



Higher Learning Commission Commends ONU's Assessment Progress

In the fall of 2004, as a condition of affiliation, the Higher Learning Commission requested that Ohio Northern University submit a progress report on the Assessment of Student Learning by April 30, 2008. In the evaluation team report, the commission provided a list of six items that the University needed to address. The University submitted its report, organized by the six required items, on April 28, 2008. The progress report detailed the University's progress in the assessment of student learning since the Higher Learning Commission's comprehensive evaluation and visit.

On May 16, 2008, the university received a letter from the Higher Learning Commission accepting the institution's report and requiring no further action. The Higher Learning Commission stated that the progress report submitted by the University was comprehensive, well documented and convincing. They further stated that Ohio Northern University has indeed effectively addressed the concerns of the team with respect to assessment at the University and commended the institution's excellent and effective assessment work.

The report highlighted the significant progress made by the University in assessing the learning of its students, including the following:

- Assessment committee roles were redefined to provide clarification of the authority and responsibility for assessment efforts.
- The University's general learning objectives were reorganized to create a separate category of objectives for general education.
- Direct and indirect measures to assess general education were added, including the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA), course-embedded assessments for writing and public speaking, the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), the Alumni and Employer Survey, and the Residence Life Survey.
- The new annual process for reviewing general education data has resulted in proposed curricular and co-curricular adjustments designed to improve student learning.
- A committee was appointed to review and recommend changes to the general education program, including ways in which the

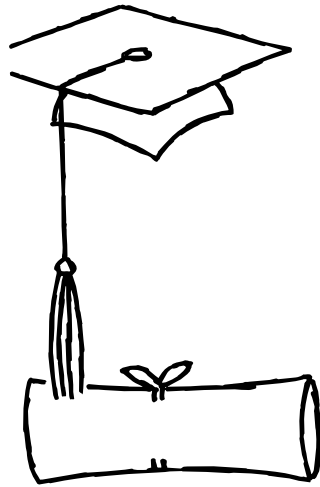
institution would assess a revised general education curriculum.

- The annual assessment reporting process was revised to include an evaluative component that has indicated improvements are being made to departmental assessment plans in all areas, including learning objectives, measurement strategies, presentation of results, the use of assessment data, and recommendations for changes to assessment plans.
- Additional resources were allocated to support assessment activities and to provide technical assistance with departmental assessment initiatives.

While the report detailed the institution's progress with assessment, the report also recognized that work must continue in several areas. Most importantly, the institution must continue to strive to increase the implementation levels of assessment plans for all major programs and ensure that departments are collecting and using assessment data to facilitate improvements in student learning.

Finally, the University anticipates that the plan to assess general education will change dramatically given the scheduled calendar change from quarters to semesters in 2011-12 and the anticipated and corresponding revision of general education.

"All of us are to be congratulated for our hard work in the area of assessment," says Christy Cole, director of institutional research.



General Education Report Available Online

The University Steering Committee on General Education has completed its year-long task of developing a model for a University-wide general education program. The final report can be found at:

www2.onu.edu/~pcroskery/gen-ed/

The Web site includes a link to the executive summary (a one-page account of the committee's recommendations).

In addition, the Web site includes a link to the recommended general education outcomes. To prepare for the fall 2008 opening session, faculty members should take a close look at these outcomes.

Finally, the Web site includes a list of the Steering Committee members, any of whom would be happy to discuss the report.



Human Resources

Leslie Moor has joined the Human Resources team, filling the position vacated by Stephanie Rychel's move to Career Services. Among her duties is the processing of the University payroll.

Leslie comes to ONU from GSW Manufacturing in Findlay, Ohio, where she was the payroll administrator for the past 13 years. Previous to GSW, Leslie worked for

various other manufacturing and retail companies, including the Cooper Tire and Rubber Company, Solomon Software, and Capital Tire Service. Leslie earned her associates degree from Stautzenberger College, Findlay, Ohio.

Career Services



Melinda Nungester is ONU's new senior career services specialist.

A graduate of Rhodes State College, she holds an associate degree in computer information systems.

Prior to coming to ONU, she was enrollment management systems analyst at Rhodes State College and administrative assistant to the pastor of Union Chapel Missionary Church.

She has also worked for Informatics, Inc./Information Telemanagement Group, Crown TV & Appliance, Waffle House, Pizza Hut, WTLW TV and the Lima YMCA.

