

MOUNT UNION

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SPRING/SUMMER
2016

CHAMPIONS IN THE FIELD

Alumni excel in the Sport Business Arena





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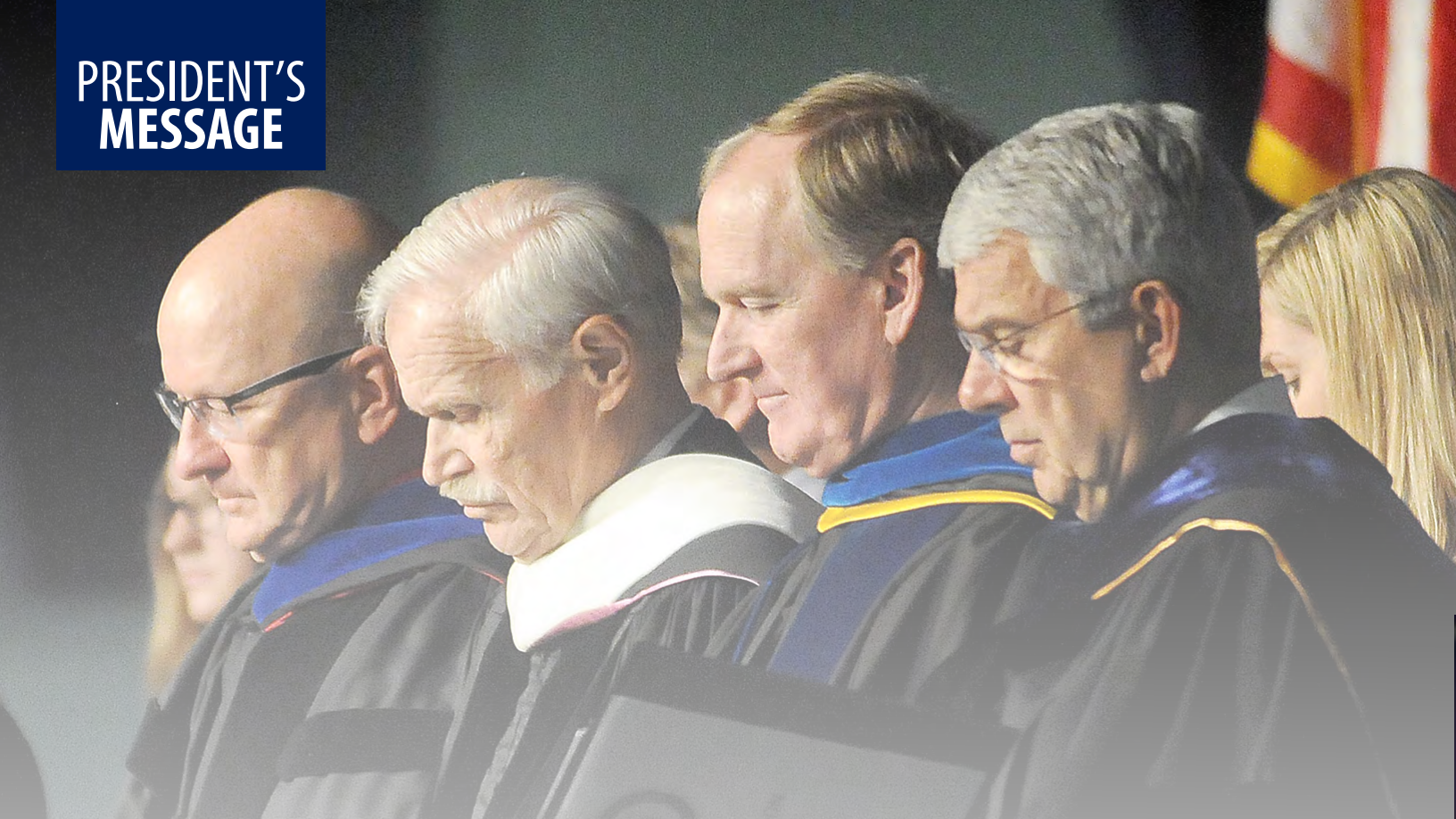
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MERRIMAN INAUGURATED AS 12TH PRESIDENT OF MOUNT UNION

Dick Merriman was inaugurated as the 12th president of Mount Union during a ceremony held May 6 in the University's Peterson Field House.

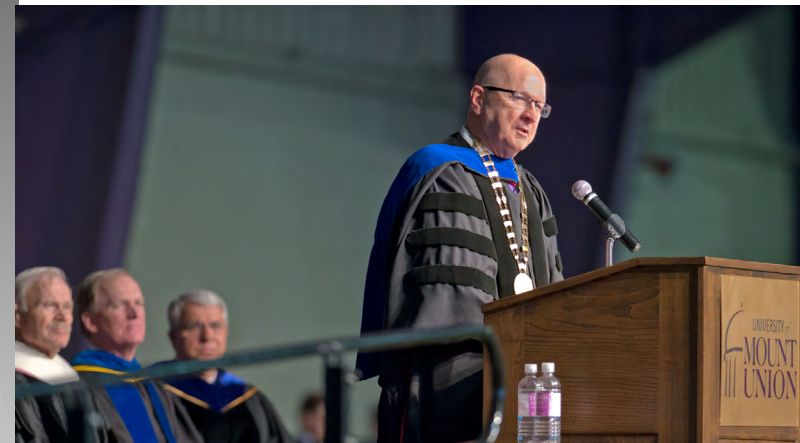
During his inaugural address, Merriman discussed Mount Union's history of success, the challenges facing the institution and his ideas for the University's future path. One example of historical innovation, he said, took place during the presidency of Tamerlane Pliny Marsh, who led the school from 1888 to 1898. During that time, Mount Union awarded 11 master's degrees and 16 doctoral degrees to students.

"Mount saw a need and met it," Merriman said. "Because Mount Union has not made confining choices in the past, it is a strong, vital and relevant institution today."

Merriman said the University's enrollment of undergraduate and graduate students has remained strong and the addition of a new doctoral program in physical therapy, along with the accreditation of engineering programs, will stimulate further growth. Other strengths of the University, according to Merriman, are the growth of the number of faculty and academic programs, talented students and athletes, strong past presidential leadership, loyalty of alumni and the vision of the Board of Trustees.

During the ceremony, administration of the Oath of Office and investiture of the Seal of Office was performed by Allen Green '77 and former Mount Union presidents Dr. Harold M. Kolenbrander, Dr. John L. Ewing, Jr. and Dr. Richard F. Giese. The Mount Union Concert Choir and brass quartet performed during the ceremony and representatives of the campus and Alliance communities offered greetings.

