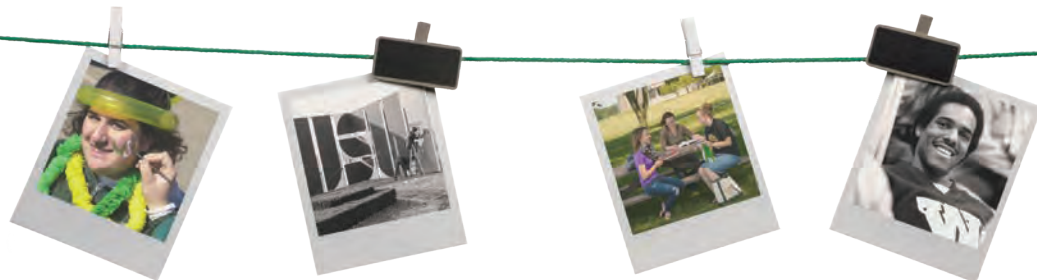
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Wright State

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



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Wright State University has a robust social media network with nearly 150,000 connections. The only thing missing? You!

Connect with us and share your perspective.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is the right time to be at Wright State.

GREETINGS!

Welcome to this issue of the *Wright State University Magazine*.

I must first begin by saying that this is no ordinary issue of the magazine. This special commemorative issue celebrates an incredibly important milestone in our history—Wright State University's 50th anniversary.

I am honored and humbled to begin my tenure as Wright State University's seventh president during our 50th anniversary year. What an extraordinary time to be at Wright State! There is much to celebrate over our last 50 years and even more to look forward to in our next half-century.

Part of what attracted me to the presidency at Wright State was your long legacy of excellence. As your president, I am committed to focusing on excellence as we move boldly together into our next 50 years.

I know that excellence abounds throughout Wright State. We see excellence in our research. Our world-class fine and performing arts. Our commitment to serving the needs of the region, state, and beyond. Most of all, we see excellence in our faculty, our staff, our students, and our alumni.

Excellence will be a guiding force as we move forward as a university and craft a comprehensive strategic plan. Over the



next several months, I will be focusing much of my time and energy on campus conversation. Please bear with me as this will be a lengthy and time-consuming process—and an important investment in our people—as I visit various colleges, departments, and units across our vibrant campus.

As well, I look forward to venturing beyond our campus and region to meet our alumni, friends, and partners throughout the state and nation. I want to learn what you're passionate about. To discover your hopes and dreams and what you envision for Wright State's next 50 years.

Everyone I have met so far—our faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community partners—has been so welcoming to me and my family. I look forward to meeting many more of you in the months and years to come. I can't wait to hear your stories about how Wright State has made a difference in your lives.

Until then, please enjoy this special issue commemorating the 50th anniversary of Wright State University.

Take a trip down memory lane through historical photos, fun stories, and firsthand accounts of the last five decades. I hope these words and images will bring back many happy memories of this great university and make you even more excited about what our future has in store.

Happy 50th anniversary, Wright State!

Warmest regards,

Cheryl B. Schrader

Cheryl B. Schrader, Ph.D.
President

Around the Quad



In May, Wright State University hosted the **Science Olympiad National Tournament** for the second time in four years. Middle and high school students from around the country represented their states at the highest level of academic achievement in science, technology, engineering, and math.

The weekend featured intense competition with 120 of the best Science Olympiad teams in the nation (and one global ambassador team from Japan) striving for honors in events like Electric Vehicle, Disease Detectives, and Hovercraft. Each of the 46 events required an in-depth understanding of rigorous science content, teamwork, and real-world problem solving. More than 5,000 students, educators, and parents came to campus for the tournament—pumping an estimated \$1.7 million into the local economy.



Student creates nationally recognized documentary

Controversial school “fat letters” and body mass index screenings were recently thrown into the spotlight thanks to a nationally recognized documentary film created by Bailey Webber, a mass communication major at Wright State University.

Webber’s documentary *The Student Body* provides an inside look into the decision-making process by lawmakers and health experts about information provided to students about their BMI score from screenings conducted at schools.

Starting in high school, Webber worked for more than three years on the project with her father, who is a documentary filmmaker. *The Student Body* is available on DVD, iTunes, Amazon, Netflix, and many cable, satellite, and digital platforms.

“*The Student Body* is fun and upbeat despite the heavy content,” Webber said. “I want students to be able to feel inspired and to know that their voice does matter and that one person can make a change. I learned that, and as you see in the film, I progressed.”

The documentary has been shown on Capitol Hill, the U.S. Senate, the Regal cinema at Times Square, and other locations, including Wright State.



New academic leadership

Wright State has named a new dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and interim deans in the Raj Soin College of Business and the Wright State University–Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health.

Linda Caron, Ph.D., is the new dean of liberal arts. Caron had served as associate dean since 2009 and as interim dean in 2012. She arrived at Wright State in 1988 as an assistant professor in the Department of Art and Art History and later served as assistant chair, associate professor, chair, and full professor. At Wright State, Caron oversaw the \$30 million modernization and expansion of the Creative Arts Center and conceived and wrote the proposal for CELIA, Collaborative Education, Leadership, and Innovation in the Arts, which has been designated an Ohio Center of Excellence. Caron was also co-founder of *ArtsGala*, an annual evening of top-notch entertainment and activities showcasing student talent. Since it started in 2000, *ArtsGala* has grown to attract 900 patrons and raised more than \$2.2 million in scholarships for fine- and performing-arts students.



Tom Traynor, Ph.D., was named the interim dean of the Raj Soin College of Business. As the associate dean for graduate studies and executive education, Traynor facilitated the continued development of the college's five master's degree programs, executive education programs, international education, as well as regional business and economic outreach. Traynor joined Wright State's faculty in 1988 and has been a professor of economics since 2003. He was the chair of the Department of Economics from 1998 to 2001 and 2010 to 2016.



Deborah L. Ulrich, Ph.D., RN, was named the interim dean of the College of Nursing and Health. As associate dean for undergraduate programs at Wright State, Ulrich was responsible for the traditional BSN, RN-to-BSN, and second-degree baccalaureate programs. She was also responsible for hiring and mentoring undergraduate nursing faculty and adjunct nursing faculty. In addition, she facilitated Board of Nursing and regional accreditation of undergraduate nursing programs. Ulrich was an assistant professor of nursing at Wright State from 1981 to 1988 and an associate professor and professor of nursing at Miami University from 1988 to 2005. She was director of nursing education at RETS College in Centerville from 2005 to 2006 and dean of nursing programs at Hondros College of Nursing in Westerville from 2006 to 2011.



New VP of Finance and Operations, AVP of International Affairs

Walter J. Branson was named vice president of finance and operations and chief business officer in a move aimed at putting an essential piece in place to ensure financial sustainability and increased budgetary and fiscal governance for the university. Branson comes from Missouri University of Science and Technology, where he had held a similar position since 2013. He joined Wright State September 11. At Wright State he is overseeing budgeting, planning, internal audit, human resources, business operations, and environmental management functions, as well as the campus grounds, maintenance, physical plant operations, and university police.



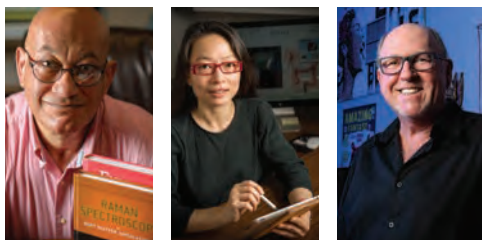
William (Bill) A. Holmes III, executive director of international affairs at Central Michigan University, was named associate vice president for international affairs at Wright State. He joined Wright State August 14. Under Holmes' leadership, Central Michigan increased study abroad participation by 5 percent a year, including an increase in minority student participation; created an in-house recruiting unit, along with a network of consulting, marketing, and alumni support, to increase the awareness of the university abroad; and participated in the ACE Internationalization Laboratory to catalog and assess current international activities to prepare for institutional strategic planning. Holmes is the co-author of *Faculty-Led 360: Guide to Successful Study Abroad* and has delivered over 30 presentations and workshops for faculty and staff in state, regional, national, and international venues.



Around the Quad

Faculty named Fulbright Scholars

Three Wright State faculty members were named Fulbright Scholars in 2017. Engineering professor Maher Amer's Fulbright Scholar fellowship in Saudi Arabia focuses on a new generation of solar cells in the form of tiny, flexible films that could be attached to windows, cars, and even clothing. Professor and medical researcher Caroline Cao, who has done pioneering work in minimally invasive surgery, also received a Fulbright Scholar fellowship to share her skills and knowledge with college students and faculty in Vietnam. English professor John Haught received the scholarship to help a university in Honduras with its English curriculum. Haught specializes in using drama, music, poetry, and other creative means to teach English.



WHAT YOU'RE SAYING

"It feels so Wright to be an
#OfficialRaider 🍷🐱🍷"

@alexis_voisard 🍷

"@EddieMcClintock re-watching
Warehouse 13 is so much better
after meeting you and taking your
masterclass at Wright State!"

@ipodtrucker 🍷

"Great time volunteering at Dollar
Book Swap with our @WSURaiders
team. We earned \$270 worth of books
for kids! #raidersgiveback"

@JoylynnBrown12 🍷

"Every single time I go to Wright State,
I love it more than the last."

@mallory_shay56 🍷

Student leader headed to Harvard



Former Wright State Student Government Association President Lukas Wenrick, a social science education major and 2017 graduate, joined the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where he is pursuing a Master of Education in Higher Education. During his time as the Student Government president in the 2016–17 academic year, Wenrick collaborated with almost 100 Student Government workers, as well as dozens of administrators.

Wenrick said that working with Wright State's president, provost, chief financial officer, Board of Trustees, and the Faculty Senate gave him a glimpse of what he wants to do in the future.

"It opened doors that I never thought possible. It was an incredible experience," he said.

Going to Harvard has been Wenrick's dream for a long time. Because of the leadership skills he acquired through Wright State, he said he is looking forward to being a leader among his peers at Harvard, too.

"I was jumping for joy when I received my letter of admittance over spring break. This is a truly a life-changing opportunity that I will cherish every moment of," he said.



#WRIGHTSTATEPREZ

President Cheryl B. Schrader and her family moments before she was announced as Wright State University's seventh president on March 6.



