

# Celebrating Ohio Wesleyan Recognition Program

Ohio  
Wesleyan  
University



Alumni Weekend | May 14, 2016



**Celebrating Ohio Wesleyan  
the Annual Alumni  
Recognition Program and Meeting  
of the Alumni Association**

**May 14, 2016 | 12:30 p.m.  
Gray Chapel**

**Welcome**

David Livingston '94,  
*President, Alumni Association Board of Directors*

**Invocation**

Phil Roach '61

**Recognition of Reunion Classes**

David Livingston '94

**Annual Giving Report**

Catie Butt '91

**Alumni Recognition Program**

David Livingston '94

**Presentation of Honorary Alumni Citations**

Recognition of past recipients

Presentations

Jed Burtt, Professor Emeritus of Zoology (Posthumously)

## **Presentation of Alumni Awards**

Recognition of past recipients

Presentations

Evan R. Corns '59

Robert W. Gillespie '66

Michael G. Long '66

## **Presentation of Young Alumni Awards**

Presentations

Driss Sekkat '06

Meghan Feran Sexton '06

## **Presentation of Distinguished Achievement Citations**

Recognition of past recipients

Presentations

Carol Jane Galante '76

Randall Griffin '66

Gregory L. Moore '66

James E. Oberg '66

## **State of the University Address**

Rock Jones

*President*

## **Closing Remarks**

David Livingston '94

## **Alma Mater**

# Ohio Wesleyan University

## Class Giving Summary

Class	FY16 Class Gift Ohio Wesleyan Fund	*Class Gift Participation
1941	\$18,541	42%
1946	\$13,485	38%
1951	\$39,650	34%
1956	\$91,277	43%
1961	\$117,624	33%
<b>1966</b>	<b>\$406,892</b>	<b>33%</b>
1971	\$89,018	23%
1976	\$53,105	22%
1981	\$34,559	14%
1986	\$11,035	9%
1991	\$68,492	12%
1996	\$26,305	9%
2001	\$8,870	10%
2006	\$33,153	11%
2011	\$2,076	8%
Giving Totals	\$1,014,082	

### The Class of 1966 50th Reunion gift

**Total Raised: \$2,000,000**

(Ohio Wesleyan Fund \$450,000, Class of 1966 Endowed Scholarship \$700,000,  
Planned Gift Commitments \$1,000,000)

Gift amounts represent cash and pledges through May 5, 2016.

Gifts will be received and appreciated through June 30, 2016.

# EDWARD H. BURTT, JR., PH.D.

Professor Emeritus of Zoology  
Honorary Alumni Award

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan University's Honorary Alumni Award, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is honored to recognize posthumously **Dr. Edward H. "Jed" Burtt, Jr.**, for his academic contributions and long dedication to the University and OWU community.

Jed earned his B.A. in Biology from Bowdoin College in Maine before earning both his M.A. and Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

He taught at Ohio Wesleyan for 37 years and mentored countless students, helping them to become better students, better researchers, and better people through his caring guidance.

During his time at Ohio Wesleyan, Jed earned 16 research grants totaling more than \$3 million, helping to provide research stipends to nearly 90 students. His work also helped Ohio Wesleyan to buy its original scanning electron microscope and replacement scanning transmission electron microscope.

He wrote many books and gave more than 100 different presentations across the globe.

He chaired the National Audubon-Ohio Committee on Important Bird Areas, helping to identify places in Ohio with critical wildlife areas. He served as President of the American Ornithologists' Union and was awarded honorary life memberships in both the Association of Field Ornithologists and the Wilson Ornithological Society. Jed was a Fellow of the Animal Behavior Society, American Ornithologists' Union, Ohio Academy of Sciences, and International Ornithologists' Union. In 2011, he was named the Ohio Professor of the Year.

Jed was deeply dedicated to teaching and mentoring students, stating: "Awakening a passion in a young person and helping each student fulfill a newly formulated dream is the essence of teaching. There is no higher calling, no greater purpose in life."