Visit mountunion.edu/inauguration to read Merriman's Inaugural speech.



MOUNT UNION CELEBRATES 170TH COMMENCEMENT

More than 487 graduate and undergraduate students participated in the University of Mount Union's 170th Commencement Ceremony held Saturday, May 7 in the Peterson Field House of the McPherson Academic and Athletic Complex.

International students and faculty from Bolivia, China, France, Germany, Japan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Spain and Vietnam were among those participating in the ceremony, with flags of those nations displayed as part of the graduation regalia.

This year's Commencement speaker was Dr. Richard Drake '72, director of anatomy and professor of surgery at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University.

"Throughout your life, you will be presented with many options," Drake stated during his commencement speech titled "Taking Advantage of the Next Opportunity." "Weigh them carefully and be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make a decision."

Following the address, Metropolitan Opera tenor and Mount Union alumnus Eduardo Valdes '83 performed a rendition of "You Raise Me Up" with the Mount Union Concert Choir featuring Kim Lewis '80 on piano and Chair of the Department of Music at Mount Union Elaine Anderson on cello.



The ceremony featured a speech from senior class president Jena Finch '16 titled "What Will Your Life Add Up To" and the Heaton W. Harris and Corinne Harris Smith Prize was awarded to Alison Feucht '16 immediately after. Mak Xin Fang '16 was also awarded the Good Citizenship Prize.

VISIT youtu.be/BswmnuVzMuQ to watch Valdes' performance | VISIT youtu.be/hXMQijo0AhY to watch Finch's speech

Dear friends,

Last month's Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies brought to a close a memorable year of "firsts" at Mount Union for my family and me. What a year it has been!

It has been a great experience to meet Mount Union's alumni and friends at receptions, dinners and athletic events across Ohio and around the country. At every such gathering it was clear that the University's graduates and our community of friends are very committed to the success of Mount Union. They are eager to share their stories about its life-changing impact and they follow the University's progress with great passion and interest.

It is a privilege to work with the University's faculty and administrative colleagues from across the campus. The quality of the Mount Union faculty and our academic programs put us in the first rank of private institutions in the Midwest. The energy of our advancement and alumni staff helps to generate tremendous enthusiasm and charitable support for Mount, and our admission staff are wonderful ambassadors for the University. Outstanding programs and support from the student affairs staff, wonderful opportunities in the visual and performing arts and one of the best Division III athletic programs in the country help provide an environment for student growth and achievement that is remarkable.

Mount Union's Board of Trustees provides vision and counsel for today and tomorrow. They also offer an inspiring example of outstanding philanthropic support for the University and our students.

It's not surprising to find these ingredients for greatness at Mount Union – it's a great university! It is exciting to think about what we can achieve next.

Thanks for welcoming Margot and me, and thanks for all you do for Mount Union!

Best regards,

Dick

– Dick Merriman
President, University of Mount Union

Photograph courtesy of The Alliance Review
Pictured are: (left to right) Merriman and the three presidents who preceded him.

"It's not surprising to find these ingredients for greatness at Mount Union – it's a great university!"

INFORMATIVE POLITICAL EVENTS HOSTED AT THE UNIVERSITY THIS SPRING

Mount Union hosted political speakers on campus this spring in an effort to inform students of the importance of letting their political voice be heard and to provide learning opportunities for the Mount Union community.



Chuck Todd speaks to a group of students prior to the Schooler Lecture

The events started with Chuck Todd, NBC News political director and host of “Meet the Press” and “MTP Daily,” delivering the University’s Schooler Lecture. In his presentation, Todd encouraged audience members to involve themselves in order to renew widespread interest in public service.

Dr. Jack DeSario, professor of political science and director of the legal studies program at Mount Union, presented a UMU Experts speech titled “The 2016 Elections: The Demise of the Republican and Democratic Parties?”

Mount Union also hosted a symposium titled “The Barack Obama Presidency: Legacy and Record” in conjunction with The Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at The University of Akron, on campus at Mount Union. Guest speakers presented on different aspects of President Obama’s presidency. Speakers included Jenna Brayton, White House associate director of content for the Office of Digital Strategy; Don Gonyea, NPR national political correspondent; Zack Space, former U.S. representative for Ohio’s 18th Congressional District and Ambassador (ret.) David Swartz, former ambassador and First U.S. Envoy to the Republic of Belarus.

MICHELLE LOCKHART SUNDSTROM NAMED VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT



Michelle Lockhart Sundstrom was named vice president for enrollment management at the University of

Mount Union, effective February 1, 2016.

Prior to coming to Mount Union, Sundstrom served as the associate director of client development for Ruffalo Noel Levitz, a higher education consulting firm located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Previously, she served as director of enrollment management for the school of professional and extended

studies at American University in Washington, DC; senior strategic enrollment consultant for TWG Plus in Alexandria, Virginia; and in increasingly responsible enrollment management positions at both Oklahoma City University in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and Avila University in Kansas City, Missouri.

Sundstrom earned an Associate of Arts degree from Highland Community College in Highland, Kansas, a Bachelor of Science degree in business with an emphasis in marketing from Baker University in Baldwin City, Kansas and a Master of Science degree in higher education administration from the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas.

RAIDERS WIN OAC TITLES

Raider athletic teams brought home Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) titles last season:

- Men’s and women’s indoor track won their OAC meets at Marietta College.
- Men’s outdoor track and field claimed its sixth straight OAC title.
- Women’s outdoor track and field won its 7th straight OAC title.
- Women’s lacrosse won its third straight OAC title.
- Women’s golf won its second-ever OAC title and made its first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance.
- Women’s basketball won the 2016 OAC Women’s Basketball Tournament for the fifth time in school history and advanced to the NCAA Tournament.
- Women’s swimming and diving won its second straight OAC title at the 2016 OAC Swimming and Diving Championships.
- Football won its 24th straight and 27th overall OAC title and its 12th Amos Alzonzo Stagg Bowl National Championship.

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTINUES AT MOUNT UNION GATEWAY

Progress continues to be made at the Mount Union Gateway located across from campus on State Street. DeHoff Development Company and Alliance Ventures are partners in the shopping center. Georgio’s Pizza is now open, joining Farmer’s National Bank, Buffalo Wild Wings, Papa Gyro’s restaurant, T-Mobile and Orange Leaf Yogurt. In addition, Four Kids Coffee is expected to open later this year. Four Kids Coffee is a family-run coffee shop featuring various healthy food options, including a gluten-free and vegan menu.