Alumna works on award-winning films

Hannah Beachler, a 2005 graduate of Wright State's motion pictures program, was the production designer on *Moonlight*, which won the best picture award at the 89th Academy Awards ceremony and the 2017 Golden Globe Award for Best Motion Picture, Drama. Beachler was also the production designer of Beyoncé's *Lemonade* album, which won a 2017 Art Directors Guild Award for excellence in production design and art direction.

Beachler has worked as the production designer on *Miles Ahead*, a biographical film based on the life of jazz musician Miles Davis; *Creed*, the seventh film in the Rocky series; and *Fruitvale Station*, which won the top two prizes at the Sundance Film Festival in 2013. She is currently working as the production designer on Marvel's upcoming superhero film, *Black Panther*.

First Signing Day a success

Nearly 700 incoming freshmen crowded into the Student Union on May 1 for Wright State's first Signing Day event. More than a few proud parents were misty-eyed as students signed "Official Raider" certificates at tables on a stage. Students were then congratulated by Student Government Association President David Baugham and posed for their first official Wright State photo. Many new Raiders took selfies with Rowdy and posted their excitement on social media. College deans welcomed students and parents. This festive celebration was also an opportunity for students to meet faculty, advisors, and fellow students.



Financial turnaround

In a significant sign that the financial stability of the university has turned a corner, Wright State University President Cheryl B. Schrader reported at an August Board of Trustees meeting that the university added \$10 million more than it anticipated to reserves and now has just over \$40 million in its coffers. Already projected to more than balance the budget again in FY18, the university is well on its way to meeting a goal set by the board of adding at least another \$6 million more to reserves in FY18.

"This year we'll complete our strategic planning and identify what Ohio needs Wright State to be for the next 50 years," said Schrader. "We have a short-term financial solution, which now needs to become a strategic and sustainable business model. We're much leaner now but it's also time for us to lean in—we need to really embrace this business mindset to be able to deliver what only Wright State can."



Wright State hosted **Dan Rather**, the award-winning veteran television news anchor, for a lecture at the Wright State University Nutter Center in January. The lecture was part of both the university's Honors Institute and the Presidential Lecture Series. Rather spoke extensively about the current state of American politics, democracy, and the need for an informed and engaged voting republic.

Leading Lady

CHERYL B. SCHRADER TAKES THE HELM AT WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY AT THE SCHOOL'S HALF-CENTURY MARK

BY KAREN STRIDER-IIAMES

When the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory was built outside Batavia, Illinois, in the 1960s, a river of top scientists from around the world poured into the sleepy, two-stoplight town.

The rural town's transformation into a scientific beehive by the premier particle physics laboratory had a dramatic impact on the life and thinking of a young resident named Cheryl.

Today, Cheryl B. Schrader, Ph.D., is an acclaimed engineer and the new president of Wright State University, the school's first female president in its 50-year history.

Peeking out from the bookcase in Schrader's office is a wooden hedgehog. It reminds her of the Hedgehog Concept, which represents singleness of purpose.

Taken from a principle in Jim Collins' book *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap...And Others Don't*, the hedgehog illustrates the intersection of what you are passionate about, what you can be best at, and what drives your economic engine.

"Together we will highlight what we do best and focus on those areas of excellence," said Schrader. "What we must stop doing is trying to be everything to everyone. That is not easy."

The early days in Batavia molded Schrader. The construction of Fermilab and the influx of scientists and their families had Schrader making friends with children from other cultures. She also spent carefree summers with her

grandparents and extended family in southern California. Those early experiences exposed her to different perspectives and diversity of thought, which later would become hallmarks of her leadership style.

The close-knit family—her father, a pastor; her mother, a stay-at-home mom initially; older brother, Robert; and younger sister, Tami—moved to nearby Park Ridge. There, Schrader attended the nation's top college prep school. She thrived, taking advantage of the diverse curriculum and advanced placement courses. And she loved playing the trumpet in seven school ensembles.

When she told her father that she wanted to become a math teacher—a bold choice since she had only seen male math teachers—he encouraged her to think more broadly.

"I grew up in a time when I thought there were really only two pathways open to women, nursing or teaching," said Schrader. "I still thought I had boundaries."

"As a girl, I didn't know I could move beyond these careers because there were few female role models," she explained. After discussing what she was passionate about, her father suggested engineering.

This pivotal moment was one in a series of events that would emblazon the importance of role models on her psyche.

After deciding on electrical engineering, she chose



Valparaiso University partially because of its nationally known Honors College. It provided her with a foundation in her beloved liberal arts, thus balancing her engineering education and enabling her to interact closely with fellow honors students from every discipline.

She purposefully joined a sorority, Gamma Phi Beta, because she had few women in her classes. The leader in her began to emerge.

As a female undergraduate engineering student in a college with no female engineering faculty, Schrader never considered academia as a profession. But a male engineering professor opened her eyes to that possibility...and the importance of mentorship.

"Had I had those role models, I would have known earlier what I could do," said Schrader. "That's why I'm committed to mentoring, sponsoring, and opening doors for those who have been traditionally underrepresented."

Schrader met her husband, Jeff, on a blind date while they were sophomores. But it's not what you think. She called Jeff, whom she had never met, to set him up on a blind date with her sorority little sister. He agreed, so they double dated. Two years later, Schrader and Jeff re-connected and began dating.

Schrader received her bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Valparaiso, and her master's and Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Notre Dame.

AT THE CONTROLS

As a systems engineer, Schrader brings a different perspective to Wright State. "You are able to see the big picture and understand the complexity of an institution," she said.

Schrader secured her first formal leadership role at the University of Texas at San Antonio simply because she asked. Although an assistant and then associate professor, she took a courageous step by asking an inspiring female associate provost, Brenda Claiborne, Ph.D., to be her mentor. Shocked at first, Claiborne created opportunities in the provost's office and even challenged Schrader to recruit graduate students university-wide. Schrader relished the added responsibilities and took control of her own career.

Prior to joining Wright State, Schrader served as the first female chancellor of Missouri University of Science and Technology for five years. Before that, she served as associate vice president for strategic research initiatives and dean of the College of Engineering at Boise State University. She also held academic positions at Rice University and the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Her classroom experience includes teaching and developing courses and academic programs in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Boise State, biomedical engineering at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and The

University of Texas at San Antonio Joint Graduate Program, and in the Department of Electrical Engineering at Texas at San Antonio. She interned at the McDonnell Douglas Astronautics Company in Huntington Beach, California.

She has authored more than 100 publications in the areas of systems and control, robotics, and intelligent systems, with biomedical, networking, and aircraft applications. Her grant and contract funding exceeds \$11 million.

Schrader's husband, Jeff, served for many years in the legal profession. The couple have a son, Andrew, pursuing a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering at Georgia Tech, and a daughter, Ella, in elementary school. Music is a big part of the Schrader household, as they all play instruments and sing: Schrader and Jeff, trumpet; Andrew, violin and banjo; and Ella, ukulele and piano. Schrader, Jeff, and Ella all sang with choirs in Missouri, and Ella recently auditioned for and joined the Kettering Children's Choir Chorus.



CHANGE AGENT

Schrader has pledged to take Wright State to new heights while being committed to financial sustainability, administrative transparency, and campus communication.

Program prioritization, both academic and non-academic, is part of her plan. She will continue to meet with units across campus and is forming a President's Advisory Council made up of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and administration to foster open dialogue.

She met with leaders from partner universities and is focusing on external community partners, as well. She brings a track record of developing partnerships, especially with military and health care entities.

"To me, a university is an intellectual, social, and cultural hub of a community," said Schrader. "As a university, we can't do everything alone. Partnerships are very important because you're bringing diversity of perspective, such as business, educational, and community points of view."

But she is also laser-focused on student success. "Students are the reason we are here," she said. "Affordability and accessibility are big priorities for me."

Believing the student experience is not just an intellectual pursuit, she is inspired by a quote by Martin Luther King, Jr.: "Intelligence plus character—that is the true goal of education."

TRAILBLAZER

Schrader has broken glass ceilings at each institution. She goes to great lengths to promote science, technology, engineering,

and math (STEM) education and increase female and underrepresented minorities. She even boarded a Naval jet and landed on an aircraft carrier—tail hook and all—to dialogue with national leaders about STEM education and the critical importance of broadening participation.

Of the many honors she has received, none mean more than the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring, which was presented to her by President George W. Bush for her accomplishments in encouraging and supporting underrepresented groups in the engineering field.

She was touched that former students and faculty she had mentored from across the country nominated her. The recognition also included involvement with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Control Systems Society. There, she served as president

and helped create a standing committee on women, called Women in Control, that is a model for other international and professional organizations.

This year, the American Society for Engineering Education named her a Fellow for outstanding contributions to the field.

"One of the best ways to diversify the student body is to make sure there are staff, faculty, and those in leadership who students can identify with," said Schrader. "It's critically important to have faculty role models, mentors, and sponsors who represent the diversity of the student body to show the pathways open to students."

"Had I had those [female] role models, I would have known earlier what I could do. That's why I'm committed to mentoring, sponsoring, and opening doors for those who have been underrepresented."

A PRESIDENTIAL LEGACY

Cheryl B. Schrader is the seventh president of Wright State University in our 50-year history.



Follow President Schrader on Twitter:
@WrightStatePrez





celebrating 50





Take a look back at Wright State University's first half-century and see how far we've come. We've gathered fun facts, favorite memories, and firsthand accounts from current and former faculty, staff, and students. We hope this collection inspires you to reminisce about your own time at the university and sparks your enthusiasm for our next 50 years.





Ohio Gov. James Rhodes's efforts in the early 1960s to place public higher education facilities within 30 miles of every Ohioan led to the birth of Wright State University.

At the time, Dayton was a high-technology center with a special need for a highly developed labor force. Community leaders mounted a private capital-fund campaign to secure a joint branch campus for The Ohio State University and Miami University that could be converted into a unified state university.

A 428-acre parcel of land near Wright-Patterson Air Force Base was acquired, and in 1963, founders Robert S. Oelman and Stanley Allyn broke ground on the campus's first building, Allyn Hall.

The campus opened in September

1964 with 3,203 registered students and 55 faculty members. The next year, State Bill 210 passed, allowing the campus to become an independent state

university contingent upon enrollment totals. The Ohio General Assembly approved the name Wright State University to honor Dayton's Wright brothers.