It is with great honor and pride that we remember the tremendous impact made by Dr. Edward H. Burtt, Jr., and honor him with Ohio Wesleyan's Honorary Alumni Award.

# EVAN R. CORNS '59

## Alumni Award

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan University's Alumni Award, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is proud to recognize **Evan R. Corns** for serving as a constant champion and strong supporter of his alma mater.

As an Ohio Wesleyan student, Evan majored in history and was a leader in the Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) fraternity.

As an OWU alumnus, Evan has remained actively engaged with the University. He joined the Board of Trustees in 1992, serving first as a Trustee-at-Large, then an Alumni Trustee, and now a Life Trustee. He also is a member of the Alumni Advisory Board for The Woltemade Center for Economics, Business and Entrepreneurship.

In support of Ohio Wesleyan's students and faculty, Evan has created multiple endowments over the years, and others have created endowments to honor him. He donated funds to name the R.W. Corns Building in memory of his father and has been a strong supporter of Battling Bishop athletics and Team OWU. He and his wife, Barbara P. Corns, are members of the Founders' Circle, Tower Society, and President's Circle.

Evan also has been a longtime OWU volunteer, serving as an Annual Fund Class Chair, Annual Fund Fraternity Volunteer, and Annual Fund Decade Chair. He served as Co-Chair of Ohio Wesleyan's previous capital campaign and in numerous leadership positions in other campaigns.

A savvy businessman, Evan co-founded America's Body Company in 1976. Under his leadership, it became the largest business of its kind in the United States, with seven facilities nationwide and sales of more than \$120 million annually. Evan, who holds an M.A. from the University of North Carolina, also served his county in the U.S. Army.

In recognition of his personal and professional success, Evan was inducted into the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges (OFIC) Hall of Excellence in 2010.

Although it's always a great day to be a Bishop, today is especially meaningful as we recognize Evan R. Corns with the Alumni Award for his lifetime of dedicated service to Ohio Wesleyan and the campus community.

# ROBERT W. GILLESPIE '66

## Alumni Award

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan University's Alumni Award, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is proud to recognize **Robert W. Gillespie** for his outstanding service and dedication to his alma mater.

Bob earned his B.A. in Economics in 1966. He was President of the Epsilon chapter of the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity and was involved with Le Bijou Yearbook and The Transcript student newspaper.

He has maintained close connections to Ohio Wesleyan since his graduation. Bob served as a Trustee-at-Large from 1987 to 2013, when he became a Life Trustee. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees' University Advancement, Finance and Operations, and Investments committees.

Bob also has been active with the Department of Economics and with The Woltemade Center for Economics, Business and Entrepreneurship. He previously served as Chair of The Campaign for Ohio Wesleyan and has been a dedicated volunteer with Annual Giving, his Class Reunion, and more. Professionally, Bob is Chairman Emeritus of KeyCorp in Cleveland.

In 1997, Bob was inducted into the Hall of Excellence of the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges.

Bob and his wife, Ann Wible Gillespie, Class of 1967, are members of the Founders' Circle and recipients of the Adam Poe Medal. They also are members of the Tower Society.

Today, during his Golden Reunion, we thank, and applaud Robert W. Gillespie for his longstanding and dedicated service to Ohio Wesleyan and the campus community.



# MICHAEL G. LONG '66

## Alumni Award

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan University's Alumni Award, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is proud to recognize **Michael G. Long** for his tireless service and unending dedication to his alma mater.

Mike earned his B.A. in 1966, majoring in Economics. He was President of the Gamma chapter of the Sigma Chi Fraternity and a member of the Interfraternity Council. He also was a member of the Varsity Soccer Team.

Since his graduation, Mike been actively engaged with Ohio Wesleyan. He served on the Board of Trustees from 1996 to 2014, including as Vice Chair from 2007 to 2010 and as Chair from 2010 to 2014, when he became a Life Trustee. Mike, a retired partner and respected and accomplished litigator at Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease, also has served as University Counsel.