Estell Elected to ASEE Office

John Estell, Ph.D., chair of the electrical and computer engineering and computer science department, was elected as program chair-elect of the Computers in Education Division (CoED) of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) during the 2008 ASEE Annual Conference held in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Election to this position is highly significant as the division operates under a six-year succession planning structure. After serving for two years as program chair-elect, with responsibilities for supervising the CoED poster sessions for the 2009 and 2010 ASEE annual conferences, Dr. Estell will serve as the CoED program chair for the 2011 and 2012 ASEE annual conferences, and then serve as the chair of the Computers in Education Division from July 2012 through June 2014.

Associate Dean

Stephen C. Veltri, professor of law, has assumed the responsibilities of associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Law. He can be reached at ext. 2212 or s-veltri@onu.edu.

Article Published

Andrew Roecker, PharmD, associate professor of pharmacy practice, is co-author of an article published in *Exp Opin Pharmacother* 2008; 9(10): 1745-54.

Roecker and S.D. Pope are authors of "Dalbavancin: a lipoglycopeptide antibacterial for gram-positive infections."

Article Published

Kimberly Broedel-Zaugg, Ph.D., professor of pharmacy practice, is one of the authors of a research article in the *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education* titled "Academic Pharmacy Administrators' Perceptions of Core requirement for Entry Into Professional Pharmacy Programs."

Co-authors are: Shauna M. Buring, PharmD, University of Cincinnati; Nathan Shankar, Ph.D., University of Oklahoma; Robert Soltis, Ph.D., Drake University; Mary K. Stamatakis, PharmD, West Virginia University; Kathy Zaiken, PharmD, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences; and J. Chris Bradberry, PharmD, Creighton University.

The objective of their study was to determine which basic and social science courses academic pharmacy administrators believe should be required for entry into the professional pharmacy program and what they believe should be the required length of preprofessional study.

The article is available online at www.ajpe.org/aj7203/aj720352/aj720352.pdf

Attends Practicum

Kelly M. Shields, PharmD, assistant professor of pharmacy practice, joined more than 100 other professors and graduate students from universities throughout the U.S. and Canada to participate in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) course, "Dietary Supplement Research Practicum 2008." The Practicum was held on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland, June 9-13, 2008.

ODS offers this annual intensive course to provide essential knowledge of dietary supplements to academic faculty and their doctoral or post-doctoral students with a serious interest in this subject. Experts from NIH, academic institutions and Federal regulatory agencies such as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) served as speakers.

The ODS practicum provides a thorough overview of issues, concepts, unknowns and controversies about dietary supplements and supplement ingredients. It also emphasizes the importance of scientific investigations to evaluate the efficacy, safety and value of these products for health promotion and disease prevention and treatment, as well as how to carry out this type of research.

On June 11, participants spent the day in Washington, D.C., to meet with representatives from professional associations, media, the dietary supplement industry and consumer advocacy groups that study, advocate, regulate or educate about dietary supplements.

Engineering Faculty Honored for First-Year Curriculum Paper

At the American Society of Electrical Engineers (ASEE) annual conference in Pittsburgh, Pa., pictured from left, are Dr. Gunter Georgi, chair of the Freshman Programs Division (FPD) of the ASEE, presenting Dr. John Estell, ONU's chair of electrical and computer engineering and computer science department, Dr. Beverly Jaeger, of Northeastern University, Dr. J.D. Yoder, ONU's chair, mechanical engineering department, Dr. Richard Whalen, Northeastern University and Dr. Susan Freeman, Northeastern University, with the 2007 Freshman Programs Division Best Paper Award. The award is presented for the best paper presented in a FPD-sponsored session at the annual conference and published in the ASEE Annual Conference Proceedings. Dr. Estell and his colleagues received the award for their paper titled, "Tower of Straws: Reaching New Heights with Active Learning in Engineering Design for the First-Year Curriculum."



Technology Students Present at SME Meeting

Two ONU students placed second in a competition at the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) annual meeting held May 3 to June 3 in Detroit, Mich.

Trevor Robinson, left, senior technology education major from Caledonia, Ohio, and Chris Miller, right, sophomore technology major from Ft. Jennings, Ohio, presented a poster display and explained how the ONU SME chapter raised more than \$6,000 for student scholarships. The chapter members laser-engraved the ONU logo onto wood-encased USB flash drives and sold the drives to campus organizations.

The SME annual meeting allows members and non-members in the manufacturing industry to share ideas and practice and discuss advancements in manufacturing technologies and business practices.

ONU Named in 'Colleges of Distinction'

Ohio Northern University is one of the featured schools in the 2008-09 "Colleges of Distinction" guide published in July.

ONU is one of 14 schools from Ohio highlighted in the annual publication that offers a fresh look at colleges and universities appealing to students' unique and varied interests.

Selected schools in "Colleges of Distinction" focus on what makes a university great, such as engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities and successful outcomes. The goal of the publication is to provide students, counselors and parents with information about schools in these key areas. Featured schools take a holistic approach to admissions, consistently providing undergraduate education and a national reputation.