MOUNT UNION, STARK STATE SIGN ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

In December, Dick Merriman, president of Mount Union, and Dr. Para (Heropoulos ‘77) Jones, president of Stark State, signed the first of several agreements that allow Stark State graduates with associate degrees to further their education and earn a bachelor’s degree at Mount Union. Stark State graduates can pursue degrees in psychology, civil, mechanical engineering, biology, early childhood intervention specialist, early childhood education and national security and foreign intelligence analysis.

“This is truly a mutually beneficial situation for Mount Union and Stark State,” said Merriman. “Stark State can give its students a pre-defined option to further their education and it brings good students to Mount Union who have already proven themselves at the college level.”

According to Dr. Raymond Posey, associate academic dean and professor in residence of management and finance, who is coordinating the effort on behalf of Mount Union, a typical associate’s degree program at Stark State requires completion of 60 credit hours. Mount Union requires 128 hours for a bachelor’s degree, so a student with an associate’s degree working toward a bachelor’s degree will have an additional 68 credit hours to complete.

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

On October 30, the University of Mount Union announced the approval of a Doctor of Physical Therapy (PT) program by the Institutional Actions Committee of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Following the program’s approval, the University began accepting applications for the inaugural class to launch in fall 2016 (pending further appropriate approvals).

The PT program at Mount Union is structured with the mission of preparing responsive doctors of physical therapy to utilize evidence and practices for lifelong service to patients, the community and society. Relationships with the Alliance community and local area hospitals, plus new state-of-the-art science facility Gallaher Hall, will help the new PT program at Mount Union thrive.

MOUNT UNION NURSING PROGRAM RECEIVES CCNE ACCREDITATION

The University of Mount Union’s Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) program has received accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

“Accreditation is a rigorous process that Mount Union chose to obtain for its BSN program,” said Dr. Nezam Al-Nsair, professor and chair of the Department of Nursing. “Mount Union believes in quality programs and obtaining and maintaining accreditation is one way of assuring the quality in those programs.”





OLYMPIC TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS

DR. JIM THOMA
PROFESSOR OF SPORT BUSINESS



WANT MORE?

Read more of Thoma's story at mountunion.edu/magazine

WHERE LEGENDS ARE BORN

The 2016 Games of the Olympiad, commonly called the Summer Olympics, will be held from August 4 – 22 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Throughout the spring and early summer, each Olympic sport will choose its team and athletes during the Olympic trials or other qualifying method. Interestingly, for many athletes, making an Olympic team is more important than winning an Olympic medal. The reality is that few athletes actually have a chance to earn an Olympic medal. However, once an athlete is selected to compete, that person will forever be known and introduced as an Olympian, no matter their performance in the Olympic Games. This realization struck me while working at the 1980 Olympic Track and Field Trials in Eugene, Oregon. (Note: Eugene will also host the 2016 Track and Field Olympic Trials.)

I was asked to be the business manager for the 1980 Olympic track and field team and travel with the team while representing the USA track and field federation. As such, I was able to witness firsthand the emotion of the athletes when they finished in the top three of their event and the joy they felt by making the Olympic team. Subsequently, being in the room where the newly-selected Olympians were processed for their Olympic credentials and given their Olympic uniforms was such a memorable experience for everyone there, especially the athletes. Forever an Olympian!

NOW OR NEVER

One aspect that has become more well-known recently is the psychological preparation athletes experience before the Olympics. Of course all performers, athletes or not, prepare mentally for their performances. However, what is unique about the Olympics is that they are only held every four years. For many it is now or never! And the consequences of that one competition are huge.

This struck me as I was having dinner with the top USA decathlete after a competition in Berlin, Germany in 1980. The previous Olympic decathlon champion, Bruce Jenner, had become world famous with his victory in the Montreal Olympics; he even had his picture on the Wheaties box. As we know, Jenner's world has been most interesting since then, but being the Olympic champion and "world's greatest athlete" is a mantra never removed. The 1980 USA decathlete had anticipated becoming equally as famous and earning a lifetime income based on the Olympic results. However, he expressed tremendous disappointment to me that he had no chance at an Olympic medal because of the Olympic boycott of the Moscow Olympic Games, something he had absolutely no control over. Now, the decathlete's name is only known to a few.

FOOD OR FUEL?

Another interesting aspect of Olympic preparation is the food. Most Olympians are very careful with what they eat in order to maximize their competition build-up. When athletes travel to a number of countries for competition, they often have to adapt to what food is available and its preparation. In Stuttgart, Germany, the Olympic team was having dinner in the hotel. Near me I heard, "Ooo, I am not eating that!" A couple more athletes loudly agreed. The food seemed fine to me - just beef and vegetables. One athlete had read the posted menu that was on the table. The meat was "beef lips." There was no way these athletes were going to eat beef lips, no matter how tasty the food was. These Olympians, including an American record holder, were not going to take any chances with food that may disrupt their competition preparation!

Food preparation is not just an American idiosyncrasy. At the Asian Track and Field Championships held in Jakarta, Indonesia, I was in the dining hall with my team from the country of Brunei Darussalam. The Japanese team entered carrying their own food. They were not going to eat anything that would possibly disrupt their performances. I also observed this when my team from the state of Sabah was at the Malaysian national championships. The meals were prepared in Malay style, spicy hot, and many of my athletes did not eat this style of preparation in their daily lives. There was no other food options and some of my athletes had stomach and intestinal problems that affected their race performance preparation.

CHAMPIONS' FOCUS

Preparation for the competition is also mental. Again, when the Olympians are traveling away from home, out of their comfort zone, any kind of disruption can affect their performances. Because this is the Olympics, any faltering becomes magnified on the international stage. For example, while traveling together in Europe, two USA Olympians had a wonderful romance. The young couple had a lovers' spat and both were in foul moods which had the potential to affect their athletic performances. Seeing this, a USA Olympic team official had flowers delivered to the female athlete with a note from her Olympian boyfriend. The couple reconciled, all was well, and their performances never suffered.

Being an Olympian is a lifetime honor that the athletes take very seriously. The extent of the mental and physical preparation is not commonly known outside the team, but is often crucial to the athletes' success when representing their countries. I have been honored and privileged to observe and share these experiences as a coach and administrator – something I cannot ever fully express!



RAIDERS ON THE LAKE

Mount Alumni Playing the Field in Cleveland

For many in northeast Ohio, Cleveland sports are everything.

It comes as no surprise, then, that so many Mount Union sport business alumni choose to go no further than “The Land” to pursue careers in the sports industry. Whether it’s working for the Cavs, Indians, Lake Erie Monsters, Browns, or at other sports organizations headquartered in Cleveland, many alumni are beginning and furthering their careers in northeast Ohio.