In 1967, with 5,704 students, Wright State was granted its independent status. At the time, it had three buildings and included divisions of liberal arts, business administration, education, science and engineering, and graduate studies. To commemorate the new university, students held a mock funeral service and delivered eulogies for the departed branch campus.



In 1979, *Look Back in Anger* became the first Wright State production invited to perform at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts by the American College Theatre Festival. Only the top 10 college productions in the country are invited each year.

Wright State was invited back to the festival in 1997 to perform *1913: The Great Dayton Flood*, which won several of the festival's awards. Billed as an "epic parable with gospel blues," the play with music was based on Allan W. Eckert's Pulitzer-nominated book *Time of Terror: The Great Dayton Flood*. It was adapted for the stage by W. Stuart McDowell of the Wright State Department of Theatre, Dance, and Motion Pictures and then-student Timothy J. Nevits.

Make a left at the ostrich

The seeds for Wright State were planted in a pasture 12 miles northeast of downtown Dayton. The chosen site had plenty of room for expansion, highway access, and was close to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base—a dream come true for Air Force planners hungry for a nearby university.

Gary Barlow, a high school art teacher and one of the first faculty members at Wright State, remembers coming up to see where the university would be built.

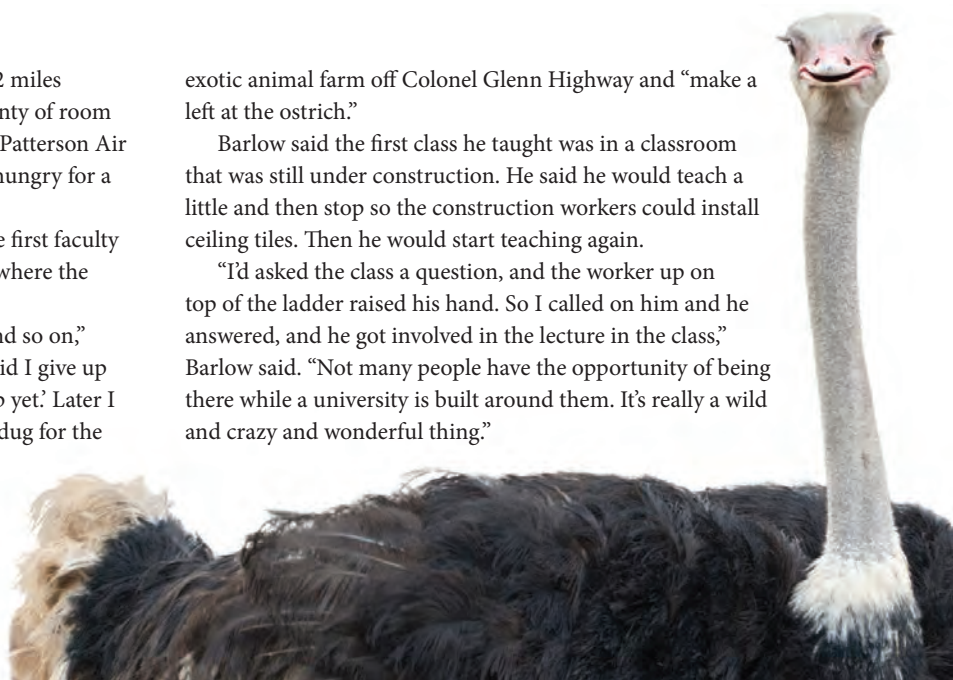
"It was grassland and fences and cows in the fields and so on," Barlow recalled. "I looked over and I thought, 'Oh my, did I give up a job to come over here for this? Something isn't even up yet.' Later I came out and watched the big hole in the ground being dug for the first building."

Students and others coming to campus for the first time were sometimes told to keep an eye out for an

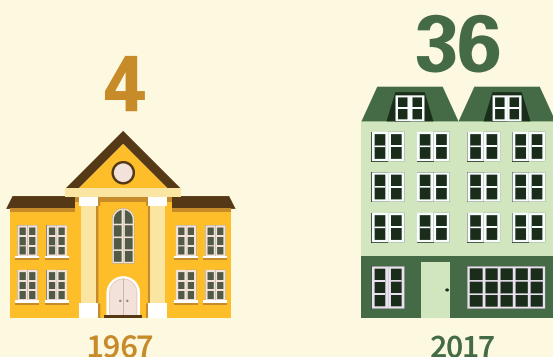
exotic animal farm off Colonel Glenn Highway and "make a left at the ostrich."

Barlow said the first class he taught was in a classroom that was still under construction. He said he would teach a little and then stop so the construction workers could install ceiling tiles. Then he would start teaching again.

"I'd asked the class a question, and the worker up on top of the ladder raised his hand. So I called on him and he answered, and he got involved in the lecture in the class," Barlow said. "Not many people have the opportunity of being there while a university is built around them. It's really a wild and crazy and wonderful thing."



TOTAL BUILDINGS ON CAMPUS



Academic buildings on Dayton & Lake campuses

Drinking the champagne

Sheila Skimmerhorn's ('70) father was a stickler for being on time. In fact, he liked to be early. That's how his daughter found herself standing outside the new campus admissions office in 1964, 30 minutes before it opened to begin registering students for the very first time.

Skimmerhorn's father had driven her from the family's Springfield home to the converted farmhouse that served as the original gateway to campus. "I thought going to a brand new school would be really exciting," she recalled. "I was on TV and all that."

Skimmerhorn was "thrilled to death" that she chose to attend Wright State just as it was getting off the ground. "We had Ph.D.'s and the heads of departments teaching all of the freshman classes. We didn't know that was unusual," she said. "We had all these people who were experts in their field teaching. That was thrilling."

Skimmerhorn and a few other student senators played a key role in the christening of Wright State as an independent institution of 5,000 students in 1967.

"I got to take the bottle of champagne and crash it into the bell tower," she recalled. "The secret is we had drunk the champagne and a few other things before we did that. We actually filled the bottle with water."



The original conceptual plan for the Dayton Campus was drawn by Lorenz & Williams, the Cincinnati architectural firm that designed many of Wright State's early buildings. The drawing features a small "flying saucer" in the sky, believed to have been added later by an unknown source as a humorous nod to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?



ALLYN HALL
STANLEY CHARLES ALLYN
FORMER NCR PRESIDENT

BOONSHOFT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

OSCAR BOONSHOFT
ENGINEER, PHILANTHROPIST



BREHM LABORATORY

JOHN E. BREHM
ORIGINAL WRIGHT STATE LANDOWNER

MATTHEW O. DIGGS III LABORATORY FOR LIFE SCIENCE RESEARCH

MATTHEW O. DIGGS III
SON OF NANCY AND MATTHEW DIGGS II



NUTTER CENTER
ERVIN J. NUTTER
FOUNDER, ELANO CORP.

FAWCETT HALL

NOVICE FAWCETT
FORMER PRESIDENT, THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



MILLETT HALL
JOHN D. MILLETT
FORMER PRESIDENT, MIAMI UNIVERSITY

NISCHWITZ STADIUM

RON NISCHWITZ
PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL PLAYER, WRIGHT STATE BASEBALL COACH



OELMAN HALL
ROBERT S. OELMAN
FORMER NCR PRESIDENT

PAUL L. DUNBAR LIBRARY

PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR
POET, NOVELIST, PLAYWRIGHT



RAJ SOIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
RAJ SOIN
ENGINEER, PHILANTHROPIST

RIKE HALL

DAVID L. RIKE
FORMER PRESIDENT, RIKE'S DEPARTMENT STORE



RINZLER STUDENT SPORTS COMPLEX

ALLAN RINZLER
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER, PHILANTHROPIST

RUSS ENGINEERING CENTER

FRITZ AND DOLORES RUSS
FOUNDERS, SYSTEMS RESEARCH LABORATORIES



TOM HANKS CENTER FOR MOTION PICTURES
TOM HANKS
ACTOR, FILMMAKER

WHITE HALL

FREDERICK WHITE
FIRST WRIGHT STATE EMPLOYEE, FORMER INTERIM PRESIDENT



DID YOU KNOW?

Hamilton Hall isn't named after a person at all. It's actually named after the Hamilton River, a prehistoric underground river beneath the region.

*The Raiders win
in 1983!*

Proud to wear the green and gold

SUSAN GAYLE

MY GRANDFATHER WAS BORN “ON CAMPUS” on June 29, 1895, in the original Rockafeld House, which his parents rented from Mr. Rockafeld. My grandfather owned land on both sides of Airway Road (now Colonel Glenn Highway), mostly on the south side—186 acres total. On the Wright State side of the road, he owned part of the woods up to the cemetery and through where the Nutter Center is located. My uncle John and his family lived on a farm where the Nutter Center is now located.

Fred White negotiated with my grandfather during the sale of the land to Wright State. During the construction of the original buildings, my grandparents and my family would drive around campus to see the progress.

I met Don Mohr, Wright State’s first director of financial aid, when I was a senior at Beavercreek High School in 1967. As a student employee, I worked in various offices, including the admissions office for Dr. C. DeWitt Hardy. I helped during registration many times when it was held in the Allyn Hall cafeteria. We had sheets with the maximum available number of students. When students came up to register for a particular class, we would X out the seat in that class and sign their registration card—no computers then!

Wright State was still a branch campus when I arrived. My student paychecks were from Miami University; I made \$1 per hour! I started to work full time in the financial aid office in 1969. It was incredibly fulfilling. I met really terrific students and parents, and it was a good feeling to be helping in any way we could.

When the program grew to the point where Mr. Mohr had to choose between financial aid and athletics, he chose athletics and asked me to go with him. When we started athletics, the equipment was stored in four cabinets behind my desk. Mr. Mohr and I would take the student-athletes’ dirty laundry home to wash.

Everything was new at Wright State, so building all the programs was an exciting challenge for the students and the administrators. It was a true privilege to work alongside people like Don Mohr, John Ross (our first basketball coach), and Jim Brown (our assistant basketball coach). Our staff’s first concern was always the welfare of our student-athletes. The highlight was attending all the tournament games when we won the Division II national championship in basketball in 1983. It was an incredible accomplishment for such a young program.

The student-athletes were our reason for going to work every day and working really long hours. Parents sent their kids to us and left them in our care—one mom actually looked Mr. Mohr and me in the eyes and said, “I’m trusting you to take good care of my boy.” He was about 6-foot-4 and very muscular—he did just fine!

