



Admissions News

Dear Colleague:

While not everyone agreed who to vote for in the presidential election last November, I assume we would all agree that this has been one really crazy admissions year thanks to the economy. I know that your days were busier this year (if that is even possible) as you advised students and families regarding the best college decisions for their dreams *and* their pocketbooks.

Like most of our college and university colleagues, we remained uncertain as to the deposit outcomes up to the week of May 1. Although we know that this summer could still find some students—and some colleges—changing their minds about college decisions, we believe we have a good idea who will be coming to Ohio State in September.

We have exceeded our goal to enroll approximately 6,300 freshmen this year—we will be welcoming closer to 6,450 freshmen, and we will be ready for them! This year's class will include several hundred more Ohioans and more non-residents (both domestic and international) than last year's incoming class. This class includes more honors students and will be one of our most prepared classes. The average ACT and SAT scores of the incoming class profile will increase as well.

Because Ohio State is a major public university and the flagship university for Ohio, we are keenly aware of the responsibilities we must assume for making college a viable option for future students. **For that reason, we join with other Ohio public universities and once again keep our tuition flat for the citizens of Ohio for the 2009-2010 school year.** For our non-resident students, we are sensitive to the costs they must incur. We know that a college investment, even in these most challenging times, continues to be the best investment that families can make in order to secure the future for their children. And we strive to make investing in education a possibility for many future Buckeyes.

On behalf of my colleagues in Undergraduate Admissions and First Year Experience, I extend a most sincere thank you for your continued commitment to serving students and making a difference in their lives. Best wishes for a summer that includes some well-deserved relaxation!

Warmest regards,

Mabel G. Freeman, Ph.D.

Assistant Vice President

Undergraduate Admissions and First Year Experience

Announcements

Ohio State to switch to a semester system

Ohio State will join the ranks of Ohio's other 12 four-year universities when it switches to a semester-based academic year in autumn 2012. We'll keep you informed on this important change, and we welcome any comments or questions you have about this process.

Campus buildings

The newly renovated **Main Library** will be dedicated on September 24, 2009.

The original William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library—also known as the Main Library—opened in 1913. This grand building was designed in the Second Italian Renaissance Revival style; the site was suggested by the Olmsted Brothers, designers of New York's Central Park.



After three years of work, the library has been restored to its original beauty and functionality, but with a modern infrastructure and state-of-the-art digital resources to support teaching and learning.

The University Libraries system ranks among the top 12 of public universities across the nation. Collection and staff, located in 20 facilities across the campus, support the teaching and research that are essential to the mission of the university.

Go to library.osu.edu and click on "Renovation of the Main Library" for some photos of this beautiful new facility.



Another hub of student activity on campus, the **Ohio Union**, is slated for completion in 2010. Did you know Ohio State was the first public university to build a student union? When it was constructed in 1909, the building that is now Enarson Hall (home to UAFYE and the James J. Mager Student Visitor Center) was a benchmark facility.

A vibrant student union contributes significantly to the life of a university. A few of the new union's upgrades:

More space for student organizations, activity space, and dedicated study space.

Larger ballrooms and more meeting rooms with the capability to support technology.

An enhanced Multicultural Center.

More seating and fresh food options in food court.

Visit ohiunion.osu.edu/new to see a video of the new union, view construction progress via live web cams, and more.

Undergraduate Admissions and First Year Experience
Enarson Hall
154 W. 12th Ave.
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Online Tools

As students increasingly seek information from Web-based sources such as search engines, Facebook, and YouTube, Undergraduate Admissions and First Year Experience is continually developing new ways to reach these tech-savvy future Buckeyes. Three of our newer Web-based tools for prospective students are AskOSU, Buckeye Blogs, and a new video e-mail series.

Got questions? AskOSU

Since December 2006, visitors to undergrad.osu.edu have been able to ask a question in natural language and get an answer any day, any time. AskOSU, a kind of dynamic and interactive FAQs, is a compilation of questions (currently 129 of them) that prospective students ask most frequently. The questions are divided into the following seven categories: About the School, Academics Information, Admissions, Housing, Online Tools, Tuition and Financial Aid, and Other Questions.

We monitor the system monthly to make sure our knowledge base is accurately answering the questions users are asking. By monitoring the questions, we also learn what information is most important to prospective students. For instance, the top three questions asked have consistently remained the same: What majors does Ohio State offer? How much is tuition? and How do I apply?

When we know what information future students really want to know, we can get that information to them (and their families) through prominent placement on our web site and through print and e-mail communications. And if they still have questions, they can always AskOSU.

Ohio State's admissions web site can only tell you so much. Get the real scoop. Check out Buckeyes Blog.

The Buckeyes Blog web site is designed to share the experiences of current Ohio State students with prospective students and their families. Student bloggers publish at least one entry per week for one year, including during breaks and study abroad or internship opportunities. Through stories, anecdotes, and pictures, the Buckeye Bloggers provide prospective students with a personal vision of student life at Ohio State. See what Buckeyes have to say at undergrad.osu.edu/buckeyesblog.

Nine e-mails. Nine videos. Nine weeks.

Undergraduate Admissions tried something new this year while encouraging admitted students to choose Ohio State: we launched a new, completely-video e-mail campaign.

From the last week of February to the end of April, students who were accepted to Ohio State, but hadn't made final decisions, received one video e-mail each week. Videos chosen for this campaign include a virtual tour of the new student union, a student-guided tour of residence halls, a glimpse into an undergraduate research forum, and an introduction to many of the Ohio State student organizations.

From school traditions to the Columbus community, from academic excellence to commencement exercises, these videos highlight what makes Ohio State unique and show admitted students what awaits them on one of the largest campuses in the nation. View these videos at undergrad.osu.edu/emailseries.

Buckeye Book Community

Each summer, the first-year class forms what may be the largest collegiate book club in the nation: the Buckeye Book Community (BBC). Students get their reading assignment at orientation, read over the summer, and return to campus to hear the author and attend book discussions.

This year's selection is *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time*. The book, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, recounts Mortenson's life-changing experiences, which began in a small Pakistani village after a failed attempt to ascend K2.

Exhausted and ill, Mortenson was sheltered for nearly two months by the people of the village. In return, he promised to return one day to build the town's first school, which he did. His project grew into the Central Asia Institute, which has built more than 55 schools across rural Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The *Christian Science Monitor* writes of the book, "Laced with drama, danger, romance, and good deeds, Mortenson's story serves as a reminder of the power of a good idea and the strength inherent in one person's passionate determination to persevere against enormous obstacles."

The BBC program will wrap up with a visit from Greg Mortenson, who will speak with several classes and give an evening talk to first-year students and the campus community.