“The Cleveland Browns and the Cleveland Cavs family of teams (Cleveland Cavs, Lake Erie Monsters, Cleveland Gladiators and Canton Charge) are highly regarded in the sport industry for their employment of best business practices,” said Dr. Jim Kadlec, associate professor of human performance and sport business at Mount Union. “This provides graduating students with entry-level opportunities at organizations that will train them well and commit to their professional development.”

Read more about some of our exceptional alumni working in the sport business industry in Cleveland on the following pages.

AUSTIN PAVTLACK '15

Account Executive, Cleveland Browns

I work closely with businesses and individuals in northeastern Ohio in regard to purchasing season seats, groups, suites and premium hospitality for Browns games at First Energy Stadium.

What do you enjoy most about working in Cleveland?

The passion of the sports fans in this city is second to none. Working with these people has been a ton of fun. I also enjoy a lot of the food spots around the city.

What is your favorite thing about Cleveland sports?

The community feel. You truly feel as if you are a part of something greater than yourself. I don’t think that is the case for a lot of cities around the country. In Cleveland, everyone roots for the sports teams no matter their performance.



How did Mount Union help you find your passion for sport business?

I took a sports sales class at Mount Union my junior year and it really opened up my eyes to the possibility of sales. From there, it inspired me to pursue a few internships before graduation. I believe that class propelled me to where I am today.

In your opinion, what is the best part of your profession?

I truly enjoy connecting with individuals and businesses around the area and helping them bring their passion and love for the Browns into First Energy Stadium every other Sunday. Meeting clients on a game day and seeing their excitement is what it’s all about!



BRIDGET HUZICKA '02

Director of Corporate Partnership Activation, Cleveland Browns

The activation team manages all of our current corporate partnership relationships by delivering marketing programs to partners to help enhance their business. Our team works hand-in-hand with each corporate partner to make sure they are receiving the best possible business return on investment with the Cleveland Browns.

What types of opportunities does Cleveland offer sport business professionals?

Cleveland is a great city in which to pursue a sports career. The teams are progressive in how they approach their businesses, and how they look to develop positive and memorable fan experiences. We see this with upgrades to facilities/venues for the fans, usage of data and analytics on both the team and business sides, the innovations around social media and digital platforms and more. If you have passion for the industry, understand the importance of hard work and have a desire to be creative and innovative, you should pursue any opportunity that is available with our sports teams.

Why would you encourage current students to major in sport business?

The opportunities that the Mount Union sport business program provides are fantastic. The professors have decades of experience in the industry, have a strong and connected network of sports professionals and provide their students with the first-hand experience that every student should be given. The industry is beyond books and exams. You’ll quickly learn if the industry is for you thanks to the experiences you get from the Mount Union sport business program.

MATT KALTSTER '05

Director of Ticket Sales and Service, Lake Erie Monsters and Cleveland Gladiators

My role is to oversee our ticket revenue teams for the Monsters and Gladiators at Quicken Loans Arena. We have a sales and service team that sells and services all of our season tickets, partial plans and groups for both the Monsters and Gladiators.



What do you enjoy most about working in Cleveland?

I feel like this is a turning point in the City of Cleveland’s history. The city is booming with young professionals coming to work and live downtown. It’s exciting to be a part of something bigger than just our day-to-day job.

How did the sport business program at Mount Union help prepare you for your future?

The amount of experience I gained while I was in school was priceless. I was much more prepared to start working in this industry than some of my other coworkers from around the country. Whether it was internship experience or class projects that forced me to think about the bigger picture of the sports world, it all helped prepare me for the first steps in my career when I graduated.

In your opinion, what is the best part of your profession?

I love walking into a packed arena and knowing that I helped play a part in creating that environment for our teams on the ice/court/field, etc. It’s an amazing feeling to see that all of the hard work our sales and service teams put in has a true impact on game days.

GTNA WALL '15

Group Event Specialist, Cleveland Cavaliers

My main focus is to bring in new groups to Quicken Loans Arena.

What does the Cleveland Cavaliers 2016 Finals Championship mean to the city?

It means so much to both myself and the City of Cleveland. It will

open opportunities for everyone. It finally gives people hope for more successes in the future.



How did Mount Union help you find your passion for sport business?

I played soccer throughout my four years. I didn't want to leave that bond behind. Mount also taught me everything I know with regard to working in the sports world.

How did the sport business program at Mount Union help prepare you for your future?

We always had realistic projects that you could put on your resume.

Who was your favorite professor at Mount Union and why?

Dr. Lori Braa! She always made things so much fun and upbeat. She made me realize that I can make it extremely far in the sports world.

In your opinion, what is the best part of your profession?

I love making people happy! That is hands down the best part of my job. I love knowing that a product I sold the person is constructed to be the best fit for that specific person.



BRENT STEHLIK '99

**Executive Vice President/
Chief Revenue Officer,
Cleveland Browns**

Currently, I oversee all aspects of revenue generation and marketing for the franchise, including corporate partnership sales and activation, ticket sales and service, suite and premium sales, concessions, merchandising,

marketing, creative services, content and production, digital media, fan experience and special events efforts for the club.

In your opinion, what is the best part of your profession?

The ability we have to impact so many lives. From our staff, to our community, to all of the fans...sport can build friendships, transcend cultures and render even the most heated battles temporarily irrelevant.

What types of opportunities does Cleveland offer sport business professionals?

Seemingly unlimited amounts of opportunities to network and learn from open and honest industry professionals.

How did the sport business program at Mount Union help prepare you for your future?

It provided a great support system with the professors and pushed students outside of their comfort zones. One example is all of the presentations vs. written exams.



LINDSAY (WISE '04) STRAUCH

**Manager of Corporate Partnership
Activation, Cleveland Browns**

I manage and retain our corporate partnership accounts.

Why did you decide to work in Cleveland?

I enjoy working in Cleveland because it is close to my extended family, and I love living near Lake Erie.

What do you enjoy most about working in Cleveland?

I love the city and all the restaurants!

What is your favorite thing about Cleveland sports?

I love Cleveland sports because of the passionate fan base. It is inspiring. I hope I am part of bringing this town a Cleveland Browns championship!

Who was your favorite professor at Mount Union and why?

Dr. Jim Thoma and Dr. Jim Kadlec are my two favorites! They both invested in me by helping me get internships and connecting me directly with other sports teams and executives. They are very passionate about their students and want them to succeed.

How did the sport business program at Mount Union help prepare you for your future?