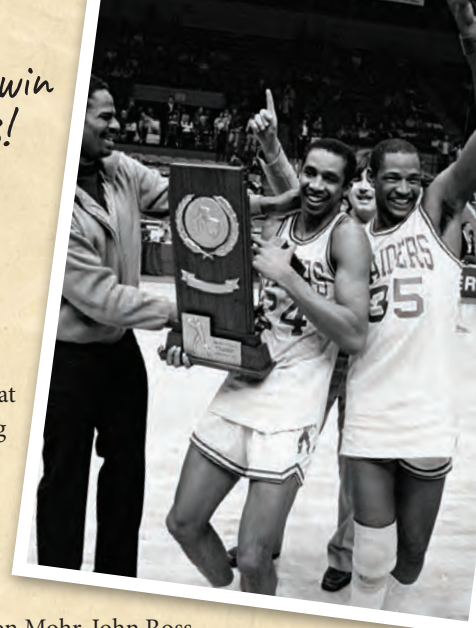
I still see former athletes at the basketball games. It’s really fun to see them with their own families so many years later. We had a fascinating group of athletes over the years, from many countries and a vast number of backgrounds. Early on, we had one soccer player from Thailand who didn’t want to live in the dorm; he preferred living in the woods. Needless to say, he had to be convinced the dorm was a better option!

It was truly a cross-section of the population that came together to form one incredibly close family. They molded together to create teams with a common goal. All were proud to wear the green and gold to represent Wright State.

I think you would know how I feel about Wright State if you saw my car. My license plate is WSU1.

Susan (Barr) Gayle was the business manager for Wright State’s athletic department from 1970 to 1998.

Visit wright.edu/50 to browse the Athletics news archive, see then and now team photos, and read about the 1968 soccer team that made Raider history.





THE EVOLUTION OF ROWDY

Rowdy Raider hasn't always been the gray and white wolf we know today. The Wright State mascot has gone through several iterations since the university started playing varsity basketball in 1970.

A 1971 student contest determined that Wright State's colors would be hunter green and gold and its athletic teams would be called the Raiders. Early renderings of the mascot showed a pirate with a bandana and an eye patch. It wasn't until 1986 that Rowdy Raider, a Viking with a horned helmet and red beard, emerged as the official mascot (possibly reflecting Cleveland State's newly adopted mascot, the cartoon character Hägar the Horrible).

However, some felt that the mascot shouldn't represent a specific gender or cultural heritage. A marketing firm was hired to update Rowdy in 1996 and replace the Viking with an animal that could be considered a raider. The following year the Viking Rowdy was retired. In his place stood a brown wolf in a jersey and sneakers.

The current version of Rowdy Raider was unveiled in 2007. The new wolf is gray, white, and black, and is described as being "fierce" with claws for hands and feet.

In recent years, Rowdy's talents have gone beyond sporting events to appear at a variety of functions around campus and throughout the community. A social media star, Rowdy has appeared in YouTube videos, Snapchat stories, and photos on Facebook and Instagram. Rowdy even launched a Twitter account—@RowdyWSU—in 2014.

Before there was a Wright State University, there was a Wright State University Foundation. Incorporated on December 15, 1966, the foundation membership roster read like a who's who of Dayton business and industry leaders.

Thanks to the support of individuals, corporations, and foundations from throughout our region, state, and nation, the Wright State University Foundation has distributed more than \$51 million in scholarships and established 811 scholarship funds over the last 51 years.

The largest gift in the university's history came in June 2005 when Oscar Boonshoft and his family donated \$28.5 million to the Wright State University School of Medicine. To honor the family's generosity, the school was renamed the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine.

Wright State employees are committed to supporting our students through giving as well. Through the annual Campus Scholarship and Innovation Campaign, faculty, staff, and retirees have donated more than \$9.5 million to Wright State scholarships and programs since 1978.



Students responded to the devastating 1974 Xenia tornado with a relief drive that raised more than \$3,000 and collected 69 vanloads of food, clothing, and blankets for victims.



The Western Ohio Educational Foundation (WEOF) organized the first courses for what would eventually become the Wright State University–Lake Campus in 1962. Classes were initially held in a local high school, but as interest in the college continued to build, the WEOF Board

was challenged to provide additional space and faculty for a growing number of students. Through a series of successful fund drives, the WEOF Board assured the growth of the college through the purchase of a vacant public school building in Celina, Ohio. In 1969, the WEOF Board voted for the college to become fully affiliated with Wright State University, and the campus soon moved to a 173-acre site on the northern shores of Grand Lake St. Marys. Known as the Western Ohio Branch Campus then, it was renamed the Wright State University–Lake Campus in the latter half of the 1980s.

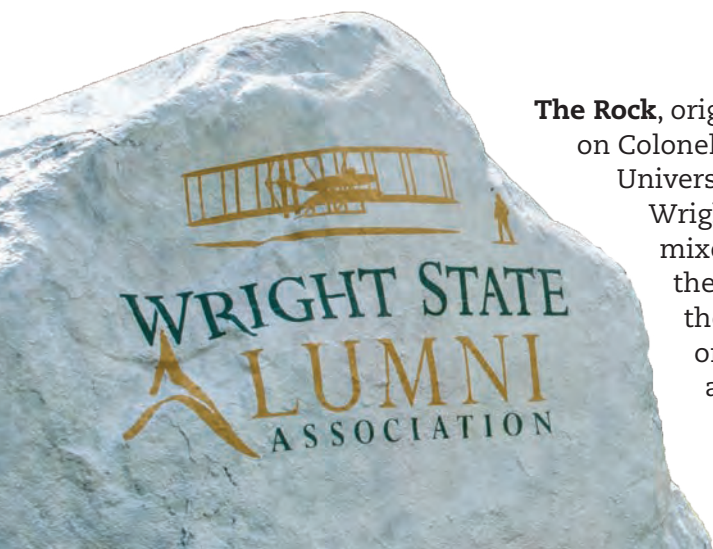
Today, more than 1,300 students call the Lake Campus home. Lake Campus continues to add programs and majors that serve the needs of western Ohio communities. It currently offers 13 associate degrees and 11 bachelor's degrees in such diverse fields as graphic design, law enforcement, and food systems management.

The Lake Campus recently added townhouse-style apartments for students who would like to live on campus, and a new center is scheduled for completion in early 2018 to house the campus's fast-growing agricultural program and research on water quality from the surrounding watershed.

The Duke E. Ellis Human Development Institute opened in the fall of 1989. This community-based training facility on Dayton's near-west side houses Wright State's doctoral program for mental health professionals and is also a fully functional clinic for underserved residents.

The Ellis Institute provides psychotherapy and psychological assessments to individuals in the Greater Dayton region and beyond. Services are provided by doctoral students under the supervision of School of Professional Psychology faculty. The institute is committed to remaining accessible to individuals and families of all income levels.

In 1990, Wright State's Alumni Association established the Legacy Scholarship Fund to support children of alumni studying at Wright State, and more broadly, to help the university grow and maintain the university's relationship with its graduates. Since it began, the scholarship has supported 770 students with awards totaling more than \$740,000.



The Rock, originally located by Wright State University's main entrance on Colonel Glenn Highway, was relocated to Springwood Lane and University Boulevard in September 1998, in accordance with Wright State's Master Plan. Reactions from students were mixed, especially when the company contracted to move the Rock placed it on the wrong side of the road. In its time, the much-painted Rock has been the canvas for student organization announcements, political protests—and even a marriage proposal.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MILESTONES

1971
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHED

1976
FIRST ALUMNI GOLF OUTING

1983
FIRST DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
AWARD PROGRAM

1990
LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
ESTABLISHED

1995
FIRST ALUMNI NETWORK
ESTABLISHED

1998
FIRST WRIGHT STATE HOMECOMING

2001
AFRICAN AMERICAN ALUMNI SOCIETY
ESTABLISHED

2002
ALUMNI TOWER DEDICATION AS A
PART OF THE NATIONAL ALUMNI
CHALLENGE OF *TOMORROW TAKES
FLIGHT*

2012-15
FIRST ALUMNI HOUSE ON CAMPUS,
ROCKAFIELD ALUMNI CENTER, OPENS

2016
STUDENT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND
STUDENT PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL
COMBINED TO FORM THE '67 SOCIETY

Perhaps the most memorable single athletic victory for Wright State came on December 30, 1999, when the Raiders stunned eventual men's basketball national champion Michigan State, 53-49, at the Nutter Center.

"We were totally outplayed from start to finish," Michigan State coach Tom Izzo told Associated Press sports writer Rusty Miller. "There is no question the better team won tonight."

Wright State didn't appear to be the better team coming into the game—in fact, the Raiders had lost eight of their 10 games that season and were a 23-point underdog to the Spartans, ranked No. 6 nationally.



1967

5,704 students enrolled
0 alumni



2017

17,775 students enrolled
109,852 alumni



Newspaper memories

ALF BUTLER

I spent four years at Wright State, from 1998 to 2002, and I have many great memories of the university. I remember the days when I would have to wake up early on the weekend so I could call in and sign up for classes over the phone. Before we had internet portals, we had a bulletin board online for sharing information in my literature class taught by Carol Loranger. We also had a naming contest for The Hangar, which became the latest food facility at the university during my time there.

But my best memories are spending many days and nights at *The Guardian*. Working my way from a music reviewer as a freshman to editor-in-chief my senior year, we covered many events. During the 2000 elections (the year of the “hanging chads”), we were in the office until the wee hours of the morning trying to determine if Bush or Gore would be president.

Then the year after, as students were moving in on September 11, we spent the day interviewing staff, faculty, and classmates about their reactions to the terrorist attacks. All day long, we heard sirens

and rumors of Wright-Patt being attacked. It went from a peaceful day of covering icebreaker games to tearfully watching the news in the Student Union. That was the one time during my four years at the newspaper that we missed our deadline and the newspaper was published a day late—without a front page headline, too.

Those kinds of events, plus working until 2 a.m. and chair races down the halls of the Student Union, really bonded us as a team. It was often late hours, but it was totally one of the best jobs I’ve ever had. I learned how to organize a team of young writers and editors who had to get a paper out by Wednesday morning.

Working at *The Guardian* prepared me for the business world and has definitely helped me succeed in operations management. I still miss those days with the great team at the newspaper.

Alf Butler ('02) is now the operations manager at Assurant, Inc.