In addition, Mike served on the Alumni Board from 1988 to 1994. He served as Chair of the Presidential Search Committee before the installation of Dr. Rock Jones as OWU's 16th President in 2008.

Mike has been a dedicated volunteer, serving as a Class Giving Chair, Annual Giving Fraternity Volunteer, Reunion Volunteer, and played a vital role leading his 50th reunion committee this year. He and his wife, Pamela Blazer Long, Class of 1966, are members of the Tower Society and have been members of the President's Circle since 2008.

Today, during his Golden Reunion, we thank and applaud Michael G. Long for his longstanding and dedicated service to Ohio Wesleyan and the campus community.

## **DRISS SEKKAT '06**

### **Young Alumni Award**

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan University's Young Alumni Award, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is proud to recognize **Driss Sekkat** for his award-winning work in documentary filmmaking and media production.

At Ohio Wesleyan, Driss earned a degree in Journalism and spent a summer interning at CNN. He was a member of the Theta Deuteron chapter of Phi Gamma Delta as well as the Varsity Golf Team. In pursuing undergraduate his degree, he worked at Ohio Wesleyan's student radio station, WSLN, and independent student newspaper, The Transcript.

After earning his OWU diploma in 2006, Driss continued his education at George Washington University, studying Filmmaking.

Since his years at Ohio Wesleyan, Driss has worked for leading organizations including ESPN, CNN, and The Middle East Broadcasting Networks.

His career highlights include creating and executive producing four seasons of the award-winning investigative documentary "Street Pulse." The show earned the 2015 Bronze Award at The New York Festivals for its look at people living in cemeteries. The show also earned the 2014 CINE Special Jury Award and the 2013 CINE Golden Eagle Award for its documentary on El Minya quarry labor workers. In 2013, the show was nominated by the AIB in London for best documentary in the Middle East for its reporting on child labor.

Driss also produced two seasons of "Rayheen Ala Feen," the first reality show of its kind, highlighting stories of post-revolution Egypt, and he created and executive produced two seasons of a hybrid docu-reality series titled, "Our Neighborhood," which featured an eight-part series on life inside Cairo's neighborhoods.

For all that he has accomplished, we are honored to recognize Driss Sekkat with Ohio Wesleyan's Young Alumni Award.

# MEGHAN FERAN SEXTON '06

## Young Alumni Award

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan University's Young Alumni Award, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is proud to recognize **Meghan Feran Sexton** for all she has accomplished since graduation and her unwavering commitment to improving people's lives through both her words and deeds.

While studying at Ohio Wesleyan, Meggie majored in Journalism and Psychology and graduated Summa Cum Laude. She was a member of the Gamma deuteron chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta as well as a member of the Varsity Cross Country and Track & Field teams.

She earned her M.A. in Communications Management at John Carroll University and her Ed.S. in Educational Administration at Kent State University.

Meggie worked as an Assistant Director of Alumni Relations here at Ohio Wesleyan before becoming a Community Events Specialist for the American Cancer Society.

She has stayed connected to Ohio Wesleyan, serving as her sorority's Public Relations Advisor and as a Freshman Fellowship Advisor.

Meggie lives in Columbus, where she works with Columbus Young Professionals. She also works with the Independent Colleges Advancement Association Board, as a Publicity Committee Member for AutismSpeaks, and with National Eating Disorder Association. Her first book, *To The Moon and Back*, seeks to help others by detailing her struggle with eating disorders.

For all that she has accomplished, we are honored to recognize Meghan Feran Sexton with OWU's Young Alumni Award.

# CAROL JANE GALANTE '76

## Distinguished Achievement Citation

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan University's Distinguished Achievement Citation, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is honored to recognize **Carol Jane Galante** for her innovative and effective work in improving urban housing.