"Colleges of Distinction" is the result of a group of concerned parents, educators and admissions professionals' goal to improved the current state of the college admissions process by providing consumers with the best possible information about higher education.

Student Article Published

Will Reisinger, a third-year law student from Blacksburg, Va., is author of an article in the *Touro Law Review* (23 *Touro Law Review* 685). "Beyond 'De-Nile': The UN's Genocide Problem in Darfur" deals with the international legal definition of genocide found in the UN's Genocide Convention, and discusses the options the international community has to enforce the convention, specifically regarding humanitarian intervention and the use of military force to stop the violence.

He also has an article, "Law and Justice in Mark Twain's Great American Novel," accepted by the *Michigan State Journal of Entertainment & Sports Law*. This one discusses the law and literature movement, and applies a law and literature analysis to *Huckleberry Finn*.

High School Students Perform Engineering Research

Two area high school students are performing engineering research at Ohio Northern University this summer.

Devin Kisor, left, and Kevin Romey, right, both seniors at Bluffton High School, are gaining research experience under the mentorship of Dr. Jed E. Marquart, professor of mechanical engineering, thanks to a grant obtained through the Ohio Space Grant Consortium, and funded by NASA.

The goal of the program is to provide high school students who are interested in pursuing an engineering career with practical research experience under the guidance of an engineering faculty member.

Kisor and Romey are currently using a wind tunnel in the ONU Thermal Sciences Laboratory to obtain lift and drag data on various wind tunnel model shapes. This data will be processed and later used for comparison to the results obtained by ONU students in fluid mechanics laboratory experiments.

Kisor and Romey will also learn to use computational fluid dynamics computer software to numerically model some of the wind tunnel tests. This data will be used for comparison to the wind tunnel data to verify the results.



This work is of particular interest to Romey, since he is interested in aerospace engineering and is presently working toward his private pilot's license.

Kisor is the son of Drs. David and Shirley Kisor, and Romey is the son of Mike and Amy Romey.

ONU Music, Fine Arts Programs

Ranked Among Top 200

Two Ohio Northern University academic programs were mentioned in the second edition of *Creative Colleges: A Guide for Student Actors, Artists, Dancers, Musicians and Writers*. The department of music and the department of art and design were included in the list of the top 200 creative programs nationwide. Ohio Northern's theatre opportunities also were acknowledged.

Written by Elaina Loveland, *Creative Colleges* is aimed at college-bound creative students, giving them the information and resources necessary for picking the right programs. This step-by-step guide to getting into college includes helpful tips about auditions, admission essays, artistic résumés and portfolios, the SAT and ACT, and financial aid. Students can see real-life profiles of students in each discipline and find answers to frequently asked questions.

Loveland meticulously researched programs from across the country before selecting the final 200. Dr. Lisa G. Robeson, interim dean of the Getty College of Arts & Sciences, attributes ONU's inclusion to the caliber of performances the University hosts each year, and the opportunities for students to showcase their talent.

"We're really pleased that Ohio Northern's music and fine arts programs have been selected for inclusion in *Creative Colleges*," said Robeson. "I think our arts scholarships, the many visiting professional artists who do workshops here, and our opportunities to get students into performance or juried competitions have really made a difference."

Karen P. Condeni, vice president and dean of enrollment, remarked, "The endorsement of Ohio Northern in the *Creative Colleges* guide will assist talented prospective students who are searching for that 'right fit.' Through the guide's extensive research of our programs, Northern will now be listed as a quality college experience for students seeking creative opportunities."

American, Japanese Students Share Cultures

American and Japanese students will convene at Ohio Northern University for the Kasukabe-U.S. Summer Camp to be held July 24-Aug. 12.

Sixteen American high school students from across the country and 20 Japanese high school students from the Saitama Prefecture in Japan will engage in cultural activities unique to each country. The camp is dedicated to fostering scholarship, enhancing language skills and promoting cross-cultural understanding.

Upon completion of the program, students will receive four college credit hours from ONU, a value of more than \$2,200. The unique 19-day camp is designed to introduce American students to Japanese language and culture, and Japanese students to English and American culture. In addition to academic coursework, students will take part in cultural dinners and discussions, calligraphy lessons, and field trips to Ohio destinations such as Sauder Village, Cedar Point and a Toledo Mud Hens baseball game.

American students will be paired with Japanese student roommates, making the camp a truly distinctive program. Chaperones from both the United States and Japan will work with students throughout the camp.

For more information, visit www.onu.edu/kasukabe_us or contact Dr. Robert Alexander at ext: 2093 or r-alexander@onu.edu