In 1995, Wright State University's first alumni network was created in Washington, D.C. Today, there are 21 networks and societies, seven of which support scholarships specific to their network or society. In 2016, they collectively held 69 events and had over 1,500 members in attendance. The networks are based not just in places like Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Columbus, but also in New York City, Los Angeles, and Tampa.

Identity and college-based societies have also flourished. The African American, Amigos Latinos, LGBTQ and Ally, and Nonprofit Leadership Alliance Alumni Societies drive meaningful engagement with Wright State. Societies linked to the College of Nursing and Health, Lake Campus, and Social Work and Motion Pictures programs are keeping connections strong through academic programs.



Internationally recognized sculptor David Black's *Turning Points* was installed in the University Hall plaza in 1999. Affectionately called “BART” by many Raiders, this piece of architectural artwork is now one of the most recognizable symbols on Wright State's Dayton Campus.

The Guardian gave us a front-row seat to history

ANTHONY SHOEMAKER

IN NOVEMBER 1995, THE EYES OF THE WORLD came to Wright State University's backyard. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and chief envoy Richard Holbrooke brought the leaders of Serbia (Slobodan Milosevic), Croatia (Franjo Tudjman), and Bosnia and Herzegovina (Alija Izetbegovic) to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to find a way to end a nearly four-year conflict.

Wright-Patterson was chosen because of its security and location. At *The Guardian*, we tried to think of ways to cover such a major world event taking place so close to campus. We took a chance and put in for media credentials to cover the talks. We got them. We were the only college newspaper there.

For three weeks, news editor Shawn Ruble, sports editor Bill Shea, and I went to the base for the talks and witnessed history.

"As a college newspaper editor, I covered many stories that touched on the Wright State community, but never thought I would cover an international event," Ruble said. "Being able to report on such an event as the Bosnian Peace Talks was an experience I'll never forget."

Media from all over the world came to the talks. Satellite trucks were lined up as far as you could see. Hundreds of journalists came from places like the *New York Times*, CNN, *Washington Post*, and *The Guardian* (London and Wright State).

"I got a kick out of being in such proximity to world events," Shea said, "which further convinced me to stick with journalism."

During the negotiations, Milosevic took a break to go to what was then the fairly new Mall at Fairfield Commons, traveling with about 25 security guards. Members of the delegation even went to the Nutter Center to watch the Raiders take on the Croatian pro team.

On the Monday before the talks began, Holbrooke held a press conference for local media. Ruble attended the press conference and even asked Holbrooke a question. In a November 1, 1995, *The Guardian* story written by Ruble,

Holbrooke said, "This is the last best chance for peace" and that if the talks at the base failed "the war will resume."

"The three weeks covering the events were the most memorable of my four years at *The Guardian*. The experience is one reason I still work in the media business today," Ruble said.

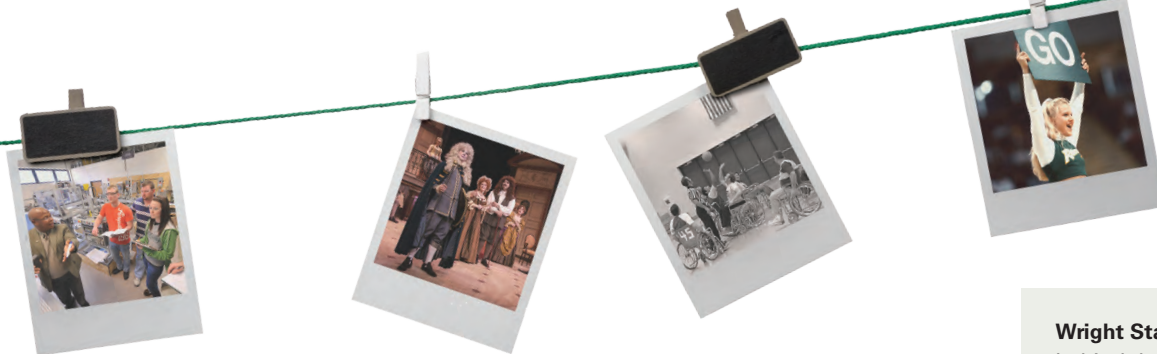
I agree. After graduating from Wright State, I took a job at the *Dayton Daily News*, where I have been ever since. I've had the honor of going to national political conventions, presidential campaign visits, and other major political rallies. But I'll never forget being a part of the history at Wright-Patterson and *The Guardian*.

Anthony Shoemaker ('98) is the new political editor for Cox Media Group Ohio. Bill Shea ('91) is a senior reporter at Crain's Detroit Business. Shawn Ruble ('98) is a market development manager at Verve in Columbus, Ohio.



A media credential issued to Guardian reporters covering the Dayton Peace Accords.





In 1970, Wright State was one of the first schools to create an Office of Disability Services. That was three years before Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act required any university receiving federal money to make its programs accessible to persons with disabilities and 20 years before the Americans with Disabilities Act. Forty-seven years later, Wright State's culture and reputation for inclusivity of people with disabilities continue to grow.



Wright State's campus is one of the most accessible in the country. It has what is believed to be one of the most extensive collegiate pedestrian tunnel systems in the United States. Nearly two miles of tunnels (10,436 feet) snake their way beneath the Dayton campus, linking most of the buildings in its academic sector. We also have a one-of-a kind service dog park and a popular service dog training student organization.

Disability Services doesn't just serve students with physical disabilities. The office offers

programs and resources for more than 800 students with ADD/ADHD, learning, medical, physical, and/or psychological disabilities.

Wright State is now setting an example for other colleges in assisting students on the autism spectrum. Raiders on the Autism Spectrum Excelling, or RASE, provides students with individualized coaching sessions throughout their first year of college. Participants build key competencies in the areas of social skill development, organization, study strategies, self-advocacy, and resiliency. The innovative approach is gaining national attention and prompting other universities to develop similar programs.

Wright State was a driving force

behind the creation of the Dayton Regional STEM School (DRSS). The school opened in 2009, and in June 2013 graduated its first class—52 talented seniors bound for the likes of Wright State, Emory, Purdue, Texas A&M, Ohio State, and other schools.

DRSS is designed to offer students a relevant, real-world education that prepares them for college and the working world. The students participate in inquiry- and project-based instruction that marries traditional STEM content with social studies, language arts, fine arts, and wellness and fitness.

Walk through the school on any given day and you may see walls dressed with students' watercolor paintings of cells—an effort to fuse a lesson in art with biology. Students may take an Introduction to Engineering and Design class, learn Mandarin Chinese, or build coffee tables out of cardboard based on a design by renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

Over the years, the school has had a statewide impact. A school history project resulted in the installation of several official Ohio historical markers with student-written biographies of historic figures. And concerned about the needs of people with disabilities, a passionate group of students became a moving force behind state legislation to require public family restrooms with adult changing stations.

Wright State continues to play a large role in the STEM school's success. DRSS employees are also employees of Wright State, and university faculty frequently participate in student projects, guest speaking, and curriculum development.

MAJORS

1967
54 undergraduate
1 graduate

2017
150 undergraduate
145 graduate



Many faculty, staff, and alumni have fond memories of the tower that stood at the entrance to campus for many years. In 2002, the tower was renamed Alumni Tower and relocated to the lawn behind the Student Union near the then-future site of the Neuroscience Engineering Collaboration Building. It serves as a physical tribute to all Wright State graduates and as a symbol of the university itself.

The lawn surrounding Alumni Tower hosts many events, including a welcome lunch for new students to meet the university president before fall classes begin and an annual graduation picnic in the spring hosted by the Alumni Association. In 2013, the area was transformed into an inviting gathering space called Alumni Grove.

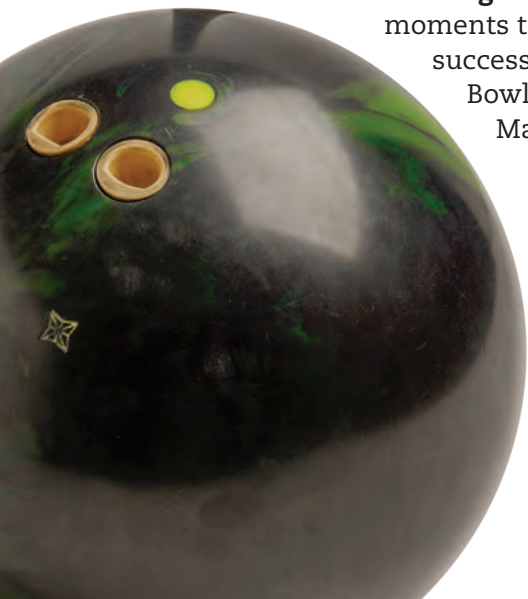
"It was just wide-open grass," said alumnus and Alumni Association board member Tony Alexander ('88), who helped establish Alumni Grove. "My thought was, let's do something to beautify the area and make it more attractive. Make it a place where students, staff, faculty, and alums can come and enjoy the area."

Alumni can leave a legacy by funding a personalized brick paver, a planted tree, or a wooden bench. These generous gifts also support the Alumni Association's Legacy Scholarship. To date, more than \$30,000 in scholarship funds have been raised through the Alumni Grove project.



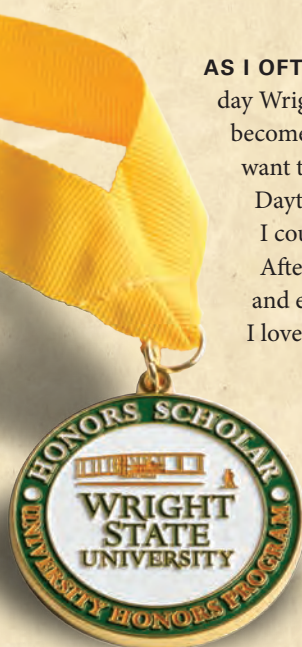
Some of Wright State's NCAA Division I intercollegiate athletic teams have found moments to shine on the national stage. Perhaps Wright State's most perennially successful team, however, is not even funded by the university. The Raiders' Club Bowling program has been a powerhouse since it was founded by Jeff Fleck, Mandy Wilson, and Ty Davidson in 2003.

The men and women's teams are typically among the nation's top 10 teams in regular-season rankings by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) team ranking system and collegebowling.com. The women have qualified for the USBC Intercollegiate Team Championships six of the last seven years, and reached the semifinals of the 2013 national tournament. Wright State's women's team also reached the final four at the 2017 Collegiate Club Championships.