I completed six internships while attending Mount Union and the opportunity to work at the National Sports Forum allowed me to build a great networking base.

NICK VOLSKO '08

**Director of Corporate
Partnerships, Greater
Cleveland Sports Commission**

I am responsible for increasing organizational revenue through strategic partnerships for Greater Cleveland Sports Commission-owned events.



What do you enjoy most about working in Cleveland?

I enjoy the lifestyle. The vibe here is so different than any other city. You can sense that people have great pride for their city and they are not afraid to show it.

What types of opportunities does Cleveland offer sport business professionals?

Not every city is fortunate to have three major league team and an AHL, AFL and multiple minor league teams nearby. Additionally, organizations like the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission and Home Team Marketing provide great non-team related opportunities. Sport business professionals have many options in Cleveland and Northeast Ohio.

What is your favorite thing about Cleveland sports?

I love how this city breathes sports. Win or lose, this city has passion for its teams.

RYAN ROBBINS '00

**Director of Corporate Partnerships,
Cleveland Indians**

In my role at the Indians, I lead our Premium Department in Sales and Service, which includes all of our suites and the Infiniti Club.



Why did you decide to work in Cleveland?

I've worked in other markets around the country, and I've always said that if I can do what I enjoy doing and do it for a team in Cleveland then that is the best place for me.

What is your favorite thing about Cleveland sports?

There is such great history with our teams, and that connection is what makes Cleveland special. People appreciate that and when we take Indians Alumni Players around to meet fans, there is always a special story from when a client was growing up and what game or play they remember.

How did Mount Union help you find your passion for sport business?

The passion of the professors comes through in their knowledge and network with leaders in the industry.

Why would you encourage current students to major in sport business?

It is a very rewarding career and you can really have an impact on people's lives in a positive way. That can come in the form of creating a memory for a family or helping business clients transform their businesses.

MACKENZIE PARSONS '14

**Account Coordinator, Home
Team Marketing**

I communicate daily with parent companies, contact new business leads, create contracts for new clients, organize the new hire on-boarding process and complete data and analytical research.



What do you enjoy most about working in Cleveland?

My favorite part about working in Cleveland is the diversity. Cleveland brought me to some really incredible people.

How did the sport business program at Mount Union help prepare you for your future?

The professors in the program provided me with so many opportunities to help prepare me for a future in sport business. They set up guest speakers, interview assignments, real-life sales experiences, event planning projects and so much more. Throughout my career thus far, I've come across multiple projects that were assigned in sport business classes that have been applied to real life scenarios.



For more information, visit:
mountunion.edu/magazine

Building Networks for SUCCESS

*Sport Business Program Prepares
Students for Post-Grad Prosperity*

DIVERSIFIED CAREER PREPARATION

The sports industry is one of the largest and fastest growing economic enterprises in the world. Audiences from across the globe witness the competitions that take place in a host of different international venues. People from all walks of life come together based on their devotion to the team out on the gridiron, court or pitch of their choosing. The athletes take center stage and receive much of the recognition for their hard work, yet it is today's sport business professionals that must adapt their behind-the-scenes efforts to the field's ever-changing culture.

The faculty and staff of the University of Mount Union's sport business program, a part of the Department of Human Performance and Sport Business, recognize the need to prepare students for a number of different career options they may pursue.

Among the common career fields of the program's alumni are: professional sport organizations, recreation, fitness clubs and YMCAs, event management and national sport governing

bodies. Without diving into detail of specific occupations within the careers mentioned, one can see the diverse opportunities students are presented with after graduating.

With that knowledge at hand, Dr. Jim Thoma, director of the sport business program at Mount Union, was hired when the program was only three years old.

"My assignment was to add more depth to the program," Thoma said. "After a couple of years at Mount, I realized that two tests, a research paper and a final exam were not going to prepare our students for life in the sport business field. That began the transition to experiential learning through a steady diet of practical projects, research, public speaking and improved writing skills."

Although a love of sports is encouraged, the goals of the program focus more on the professional abilities and skills Thoma implemented early in the life of the program. Written and oral communications are benchmarks for much of the curriculum

within the program, as employers from almost every field are focused on hiring strong candidates with those skills.

What may be most impactful for some Mount Union students are the lessons that do not come from a textbook or presentation. One of the goals of the sport business program is to prepare students for responsible citizenship, both in and out of the workplace. In most of the classes offered by the program, students are required to dress in business professional attire when giving presentations or speeches, getting them ready to become professional employees in any setting.

The program's professors and speakers are seasoned industry professionals who are figureheads for best practices in the field. Armed with this experience, these individuals are well positioned to guide students

"Dr. [Lori] Braa is my favorite professor," said Sarah Heilman '16, a recent sport business graduate of Howland, Ohio. "Her

classes are always entertaining and worthwhile. She serves as an incredible role model for me as a successful, strong woman in the sport business world."

The faculty of the program also understand the strong importance of the liberal arts. The program is designed to give students the option to potentially double major, earn a second minor or study abroad, all while still being on course to graduate in four years. Students and faculty members know the importance of being well-rounded while searching for a job right out of college.

"The benefits of an education grounded in the liberal arts are that you get to explore areas that you would never have thought of before," said Kelsey Coleman '18, a sport business major of Rittman, Ohio. "This type of education expands your horizons and your intelligence. I have been able to learn about classical music, the country of France and many other things all while learning about sport business."

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Much of the curriculum in the sport business program is rooted in hands-on learning. The focal points of such learning within the program are numerous. The sport sales courses taught by Dr. Jim Kadlec, associate professor of human performance and sport business, are an example of one of the focal points. The sales courses focus more on the concept of garnering skills through role-playing real scenarios in the ticket sales world than typical quizzes or exams. Each semester, students have the opportunity to sell tickets for the Cleveland Cavaliers as a part of the introductory sales course.

In the fall of 2015, Danielle Augustin '16 of Olmsted Falls, Ohio broke the class record by selling nearly \$10,000 worth of tickets for the organization in less than three months. Results like Augustin's are incredible in terms of what the program does. She made real sales with real customers and, in the process, made the Cavaliers organization some very real money.

Other focal point examples include creating and running events on campus, developing sponsorship proposals while working with and for professional teams, writing and presenting bid proposals for international events to professional experts and completing individualized projects that meet the needs of sport and recreation organizations. In reality, the list goes on and on and all of these opportunities prepare students to perform at a high level from the moment they start their careers.

As mentioned previously, one of the cornerstones of today's sport business professional is the ability to adapt to any situation. Because of the constantly changing professional climate, the faculty of the program are always pulling current events into their classroom lessons. New training techniques, rule changes in a given sport and many other observations can be pulled right from the news headlines into useful tools for students.