Carol graduated from Ohio Wesleyan in 1976, after working with two other students to create the Urban Studies interdisciplinary major. During her senior year, she joined Mortar Board and was also a member of Phi Beta Kappa Honorary Fraternity.

After Ohio Wesleyan, Carol continued her studies at the University of California, Berkeley, earning a Master of City and Regional Planning degree.

Carol has worked in home and community building in both the private and public sectors. As President and CEO of BRIDGE Housing Corporation, the largest nonprofit developer of affordable, mixed-income and mixed-use developments in California, she oversaw the development of more than 10,000 homes in 40 cities. She has continued to have an active volunteer role in many influential housing and urban land use organizations.

In 2011, President Obama appointed Carol as Assistant Secretary for Housing/Federal Housing Commissioner at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Prior to her confirmation, she served as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing/FHA Commissioner, having first joined HUD in May 2009 as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multifamily Housing programs.

In 2014, she became a professor at the University of California, Berkeley, and Director of the Berkeley Program on Housing and Urban Policy.

She was named Builder Magazine's Top Most Influential Person in Homebuilding in 2006, Multifamily and Developer Magazine's Executive of the Year in 2008, and Housing Wire Magazine's Most Influential Woman in Housing of 2012. She also has been inducted into the California Homebuilder Hall of Fame.

It is with great appreciation and admiration that we award Carol Galante the Distinguished Achievement Citation for her work on urban development as well as her dedication to helping her community.

# RANDALL GRIFFIN '66

## Distinguished Achievement Citation

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan University's Distinguished Achievement Citation, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is honored to recognize **Randall Griffin** for his outstanding commitment to the University and for his successful professional career.

Rand graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1966, majoring in Economics and English. At OWU, he was a member of the Varsity Swimming Team and the Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs. He also was a member of the Ohio Delta chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and served on the Interfraternity Council.

After graduating from Ohio Wesleyan, Rand continued his studies at Harvard Business School, where he earned his Master of Business Administration degree.

Before his retirement, Rand served as President and CEO of Corporate Office Properties Trust, becoming a Trustee after he retired. He also has held many high-level executive management positions for companies ranging from the Midwest-based Linclay Corporation to EuroDisney Development in Paris.

In 2011, Rand earned the Business Leader of the Year Award from Loyola's Seller School of Business and Management. During his career, he directed the development of more than \$3.8 billion in real estate assets.

Rand also served as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, completing a tour of duty in Vietnam as an advisor to the Special Forces Vietnamese Unit.

Rand has had an incredible philanthropic career on top of his business accolades. He has served on the Board of Directors for the The National Aquarium, The Center for Aquatic Life and Conservation, and the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education. He also is on the Board of Trustees, Governors, and Visitors for three more Maryland and Washington, D.C.-based communities. His longterm and generous involvement with Ohio Wesleyan has included being a member of the President's Circle and the Tower Society.

It is with great admiration and appreciation that we award Randall Griffin the Distinguished Achievement Citation for his dedication to career and philanthropy.

# GREGORY L. MOORE '76

## Distinguished Achievement Citation

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan University's Distinguished Achievement Citation, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is honored to recognize **Gregory L. Moore** for his dedication to journalism and to future generations of budding reporters and liberal arts students.

Greg graduated from Ohio Wesleyan in 1976 with a double major in Journalism and Political Science.

During his 14-year tenure as Editor of The Denver Post, he led the newspaper to four consecutive Pulitzer Prizes. Before joining the Post, Greg honed his journalism skills at The Boston Globe, The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer, and The (Dayton) Journal Herald.

In 2015, Greg became the 10th OWU graduate to be inducted into the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges Hall of Excellence. In 2012, he earned the national Benjamin C. Bradlee Editor of the Year Award as well as the Alumni of the Year Award from Ohio Wesleyan's Office of Multicultural Student Affairs.

Greg was one of the Founding Members of the Cleveland chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists, and he has served his profession as a Board Member of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. He also has been elected as Co-Chair of the Pulitzer Prize Board.