It's hard to beat a life in the academy

MARY KENTON



AS I OFTEN SAY, I was on campus the first day Wright State held classes, but I did not become a student myself until 1969. I didn't want to quit my quite good day job at Dayton Power and Light until I was sure I could be a successful college student. After a year of night classes, I gave notice and enrolled full time in the fall of 1970. I loved it.

The student body was older then, and the faculty much younger. I broke my neck, and sometimes speed limits, to get to every class. I didn't want to miss anything. I still feel privileged to have had the kind of educational experience Wright State was able to provide in those early years.

I had American history with Jake Dorn, American literature with Jim Hughes, speech with Abe Bassett, and political science with Jim Walker. Human biology with the late Ira Fritz was my favorite science class ever. All of these men went on to make significant contributions to the development of Wright State, but I remember them best as dynamic, student-centered, sometimes iconoclastic teachers who let me in on a lot of very cool stuff.

Student life was pretty dynamic too. The whole campus was abuzz when Gloria Steinem came to Oelman Hall. I had to fight for a seat, but it was worth it. She spoke forcefully in favor of tenure for one of the junior women faculty members. I learned a little more that day about how universities work and why feminism was such a hot topic in the early '70s. Then there was the visit by the Marxist historian Herbert Aptheker. That caused a buzz of a whole different sort. Noam Chomsky, Dick Gregory, and, a little later, Oprah—need I say more?

Allyn Hall cafeteria was *the* place to be for students and faculty. We often shared tables and continued class discussion over bowls of chili and endless cups of coffee. People played cards, read, studied, and sometimes napped. A group always gathered for *Days of Our Lives* on the TV in the corner. If you needed to find someone, you always checked Allyn Hall first.

Most of my Wright State life was lived in Millett Hall. My undergraduate English and history classes were usually

held there. From 1974 until 1976, I shared an office on the fourth floor with former *The Guardian* editor and fellow grad assistant Wayne Wenning. I was elected to represent the student perspective on the History Graduate Committee. Once again, I learned (perhaps more than they intended) about the sometimes strange and wonderful workings of higher education.

Later, I moved down to the first floor to take over from Janice Wilson as assistant director in the Honors Program when she decided to finish her Ph.D. I stayed on for more than 30 years. I got pretty attached. Sometimes when I strode down the hall, I would think to myself—I own this place. Perry Moore (the dean of liberal arts back then) may think Millett Hall belongs to him, but he's wrong—it's mine.

When I retired in 2010, the hardest part was leaving the students. Over the years I had worked with thousands. The Honors Program grew dramatically in that time, and toward the end I no longer knew every honors student; but I still had close relationships with many, particularly the honors scholarship recipients. I worked with our national scholarship applicants and was always thrilled with their successes. I wrote med school and law school references, and I'm pleased to report our students almost always got in. We could staff a hospital with honors M.D.'s.

Two of the last brilliant successes I am proud to have helped along, James Dahlman and Roger Fecher, have finished their graduate and medical studies and are starting to make their mark. It's thrilling to see one of my students' names (all the honors students are "mine," of course) in an article talking about the latest in Parkinson's research.

It's hard to beat a life in the academy. The library, the gym, the campus, the opportunities for civil discourse on almost any topic, the friendships that grow over a career. I am not unique. Many of you feel the same sense of ownership of Wright State. And we will always do what we can to continue the proud legacy of the first 50 years.

Mary Kenton ('74, '78) senior associate director of the University Honors Program, retired in 2010 after 35 years of service to Wright State University.

Although Wright State enrolled veterans and helped process GI Bill benefits even in its early days, the number of students using those benefits increased 300 percent in 2010 following the establishment of the Post-9/11 GI Bill. A committee was formed to address how the university would meet the needs of the large influx of military-connected students.

In the fall of 2012, students Anthony Hinojosa ('14) and Anthony Heiland ('14) began collecting signatures on a petition asking for a central spot for veterans to connect, study, and deal with issues related to their benefits. They eventually amassed more than 3,000 signatures and presented them to the administration.

"When I got to Wright State in 2011, the VA education office was the size of a closet and the VMC was an idea sitting off to the side with no one doing anything about it," Heiland said. "I was young and full of testosterone. Plus I was a combat engineer in the Army National Guard. Blowing things up is what I do."

Heiland, with the help of Wright State employees Valita Wilhoite, Amanda Watkins, and Jared Shank, started the

Veterans League, a student organization. Hinojosa came on board the next year as a veteran's affairs liaison for student government. They were soon collecting signatures, setting up tables in the dining areas and at other events, chasing down students in the hallways, and formulating proposals for an area of the campus dedicated to veterans.

"Would it have been built at some point in time? I don't know the answer to that," said Heiland, who completed two tours of duty in Iraq before enrolling at Wright State. "Did it get done faster? Absolutely."

The Veteran and Military Center (VMC) was established in August 2013 and moved into its current space at the intersection of Allyn and Millett Halls in November 2014. The 4,500-square-foot space includes a lounge, kitchenette, a study room, a computer room, and personnel trained to handle benefit issues for more than 800 military-connected Wright State students.

Thanks in part to the VMC, Wright State has been named "military friendly" for nine consecutive years by *G.I. Jobs* and *Military Advanced Education*.

U.S. AIR FORCE



U.S. ARMY



U.S. MARINE CORPS



U.S. NAVY



U.S. COAST GUARD



Wright State University has hosted numerous celebrities, politicians, authors, and notable individuals over the last 50 years. Students have had the opportunity to meet and listen to former Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop; consumer advocate Ralph Nader; "First Lady of American Theatre" Helen Hayes; actor-activist Jane Fonda; and the Chicago Seven conspiracy co-defendants Tom Hayden and Abbie Hoffman.

More recently, students and the public have heard from autism activist Temple Grandin; Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak; Pulitzer Prize-winner Nicholas Kristof; poet, memoirist, and activist Maya Angelou; actor-activist Edward James Olmos; actor and filmmaker Tom Hanks; and many others.

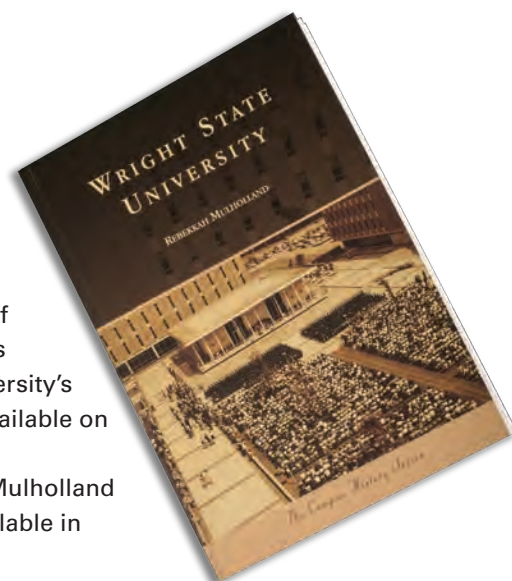


There's so much history about Wright State University that it takes two books to tell it all.

The university commissioned Lillie P. Howard, professor emerita and former senior vice president for curriculum and instruction, to chronicle the first 50 years, as well as events from 1961 to 1967 that led to the founding of the Dayton Campus. The book, *50 Years: The Incredible Journey*, also honors friends, alumni, and community partners who have contributed to the university's tremendous growth. It is expected to be published in late fall and will be available on the Wright State Libraries CORE Scholar online repository.

Discover more history in *Wright State University*, by alumna Rebekkah Mulholland ('09, '12, '14). The book features more than 150 historical images and is available in Wright State's Barnes & Noble Bookstore and other stores.

The University Libraries' Special Collections and Archives contributed to both books.



In 2015, the **Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching** selected Wright State to receive its Community Engagement Classification. Just 361 colleges and universities have received the classification nationwide. Wright State also has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for six consecutive years.

One example of our community engagements is the student-run fundraiser Raiderthon. This annual 15-hour dance marathon has raised nearly \$200,000 for Dayton Children's Hospital in just four years.

The Bolinga Black Cultural Resources Center has organized a Civil Rights Pilgrimage each of the last four years. This spring break trip allows students to explore the history of civil rights through visiting landmarks in locations such as Selma, Memphis, Charleston, Montgomery, Atlanta, and Washington, D.C. Students can take a political science course during Spring Semester that compliments the tour. The 2018 pilgrimage is scheduled to include stops at the National Civil Rights Museum, the Alex Haley Museum, and Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.



To Phish fans, the band's concert at Wright State University's Nutter Center on December 7, 1997, is legendary. Many of the band's most loyal followers believe that Phish played one of the greatest first sets in their 34-year career on that night.

On July 18, 2017 (almost 20 years later), Phish made another appearance at the Nutter Center, playing to a crowd of more than 11,000. Tickets sold out in less than two hours when they went on sale. Phish also live-streamed the Nutter Center concert to more than 354,000 fans on Facebook and more than 203,000 on YouTube.

Credit: ©2017 | Brian Glass | concert-captures.com



Opportunities in the forest

GARY LEROY

“Trees, lots of trees.” That was my first impression of Wright State University. On a Sunday afternoon in the spring of 1973, my mother took me for a ride to see the little university I had only heard about from my high school guidance counselor. I was a 16-year-old junior at Colonel White High School and had just discovered that I had enough credits to graduate early. Suddenly my future had arrived at my doorstep.

“I don’t see a university. All I saw was that sign back there,” I mumbled from the backseat of the car as we headed up a University Boulevard flanked by forests. But as we got to the top of the hill, the roofs of Millett and Allyn Halls came into view.

We never got out of the car to walk around the campus. As we drove away, I looked back through the rear window toward Hamilton Hall. I was imagining where my life would take me next when an inner voice told me I would someday be returning to this campus. It felt right. It felt like home.

I had initially wanted to just get a good factory job in the Dayton area after high school and skip the whole college experience. But after that drive, I began to rethink my future.

Instead of graduating early, I elected to stay in high school for an additional year to concentrate on college prep courses and was thrilled when I received my acceptance letter from Wright State. Eventually, I arrived back on campus as a freshman. I became acquainted with my new college guidance counselor, Dr. Rossmiller, who introduced me to my major in medical technology. I discovered new friends and became aware of a vast world outside of the Dayton View neighborhood, in which I had spent my entire life.

One fall day, I noticed new construction in the grassy area near Hamilton Hall. I paused to wonder what this one was going to be. It was right in the middle of the green space where I used to eat lunch

and it interfered with my usual trek to the University Center. I later learned it would become the Medical Sciences Building, the first home of the university’s medical school.