The utilization of some of those new tools and technologies in the industry make it very easy for most of the program's courses to fulfill the project-centric mindset Thoma created years ago. In a field that may change with new information daily, the faculty has recognized that hands-on projects have the potential to be incredibly valuable, keeping students up-to-date by the time they are wearing their caps and gowns.

"I believe our University provides real-world experience," said Dr. Lori Braa, assistant professor of human performance and sport business. "In sport business, our curriculum is based on giving students situations they will face in everyday life. Our students graduate with experience on their resumes that many programs do not provide, thus making them more marketable in the workplace."



Todd Fleming '00, vice president and general manager of Legends Global Sales, gives a presentation to Mount Union sport business students and the campus community.



Mount Union Sport Business Association and senior class president AJ Gioglio '17 interviews Brent Stehlik '99 on Periscope during his visit to campus in April.



Sport business professionals interview potential job and internship candidates from colleges across the country at the annual Sport Sales Workshop and Job Fair, hosted by Mount Union.

AT RIGHT: Dr. Jim Kadlec addresses hundreds of attendees and trainers at the annual Sport Sales Workshop and Job Fair, held in Cleveland at Quicken Loans Arena.

CONNECTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

If you were to walk into the office of any one of the sport business faculty members and ask them what the biggest takeaway is for a sport business major's future, they would say one word: networking.

Mount Union's sport business program is one of the most successful programs in the nation when it comes to alumni connections. There are currently more than a dozen Mount Union alumni that hold management level or higher positions with professional sports teams. All of those alumni have attended the Sport Sales Workshop and Job Fair (SSWJF) as either students or trainers; some have even attended as both.

The SSWJF is in its 12th year and is organized by Kadlec with the help of the Cavaliers organization, as the host site is Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland. The purpose of the SSWJF is to connect students with professionals in the sport business world. The 2016 event featured representatives from more than 40 professional organizations and had more than 100 students in attendance from institutions across the country.

Much of the daylong event consists of the professionals giving students special training sessions. Job and internship interviews happen during the day for the upperclassmen, potentially helping those Student Senate positions within the field immediately after graduation.

Mike Dellosa '07, director of season ticket sales and inside sales for the Arizona Diamondbacks, has attended the event as both a student and a trainer.

"It's not just the quantity of students that attend, it's the quality. Both seem to get better every year," he said.

The program also offers annual trips to the Robert Morris University Conference to help network with other members of the sport world. In addition, Kadlec takes a small group of students each year to New York City to tour the NBA, NHL and New York Yankees executive offices, as well as Madison Square Garden. While in New York City, the groups have connected with Ed Kiernan '96 of East Palestine, Ohio, president

and founding partner of Engine Shop Agency, a sport marketing agency headquartered in New York City.

Other trips include Braa taking students to the NCAA headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana, where she worked for five years, and a behind-the-scenes look at the athletic and recreational facilities at The Ohio State University, hosted by Mount Union alumni Rob Jech '01 and Joel Swaney '11.

Although faculty, staff and students travel far and wide to help bolster success for all undergraduates, the sport business program also does a great job at bringing impactful alumni back to campus with a speaker series every year. Experienced alumni in diverse fields as well as recent graduates who have taken their first steps to meaningful careers come to campus to talk to students about best practices to succeed and reach their goals.

During the 2016 Spring Semester the program presented talks from the likes of Brent Stehlik '99, chief revenue officer and executive vice president of the Cleveland Browns; Todd Fleming '00, vice president and general manager of Legends Global Sales; and Jennifer Keurulainen '03, former vice president of sport for The Special Olympics World Games. Industry experts are a resource students can use for future career advice.

"I still get daily emails informing me about available internships or job opportunities in my field from the sport business faculty," said Heilman. "My professors have given me guidance to get ahead of the game. Mount Union has also provided many leadership opportunities on campus that I have taken advantage of, preparing me to be a leader in the future."

When asked about the direction of the program moving forward, Thoma is optimistic with the faculty's ability to adapt to the ever-changing landscape.

"[My hope is] that the faculty continue to learn from industry professionals about what we need to do in order to prepare our students to excel in their chosen profession, be it sport related or not," he said.



STEPPING UP TO THE SPORT BUSINESS PLATE

Erin Simmons '16 excited to be working for Cleveland Cavaliers

{BY JAIME EYSSEN '16}

It is always an exciting opportunity when you are able to turn a passion into a career, something that Erin Simmons '16 experienced when she chose to go into the field of sport business.

"I have been an athlete since kindergarten so sports have always been in my life," Simmons said. "The fact that you can actually make a career out of it is what interested me the most."

Although she has always had a passion for athletics, Simmons came onto campus her freshman year at the University of

Mount Union as a biology major looking to pursue a career in education. However, it did not take her long to find herself in the sport business program at Mount Union.

"After meeting kids from other sport business programs, you realize how good you have it here at Mount," Simmons said. "The professors do a really good job of actually getting us out in the industry and working with people who are doing things that we might be doing when we graduate."

Erin Simmons '16

Suffield, Ohio

B.S., Sport Business

University of Mount Union

One way that Simmons and other students in the sport business program have received hands-on experience is through the annual Sport Sales Workshop and Job Fair hosted by the sport business program every year in Cleveland, Ohio. During the workshop, students have the opportunity to attend breakout sessions to learn more about the field and network with individuals in the profession. Simmons attended the workshop for two years and then was able to assist Dr. Jim Kadlecsek, the workshop director and associate professor of human performance and sport business at Mount Union, in running the workshop this past winter.

"There are so many industry professionals who come to the event from all over the country," Simmons said. "It allows everyone to meet people in the industry and start making those connections that help them out later on."

It was through her connections formed at the workshop that Simmons was offered a full-time job opportunity with the Cleveland Cavaliers upon graduation in May. Previously, the workshop helped Simmons secure internship positions with the Cleveland Gladiators and the Canton Charge, both of which helped lead her to her future position with the Cavaliers.

"It was pretty much all from the sport sales workshop," Simmons said. "The Cavs are a great organization and I have gotten to know a lot of people up there already. Being able to have the opportunity to work for the Cavs is just really exciting."

In addition to attending the workshop, Simmons gained experience in the industry through various classroom projects. All of these projects have given Simmons the hands-on experience necessary for entering the sport business field. Simmons' favorite experience was a corporate partnership project in which her group put together a partnership proposal that they pitched directly to the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission, Cleveland Browns and Cleveland Cavaliers.

