

Subject: Dean's Update
Date: Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 8:43:40 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean
To: cfaes-all@lists.osu.edu
Attachments: image001.png

CFAES Community,

As our academic year comes to a close, I'd like to thank all of you for your dedication and hard work. As was shared at several meetings in the past few weeks, our college is experiencing tremendous momentum.

- We lead all Ohio State colleges in student success metrics across all categories. We award more than \$3.1 million in scholarships annually, more than any other college at Ohio State. Of our graduates, 94.7% are enrolled in graduate education or are employed within six months of graduation, and our four-year and six-year graduation rates exceed the university's average. Almost 80% of our graduates stayed in Ohio in 2022, up from about 75% in 2021.
- We found success with a new pilot for enrollment called the Buckeye Agricultural Leadership Pathways (BALP) program. We are actively making progress toward our enrollment growth goals as evidenced by an increase in paid admits to our college for the Autumn 2023 semester. Overall, our paid acceptance fees are up 16% over last year, with paid acceptance fees in the programs included in BALP up 37% over last year. Ohio State ATI also has an increase in paid admits, up 10% over last year.
- We strengthened graduate student enrollment, growing from 463 students in 2017 to 551 graduate students in 2023, an almost 20% increase.
- Since 2017, our tenured faculty positions have increased by 10%. In 2022, we welcomed 21 new faculty members, and we plan to welcome 40 more in 2023, with many searches underway.
- We were one of eight colleges experiencing a 20% increase or more in research expenditures from fiscal year 2021 to fiscal year 2022. Over 220 interdisciplinary proposals were submitted in fiscal year 2022. Over the last five years, our research expenditures have increased by over 40%, while total invention disclosures have increased by 43%.
- OSU Extension reaches a wide network of learners, directly educating over 2.5 million Ohioans across the lifespan, with over 1 million learners engaged through virtual education. Current Extension efforts in local communities include a focus on food accessibility and security, precision agriculture, broadband connectivity and access, rural vitality, health and wellness, and most recently, the train derailment in East Palestine. In 2022, we founded the 4-H Pathways to the Future program to expand the Young Scholars model statewide and engaged with partners to create workforce development opportunities and attract more students to Ohio State.
- We surpassed our Time and Change: The Ohio State Campaign fundraising goal of \$225 million, and in 2022, we received gifts from over 11,300 donors, with more than 1,200 of those from new donors. In the last five years, our total annual fundraising has increased by over 80%, from \$29.4 million in 2017 to \$54 million in 2023.
- Our physical spaces have also experienced significant change. The Controlled Environment Agriculture Research Complex (CEARC) officially opened in 2022 and has already secured \$10 million in grant funding. Of our \$24 million fundraising goal for our new Multispecies Animal Learning Center (MALC), \$14 million has been raised toward the design.

I am pleased to share that both the Plant Pathology Chair search and Food Science and Technology Chair search are moving forward with interviewing a finalist candidate. The finalist candidate for each role will present a vision seminar during their interview day. We invite our CFAES community to attend the seminars or view the recordings and share feedback via the surveys that will be available for access through future updates.

- Dr. Pierce Paul, finalist candidate, Plant Pathology Chair
 - Application materials: <https://go.osu.edu/paulapplicationmaterials>
 - Vision Seminar 10:00-11:00 a.m. on May 9, 2023 in 244 Kottman Hall or [via Zoom](#).
- Dr. Martha Belury, finalist candidate, Food Science and Technology Chair
 - Application materials: <https://go.osu.edu/beluryapplicationmaterials>
 - Vision Seminar 9:15-10:15 a.m. on May 11, 2023 in 118 Parker Food Science Building or [via Zoom](#).

Thank you in advance for your engagement in these search processes and taking the time to provide feedback on the candidates. Please reach out to Senior Associate Dean Tracy Kitchel (.2) if you have any questions.

The Graduate School, upon careful review of existing policies and procedures, and in consultation with the Graduate Council and the university's graduate programs, has recently completed an update of the Graduate School Handbook. The revised Handbook may be found on the Graduate School's website, or by clicking on this [link](#). There is also a compiled list of highlighted changes [here](#). As this is an ongoing process, please contact the Graduate School if you have any questions about current policies or procedures or suggestions for future edits.

Before the involvement with summer activities takes over your schedule, please remember to register for the *2023 CFAES Teaching & Learning Symposium: Re-imagining our Culture of Learning: Keeping the Best, Leaving the Rest* on **August 15, 2023** at the Fawcett Event Center in Columbus. Come explore concepts, ideas, and examples of teaching excellence and innovation for the advancement of student engagement and learning and the enhancement of effective pedagogy. All members of the CFAES teaching community are encouraged to participate. Registration is free for members of the CFAES community. [Learn more and register.](#)

Sincerely,
Dean Cathann Kress



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