I would go on to graduate from that medical school in 1988. After graduation, I went back to Miami Valley Hospital where I had previously worked as a medical technologist. However, then it was to complete my residency training in the specialty of family medicine.

Years later, Wright State beckoned me back once again to take on a part-time position as assistant dean of minority affairs, which yielded an opportunity I could have never imagined. In 2008, the school’s dean of student affairs, Dr. Paul Carlson, asked me to become his successor.

As a cranky teenager, I could not see what was beyond the forest because of the trees. But from all those trees emerged a career path and a lifetime of unique opportunities. I had arrived as a student with no direction and am now an administrator for the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine. It has truly been the ride of a lifetime!

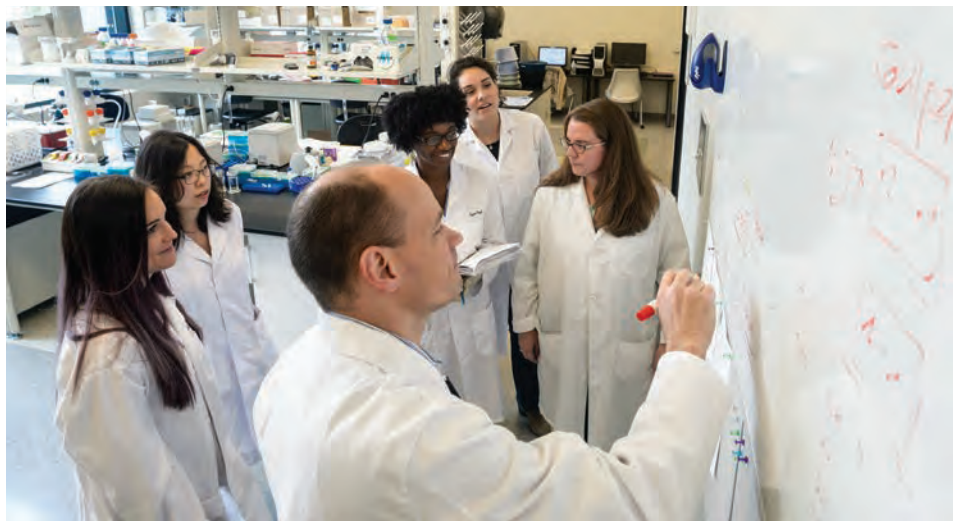
Gary Lewis LeRoy, M.D., ('82, '88) is an associate professor of family medicine and the associate dean of student affairs and admissions for the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine.



The Neuroscience Engineering Collaboration Building

opened in April 2015, bringing researchers from six disciplines under one roof, working with area health professionals to understand brain, spinal cord, and nerve disorders.

It houses basic researchers working to understand biological processes, clinical researchers who use that knowledge to develop treatments and cures, and engineers who create medical devices and imaging technologies.



Class Notes

Share your success with fellow alumni! Send class notes and updates to wrightstatealumni.com/classnotes.

2016

TAYLOR FLOYD (B.S.) started the Ph.D. program in neuroscience at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City.

2015

TYLER CHILTON (B.S.B.) works as an assistant language teacher in Japan's Niigata Prefecture on the island of Honshu on the coast of the Sea of Japan.

KATE EVANS (M.P.A.) was appointed chief deputy auditor of Montgomery County, OH.

RENIKA WILLIAMS (B.F.A.) played the role of Beneatha in Cincinnati Shakespeare Company's production of *A Raisin in the Sun* and starred in National Black Theatre's New York City production of *Sweet*, which follows the tumultuous lives of three Midwesterners in a small town in Kansas during the late '60s.

2012

AARON BLAKE (B.S.), a research scientist with UES, Inc., a contractor at the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, helped develop a new type of flexible lithium-ion battery that can be folded and manipulated hundreds of times without voltage fluctuations, making it an effective warfighter technology.

GABRIEL JONES (M.P.H.) was named commissioner of the Champaign County (OH) Health District.

JEREMY KATZ (M.A.) is director of the Cuba Family Archives at the William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum in Atlanta.

SANDEEP PALAKODETI (M.P.H.) was named chief of hospital medicine by CareMore Health System, a Memphis, TN-based company that focuses on prevention and coordinated care to manage chronic disease.

2011

JONATHAN CRUTCHER (B.A.) was named assistant vice president of client development at Synchrony Financial in Chicago.

JORDAN HART (B.F.A.), an employee of the Five Rivers MetroParks in Dayton, rode his bicycle more than 2,000 miles along the route of the Underground Railroad, from Owen Sound, Ontario, to Mobile, AL.

2010

BROOKE MOORE (B.A.) was named co-anchor of WDTN-TV in Dayton.

TYE SMITH (B.A.) was named city manager of Forest Park, OH.

2009

RICHARD A. MCKINLEY (PH.D.) was part of a research team at the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton that found that transcranial direct-current stimulation of the brain can improve people's multitasking skills and help avoid the drop in performance that

comes with information overload. The study was reported in a pre-publication paper in the open-access journal *Frontiers of Human Neuroscience*.

DANIEL O'CONNOR (B.A.) was elected Franklin County (OH) recorder.

NAN WHALEY (M.P.A.), mayor of Dayton, announced her candidacy for governor of Ohio.

2008

TODD A. BIALOWAS (M.D.) is the team physician for Fort Campbell, KY, and is a sports and tactical medicine physician for the U.S. Army's Tactical Human Optimization, Rapid Rehabilitation and Reconditioning (THOR3) program.

DANIEL DIVINE (B.S.) is the manager of research and development at the Orange County Sheriff's Office in Orlando, FL.

2007

TERI SHOLDER (B.S.N.) was hired as the new senior vice president, chief quality officer for BayCare Health System in Clearwater, FL.

ASHLEY SWAIN (B.A.) was named associate director of sales and marketing for the Columbia County (GA) Convention and Visitors Bureau.

MATTHEW WADSWORTH (B.S.) was appointed vice president of clinical affairs for the Nevada Donor Network.

2006

LOIS FOY (M.A.) was invited to the White House after writing a letter about her book connecting President Lincoln freeing the slaves to the first black president.

MATT MARTIN (B.S.) is producer/writer of *Free to Ride*, a documentary about the establishment of three bus stops between Dayton and Beavercreek, OH, that explores a civil rights issue.

SARAH MILLER (M.S.) was named chief information officer and SVP at Neiman Marcus, a Dallas-based luxury department store company.

STEPHANIE PRECHT (B.A.) was named among the 2017 Top 25 Women to Watch in Dayton and the Miami Valley region by the Better Business Bureau's Women in Business Networking.

2004

MINDI FISHER (B.S.) was promoted to executive director at JPMorgan Chase in Columbus.

BRETT HAGEN (M.ACC.) was elected principal financial officer of Proteostasis Therapeutics, Inc., a Cambridge, MA-based biopharmaceutical company developing small molecule therapeutics to treat diseases caused by dysfunctional protein processing such as cystic fibrosis.

CLIFFORD TOWNER (M.M.) is maestro of the Georgia College & State University Wind Symphony.

2003

CHASTITY TAKOMA EDWARDS (M.D.), an obstetrician and gynecologist who practices at Maui Medical Group in Hawaii, was welcomed into the International Association of HealthCare Professionals after being published in *The Leading Physicians of the World*.

ELIZABETH GRAVES (M.B.A.) was named among the 2017 Top 25 Women to Watch in Dayton and the Miami Valley region by the Better Business Bureau's Women in Business Networking.

DANIEL GRIEST (B.D.B.) is head coach of the Dayton Dynamo of the National Premier Soccer League.

DAVID B. SALISBURY (PSY.D.), a clinical neuropsychologist, was appointed clinical director of Pate Rehabilitation, a Dallas-based company that operates post-acute treatment centers for

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stroke and traumatic brain injury rehabilitation.

CHRISTIAN STRAY (B.S.B.E.) is interim CEO of Hy5, a Norway-based medical technology company that develops and markets neuroprosthetics.

KATIE WEHNER (B.A.), assistant dean for academic affairs and director of the Academic Resource Center and Disability Services at Franklin College in Franklin, IN, received the 2016 Margaret Hommell Staff Service Excellence Award.

2002

ROSS NEWTON (B.S.) works as an in-house visual effects artist at Marvel Studios in Burbank, CA, where he created visual effects on six Marvel feature films, including *Captain America: Winter Soldier*; *Guardians of the Galaxy*; *Avengers: Age of Ultron*; *Ant-Man*; *Captain America: Civil War*; and *Doctor Strange*.

2001

KEVIN CORNELL (M.S.T.), director of the Dayton Regional STEM Center, was named Ohio's Lead PBS Digital Innovator for 2016.

KIRAN GEORGE (M.S.EG.) (PH.D.), a computer engineering professor at California State University at Fullerton, was honored with the L. Donald Shields Excellence in Scholarship and Creativity Award for being a transformational force in innovative research.

JILL KINGSTON (M.ED.) was named among the 2017 Top 25 Women to Watch in Dayton and the Miami Valley region by the Better Business Bureau's Women in Business Networking.

ROB O'LEARY (M.S.T.) was named superintendent of Vandalia-Butler (OH) City Schools.

NATASHA RANDALL (B.F.A.) was named among the 2017 Top

25 Women to Watch in Dayton and the Miami Valley region by the Better Business Bureau's Women in Business Networking.

2000

LORI ANDERSON (M.A.) was named chief operating officer of Bethesda Lutheran Communities, which provides services that include homes, day programs, employment supports, faith supports, camps, and educational supports to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

BILLI EWING (B.A.) was named among the 2017 Top 25 Women to Watch in Dayton and the Miami Valley region by the Better Business Bureau's Women in Business Networking.

JASON SCHRADER (B.S.ED.), middle school principal in New Bremen, OH, was named superintendent of the New Bremen school district.

1999

WAYNE DAVIS (M.U.A.) was appointed city manager of Centerville, OH.

MARK GREEN (M.D.) serves as a state senator in Tennessee's 22nd District.

WRIGHT STATE ALUMNI SERVICE DAY NOVEMBER 11

All alumni, family, and friends are encouraged to join the Wright State Alumni Association for Wright State Alumni Service Day.

Engage in meaningful community service at one of several local nonprofit sites, including The Foodbank, Inc., Hospice of Dayton, Five Rivers MetroParks, and the Xenia Community Center.