Greg has remained active at Ohio Wesleyan, generously giving of his time to mentor students, serve on the Board of Trustees, and volunteer with both the departments of Admission and University Advancement.

Through his generous financial contributions, Greg has supported OWU's Butler A. Jones House of Black Culture, the Willa B. Player Black Resource Center in Stuyvesant Hall, and a mission trip to Ghana.

It is with great appreciation and admiration that we award Gregory L. Moore the Distinguished Achievement Citation for his work as a journalist, mentor, and philanthropist.

# JAMES E. OBERG '66

## Distinguished Achievement Citation

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan University's Distinguished Achievement Citation, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is honored to recognize former NASA Space Engineer **James E. Oberg** for his dedication to the science of space.

Jim graduated from Ohio Wesleyan in 1966, earning a degree in Mathematics. He later earned Master of Science degrees in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science, respectively, from Northwestern University and the University of New Mexico.

Since his time at Ohio Wesleyan, Jim has served in the U.S. Air Force and spent more than 20 years working as a NASA engineer. In 1997, he earned NASA's Sustained Superior Performance Award for his design of the first space station assembly mission.

An accomplished journalist, Jim also has written more than 1,000 magazine and newspaper articles, working as a correspondent and consultant for UPI, ABC, NBC, and MSNBC. In 1991, PBS created a documentary series based on his book *Red Star in Orbit*, which details the history of the Soviet space program. He also has written books on the Soviet and Chinese space programs as well as fantasy space travel.

Jim has won many awards for his written works and study of space, including the Jonathan Eberhart Planetary Sciences Journalism Award from the American Astronomical Society for his *Astronomy* magazine article, "Torrid Mercury's Ice Poles."

He is a Fellow of the British Interplanetary Society and became the first foreign member of the Russian Academy of Cosmonautics in 1993. Jim is fluent in English, French, and Russian and has testified before Congress many times.

For all of his *astronomical* accomplishments, it is with great pride that we award James E. Oberg the Ohio Wesleyan Distinguished Achievement Citation.

# Platform Party

Rock Jones, *President, Ohio Wesleyan University*

David Livingston '94, *President, Alumni Association Board of Directors*

Katie Webster, *Director, Alumni Relations*

## Also Seated on the Platform

Former recipients

*(listed by name, class year, and year of recognition, as of 5.6.16)*

## PAST DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT CITATION

Dr. Herbert L. Dupont '61 • 2006

## PAST ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

Mrs. Laurie McGregor Connor '77 • 1999

Mr. Douglas H. Dittrick Jr. '55 • 1993

Ms. Sally C. Harris '76 • 2001

Reverend Mary S. Holm '60 • 2015

Mr. Robert A. Holm '60 • 2005

Mrs. Wendy M. Johnson '74 • 2009

Mr. Robert M. Roach '68 • 1993

Mr. Stephen C. Sherwood '70 • 2010

Mr. Mark H. Shipp's '70 • 1997

Mrs. Virginia A. Shipp's '70 • 2000

Mrs. Helen Crider Smith '56 • 1964

Mr. Gordon Smith '56 • 1964

Mr. Ronald J. Stephany '66 • 1991

Mr. Howard E. Strauch '50 • 1968

Mrs. Marsha A. Tilden '81 • 2011

Dr. Jackson E. Winters '61 • 2011



# Alma Mater

Ohio Wesleyan! Sweetly and strong  
Rises our hymn of praise for thee alone;  
Heaven re-echoes it, loud let it ring.  
Ohio Wesleyan! Loyal hearts sing.

Ohio Wesleyan! Proud is thy crown.  
Rarest of laurels e'er victory has known;  
Noblest achievements have hallowed thy name.  
Ohio Wesleyan! Deathless thy fame.

Special thanks to **Joseph Musser**,  
Professor Emeritus of English, for playing the organ.





OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

**Alumni**  
**& friends**

**MOWRY ALUMNI CENTER**

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