"Our pitch was about a partner they were actually trying to secure so they could take some of our ideas and actually use them," Simmons said. "We pitched it to their partnership people, which made it very nerve racking, but once it was over I was like 'Wow, I really just did that.'"

"You have to use your
professors as a resource.
They are here to help you."

- Erin Simmons '16

Not only does Simmons know how important hands-on experience in the classroom can be, she also knows how crucial being involved outside the classroom will be to her future career. Through working with the Sports Marketing Association, she has had the opportunity to travel to different events in Atlanta, Georgia and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Simmons has also interned for the National Sports Forum in Cincinnati, Ohio and Portland, Oregon. She credits her exceptional professors in the sport business program for leading her to these opportunities.

"You have to use your professors as a resource," Simmons said. "They are there to help you. If there is somebody that you want to get to know in the sports industry, one of them will know him or her or know someone who knows them."

Not only is Simmons' plate full with her passion for the sports sales industry; she was a starting pitcher for the Mount Union softball team. She said her involvement in athletics helped set her apart in her academic field as well.

"When you go to interviews with these teams, they look for athletes, especially for sales," Simmons said. "They look for somebody who is coachable and if you have been an athlete through college you are going to have that trait."

Leadership is another important trait that Simmons has learned through softball.

"The sports field is very competitive and there are a lot of people now trying to get into the industry," Simmons said. "Being able to stand out through your leadership is definitely important and it will help you move up through any organization."

As for her future goals, Simmons doesn't fail to include Mount Union in her plans.

"I want to be able to give back to the sport business program," Simmons said. "Alumni come back all the time and we have some top-level people in the industry now. I eventually want to be able to do that as well and tell my story to students and say 'you can do it too.'"



Ed Kiernan '96

Chief Marketing Officer and Founding Partner,
Engine Shop

B.S., Sport Management, University of Mount Union

Engine Shop specializes in helping brands connect with consumers online and in person through live experiences, digital engagement and original and branded content. We have deep roots across entertainment, sports, art, music, culture and more. We focus on passion points to create authentic engagements with each consumer. Our offices are located nationwide, and our clients include Mercedes-Benz, Omega, Tiffany & Co., ESPN, J&J, Budweiser and Nike, among others.

Career Life

Every day is something new and different – it keeps me on my toes and prevents boredom. Plus, I have the opportunity to travel both domestically and internationally and see new and exciting places.

Early Connections

I interned for the PGA Tour and its championship management division. Dr. James Thoma and fellow Mount Union alumnus Tim Wicinski '94 helped me land the internship.

A Personal Experience

I liked the “personal touch” and “small college feel.” I wanted to go somewhere that I could interact with my professors one on one and Mount provided that. Not to mention, the campus is absolutely gorgeous!

Read more of the alumni Inspiring Stories at mountunion.edu/magazine



Briana Harris '15

Account Manager of Group Sales, Miami Heat

B.S., Sport Business, University of Mount Union

I work with new and returning clients to design ticket packages for Miami games. I help my groups accomplish long-term and short-term goals as well as create lasting memories.

Career in Sales

The best thing about my current job is working for a world-class organization. I love working for an organization that collectively works together to be better every day. With this mindset, I have been able to make the most out of the relationships I have as well as learning something new every single day.

Unexpected Learning Opportunity

The liberal arts education at Mount Union prepared me for my career because it forced me to take classes and learn about topics I would not have voluntarily taken. By no means am I a science person; however, to fill my science requirement, I signed up for a course in environmental science. What I thought would be the worst class ever ended up being the most fun and challenging class with a field trip once a week to places like landfills and water treatment centers.

As a working adult, there are tasks I am still not thrilled about accomplishing. However, Mount Union’s liberal arts education has taught me that I can finish any task sent my way and I may even come out the other side better than when I started.

Home Away from Home

I chose Mount Union because from the moment I stepped foot on campus, it felt like home. I knew this would be the place that would help me create my journey.



Flavil Hampsten '01

Executive Vice President, Chief Sales and Marketing Officer, Sharks Sports and Entertainment

B.S., Business Administration, University of Mount Union

I am responsible for all revenue and marketing functions that run through my office including ticket sales, client retention, suite sales and service and business intelligence.

Smart Beginnings

I actually had three internships while at Mount Union. Not only did my professors assist me to secure each, they were there to guide me through the challenges with each to ensure that I was successful. In my first professional job, I worked as corporate marketing manager for Mandalay Sports and Entertainment.

Favorite Part of the Job

Generating revenue is a game changer for sports organizations. If you can do it, then the entire culture shifts.

The Mount Union Difference

My Mount Union education provided real-life experience and contacts that led to my career. Without the advice and tough love I would not have had the success that I’ve experienced. The small class sizes and the access to academic professionals make the difference. The professors are not only great teachers, but also serve as excellent mentors.

I toured numerous schools and found Mount’s personal attention and approach to academics to be the difference. You are not a number at Mount, you are an important part of the University and everyone is dedicated to ensuring that you are successful.



Mike Delloso '07

Director of Season Ticket Sales and Inside Sales, Arizona Diamondbacks

B.S., Sport Business, University of Mount Union

My current role with the Diamondbacks is to oversee all new season ticket sales efforts for the team. I directly manage a group of eight business development account executives and also help run our inside sales department, which is our entry-level staff of 18 full-time sales consultants.

High Quality Programs

I knew in high school that I wanted to pursue a career in sport business, so when I began researching the best sport business schools in the area, it was a no-brainer to attend Mount Union. Its program continually ranks among the best in the nation. Had I not gone to Mount Union, I’m confident that I would not be where I am today.

Staying Connected

I make an effort to attend the annual Sports Sales Workshop, which is hosted by Dr. Jim Kadlecsek and the Mount Union sport business program. It’s a must for any students looking to learn more about revenue generation in sports while networking with some of the top talent in the sport industry. I also keep in close contact with other sport business majors from Mount Union who are now scattered across the country working for various teams and leagues.

Favorite Part of the Job

Each day, I’m surrounded by some of the most passionate, hard-working and creative people in the industry. I also enjoy being challenged to be innovative in my job to make sure the D-backs remain on the cutting edge of the ticketing industry. Trends in sport business can change very quickly, so it’s important to stay one step ahead.



Sarah Heilman '16

Account Executive, Monumental Sports and Entertainment

B.S., Sport Business, University of Mount Union

Recently hired at Monumental Sports and Entertainment, I connect fans and businesses to unforgettable experiences and opportunities with the Washington Wizards, Capitals, Mystics and Verizon Center events through membership, VIP packages and suite sales.