Visit wrightstatealumni.com for more details.

1998

LAURIE K. MILLER (B.A.), an attorney in the Jackson Kelly PLLC law firm's Charleston (WV) office and Health Care and Finance Practice Group, received the G. Duffield Smith Outstanding Publication Award from DRI, the Voice of the Defense Bar.

GARY C. NORMAN (B.A.) serves as corporate secretary and co-legal counsel of a new national trade association for civil rights and equal employment opportunity. He was also honored by the Maryland Bar Foundation, the charitable arm of the bar association that recognizes various leaders in the law.

1997

JOHN WALDRON (M.D.) joined Centra Medical Group-Brookneal in Brookneal, VA.

1996

BRIAN BEST (B.S.) is president and chief executive officer of GTE Financial, a Tampa-based credit union.

JOHN BUSBEE (M.S.EG.) is CEO of the Xerion Advanced Battery Corp., a Champaign, IL-based company that builds batteries with properties such as high power, high energy, fast charge, and reduced cost.

PATRICK MCCARTY (B.S.) was named senior vice president and chief information officer and information security officer for the Jenks, OK-based First Oklahoma Bank.

1995

EDWARD SCHWARTZ (M.D.) is chief medical officer of CareHere, a Brentwood, TN-based company that provides medical services to more than 110,000 employees and over 225,000 members.

1994

STEPHANIE M. SMITH ALBERT (B.S.) was named the first director of diversity and inclusion at Rochester Institute of Technology's National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

SCOTT BOOSE (B.S.) was appointed president and chief executive officer of Service Experts, a provider of HVAC repair, maintenance, new equipment sales, and related services and part of the Toronto-based Enercare.

KATHERINE MYERS (M.R.C.), assistive technology specialist for the Office of Disability Services at Wright State University, was recognized as a Distinguished Professional in her field by *Women of Distinction Magazine* and by *Continental Who's Who* as a

Do you know any amazing Wright State alumni WHO DESERVE TO BE RECOGNIZED?

Nominate them for an ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD!

The Alumni Association recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of Wright State alumni at an annual awards ceremony during Homecoming weekend.

These outstanding individuals, selected from the more than 100,000 Wright State alumni, are recognized for excellence in their chosen fields.

There are no restrictions on the number of nominations a person may submit, and those nominating do not need to be graduates of Wright State University. Nominations are accepted year round.

AWARDS ARE GIVEN IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

Alumna/Alumnus of the Year Award
Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award
Honorary Alumnus/Alumna Award
Graduate of the Last Decade Award
Volunteer Service Award
Alumni Society Award of Excellence
Alumni Network Award of Excellence

Visit wrightstatealumni.com/achievement-awards for more information.

Prominent Professional of the Year in the field of Higher Education.

1993

KELLY DUCHENY (PSY.D.), director of behavioral health for Chicago-based Howard Brown Health, received the Evelyn Hooker Award for Distinguished Contribution by an Ally from the Society for the Psychological Study of LGBT Issues.

1992

CHRISTOPHER PRZEMIEENIECKI (B.A.) received the Frederick M. Thrasher Award for "superior academic research" from the National Gang Crime Research Center in Chicago for his work

on *Gangs*, a book on the history of gangs and their relation to corrections, law enforcement, and the media.

ANNIE L. SOBEL (M.D.), an associate professor at the Department of Medical Education and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Texas Tech University, was appointed to the Texas Military Preparedness Commission.

1991

MICHAEL R. BARRATT (M.S.), a NASA physician/astronaut and one of the nation's few specialists dually trained in medicine and aerospace medicine, received an honorary Doctor of Science degree

from the State University of New York at Upstate Medical University commencement.

JOSEPH V. HOMAN (M.B.A.) was named chief operating officer of Monterey Technologies, Inc., a Monterey, CA-based company that provides human factors analysis, business process improvement, design and evaluation, and human system integration services to government and commercial customers, as well as defense contractors.

ROBERT VILLAMAGNA (M.A.T.), an artist who produces paintings, cartoons, collages, and assemblages from repurposed tin and other "found" materials, was inducted into the Wheeling (WV) Hall of Fame.

1990

ELAINE FULTZ (B.S.ED.), a media specialist for Madison Local Schools in Butler County, OH, served on the Newbery Award Selection Committee for the 2017 awards for most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.

PETE LANDRUM (B.A.)(M.P.A.) was hired as city manager by the city of Beavercreek, OH.

1989

MARY MURPHY (B.S.) was named among the 2017 Top 25 Women to Watch in Dayton and the Miami Valley region by the Better Business Bureau's Women in Business Networking.

MICHAEL SCHNEIDER (PSY.D.) was featured on OnlineCounselingPrograms.com's list of Top Counseling Blogs of 2017 for outstanding work on his company blog titled *New Directions Counseling Services*.

KAREN SHADOWENS (M.B.A.) was appointed vice president of finance and CFO at Highland District Hospital in Hillsboro, OH.

1987

TRACY REIMER CANBY (B.A.),

postmaster of Clarksville, OH, was named Ohio Postmaster of the Year 2016 by the National Association of Postmasters of the United States.

ROBERT K. FINLEY, JR. (B.A.) donated the riverfront forest north of Oregonia, OH, to create the Little Miami Conservancy's 109th nature preserve along the Little Miami National Wild and Scenic River.

DALE LUEBKE (B.A.), executive vice president of Minster (OH) Bank and Minster Financial Corp., was named president and CEO.

1986

SUKANYA MADLINGER (B.S.) retired as senior vice president of retail divisions for The Kroger Co. after 31 years of service for the Cincinnati-based grocery retailer.

1985

MARY GARMAN (M.S.) was named among the 2017 Top 25 Women to Watch in Dayton and the Miami Valley region by the Better Business Bureau's Women in Business Networking.

1984

STEVEN BACK (B.S.E.E.) is vice president, global quality assurance for Luminex Corporation, an Austin-based company that develops biological-testing technologies for the life sciences industry.

JAMES ODA (B.A.) was appointed as a trustee to Edison State (OH) Community College's Board of Trustees by Ohio Gov. John Kasich.

FRED PETERSON (PSY.D.) is the health behavior coordinator/health psychologist in the Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Program at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Chillicothe, OH.

JOHN WRIGHT (M.S.), who works at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA, drives NASA's solar-powered rover on Mars.

1983

JAMES T. AUGUSTINE (M.D.)

was re-elected to the board of directors of The American College of Emergency Physicians.

JOHN DIETRICK (M.D.) is medical director of the surgical weight loss program at Florida Hospital Tampa and president of the Tampa Bay Surgical Group.

TED GUDORF (B.A.), managing attorney of the Gudorf Law Group, was elected to the board of directors of Life Essentials, a nonprofit organization serving seniors struggling with mental illness in Montgomery and Greene (OH) counties.

ANGELA IANNONE (B.F.A.) was awarded a Folger Shakespeare Library Research Fellowship for work on her cycle of plays, *The Edwin Booth Plays*.

1982

VERNON DALE JONES (M.B.A.) was appointed chancellor and chief academic officer at Penn State University Wilkes-Barre (PA).

GARY LEROY (M.D.), associate dean for student affairs and admissions at the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, was named co-chair of the Justice Committee of the Montgomery County (OH) Jail.

1981

SEAN R. LOGAN (M.D.), a surgeon with Neurology Associates of Northwest Ohio in Findlay, OH, was welcomed into the International Association of HealthCare Professionals with his publication in *The Leading Physicians of the World*.

1980

ELIZABETH ANDERSON (B.F.A.) was nominated as an Alexandria Living Legend by three leading Alexandria, VA, arts organizations—The Art League, the Torpedo Factory Artists' Association, and the Torpedo Factory Art Center Board.

VERNON SYKES (M.S.) began a four-year term representing state Senate District 28 in northeast Ohio.

1979

JOHN KIRK (M.S.) was named vice president of regulatory affairs for Millendo Therapeutics, Inc., an Ann Arbor, MI-based company developing therapies for endocrine diseases caused by hormone dysregulation.

MARIANNE KUZUJANAKIS (M.D.), chair of the Professional Advisory Committee of the Schenectady, NY-based Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted (SENG), is co-author of *Misdiagnosis & Dual Diagnosis of Gifted Children & Adults*, a medical counseling book.

ELIZABETH MADIGAN (B.S.) was named chief executive officer of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International.

1978

JIM MCCUTCHEON (M.M.), an adjunct faculty member for Wright State University and Miami University and artist-in-residence at the University of Dayton, was recipient of a 2017 Governor's Award for the Arts in Ohio.

1977

TODD HALE (M.B.A.), former Nielsen senior vice president of consumer and shopper insights, presented his American Bakers Association education session titled *Opportunities to Accelerate Growth* at the International Baking Industry Exposition in Las Vegas.

DAVID SHUMWAY (M.S.) released *Birth of a City*, a book about the modern-era history of Beavercreek, OH.

1976

BROOKE ATHERTON (B.F.A.), a textile artist, spoke at the Huntington (WV) Museum of Art and exhibited her work titled *Macy's*

Presents: Brooke Atherton, Maps & Measures.

DAN PATTERSON (B.F.A.), a photographer, installed a life-sized action photo of Wilbur and Orville Wright at Huffman Prairie on a mesh screen for the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park.

1975

STEPHEN A. YOUNG (M.S.) is a professor in the Department of Pathology at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine.

1974

K. STUART GOLDBERG (B.A.), a civil trial lawyer, was hired as associate attorney by The Berman Group, a Florida-based personal-injury law firm.

EVA LAZEAR (B.A.), who retired after 30 years of teaching, is working part time as a tutor at Springfield (OH) High School.

CHARLES PAINTER (M.ED.), coach of the Archbishop Alter High School boys tennis team in Kettering, OH, recorded his 700th career coaching win.

1970

ELLEN HARSHMAN (M.ED.), dean emeritus of the John Cook School of Business at Saint Louis University, was appointed to the board of directors and audit committee of Post Holdings, Inc., a St. Louis-based consumer packaged goods holding company.

JAMES JEFFRIES (B.A.) was reappointed to the Texas Appraiser and Licensing and Certification Board by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott.

1969

BRIAN A. GARRY (B.A.) was awarded the U.S. Coast Guard Commandant's Auxiliary Achievement Medal for superior performance of duty.



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THEN & NOW

The more things change, the more they stay the same.
How does campus look now compared to our early days?







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