A Place Like Home

As much as I enjoyed my breaks as a student, I always looked forward to going right back to Mount. It is easy to find your second home at Mount, whether it is in athletics, the fraternity and sorority community or a club.

Choosing Sport Business

I worked in sports in my community and had an interest in business throughout high school, but I never knew I could make a career out of those interests until I visited Mount Union. I attended a presentation about the sport business major out of pure curiosity during Preview. I was instantly hooked from then on and my love for sport business has continued to grow ever since.

Future Goals

I would like to continue gaining experience in different aspects of the sport world, starting in sales, and eventually enjoy being an executive recruiter for a professional sports team. This industry has countless opportunities. I'm sure my plans will change, but this excites me. Ultimately, I want to be a professor of sport business after I gain adequate experience, like my professors have done for me.



Jordan Taylor '00

Vice President of HWS Baseball and General Manager, Mahoning Valley Scrappers

B.S., Sport Business, University of Mount Union

As vice president of HWS Baseball, I help oversee our Minor League Baseball franchises as well as our company's entertainment division. As general manager of the Scrappers, I manage all business operations with the team. I also oversee our player development contract with the Cleveland Indians.

Diverse Career Experience

I enjoy the diversity that I have in my job. One day I will be working on baseball and another could be a concert and the next could be a community event at the stadium. No two days are alike with my job.

Exceptional Experiential Learning

I interned at IMG, an event management company in Cleveland. I found out about IMG through my sport business classes at Mount Union. I applied and was accepted into its summer internship program and it was instrumental in providing me with the real-life job experience needed to work in sports.

Return on Educational Investment

I knew from an early age I wanted to work in sports after graduating. While researching and visiting schools, I learned Mount Union had an excellent sport business program. I really enjoyed my campus visit and after that, I knew Mount Union was the school for me.



Chris Motley '15

Account Executive, New York City Football Club

B.S., Sport Business, University of Mount Union

I am responsible for corporate account acquisition for all hospitality inventory and directly impact the growth and expansion of our customer base. I work within the ticketing department to achieve customer satisfaction, revenue generation and long-term account goals that are in line with the company's overall objectives.

Internship x 3

I had three internships while I attended Mount Union. My first internship was as a box office intern for the Lake County Captains. My typical game day was working the box office call ticket window, stuffing envelopes for groups, organizing the birthday parties, being the mascot for the sixth inning run around the warning track, working the 50/50 raffle table and, if it was raining, being ready to put the tarp on the diamond. That was a truly impactful internship for me because I got a very valuable understanding of the industry – you do everything when you work minor league sports and you have to be able to wear multiple hats. I received a second internship at the Cleveland Cavaliers, which eventually helped me to get the third internship with the Canton Charge as a night sales intern and seasonal ticket sales associate with the Cleveland Gladiators.

Spreading the Love

What I like most about my job is growing the sport I love in America. I am passionate in the fact that soccer is a sport that can bring people together from all cultures. With my job, I get to work soccer events all over the greater New York area and spread visibility for this beautiful game.



Brian Proud '05

Director of Hospitality, Pro Football Hall of Fame

B.S., Sport Business, University of Mount Union

I book and coordinate private meetings/events of all types and sizes at the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Visiting the museum alone provides the opportunity for an experience of a lifetime and helping guests maximize this by also having an event as part of their visit is a rewarding mission.

Making a Difference

While it is certainly a challenging field, the most rewarding aspect is getting a thank you note from a client after a successful event. This is less for personal gratification and more about knowing that my team has been able to make a difference in that person's life, even if only for a short while. The latter is a very important part of the Hall of Fame's mission and values. Additionally, watching my team members of the hospitality department grow and realize what they are capable of is very rewarding.

Favorite Professor

Dr. Jim Thoma comes from such a diverse background that he is able to provide very unique perspectives that relate directly to the curriculum of his classes. This creates a more well-rounded understanding of his teachings. Additionally, he preaches consistency within many areas but none more so than writing style, especially related to business/professional communication. I personally feel this is an area that is undervalued by those in the 20-40 age range. Accordingly, Dr. Thoma's persistence with articulating these lessons drives my writing style to this day, which provides an advantage.



CLASS NOTES

Class Notes to be included in the Fall/Winter 2016 Issue of *Mount Union Magazine* must be received before October 31, 2016.

Material for Class Notes is obtained from the "Update" form at the end of the *Mount Union Magazine*, online or news passed along from alumni to the offices of Alumni Engagement, Advancement and The Mount Union Fund. Notices sent by the Post Office are not printed in Class Notes. You may also submit your class note online at alumni.mountunion.edu or email alumni@mountunion.edu.

1940s

Violet Bica-Ross '44 was named Person of the Year by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and was also selected for the Centennial Alumni Award presented by Kent State University's College of Education, Health and Human Services. During her professional career, Violet served as an educator and psychologist as well as president of many local psychologist organizations. It was through Violet's generous gift that the Bica-Ross residence hall was named for her late husband, L. Clayton Ross, brother, George Bica, and sister, Virginia Bica.

1960s

Paul Hobe '64 of Louisville, Ohio, published the book "Dixie Odyssey, Tales and Trails of the Nineteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry." The book describes the history of the 19th Ohio Volunteer Regiment, which assembled in Alliance, Ohio in the fall of 1861 and mentions several Mount Union graduates.

1970s

John Watson '71 of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida recently became a Certified Firearms Instructor with the United States Concealed Carry Association. He also invented the Integrated Weapon Retention Belt (IWRB) and started an e-commerce business, AdvantageConcealedCarry.com.

Kurt S. Miller '72 earned a Certified Senior Advisor (CSA) designation from the Society of Certified Senior Advisors. The CSA certification is the leading certification for professionals serving seniors. Individuals receiving the certification have to uphold the highest ethical standards for the benefit and protection of the health and welfare of seniors.

1980s



Dave Menosky '80 owns the New England Running Company in Beverly, Massachusetts, which was recently voted as one of the top 50 running stores in the U.S.

by Competitor Magazine. This is the third time that the store has received this award, also being selected in 2008 and 2011. For the award, readers nominate their favorite stores, which are then evaluated by undercover shoppers.

William R. Wyss Jr. '82 of Louisville, Ohio retired as the chairman of the social studies department at Louisville High School in May 2015. He was named an All Stark Country Teacher Award Member for 2014-2015 and is currently an adjunct professor at the University of Mount Union.

Douglas E. Spiker '83 was named a 2016 Ohio Super Lawyer in the field of Workers' Compensation by Ohio Super Lawyers Magazine. Douglas is currently a partner in Roetzel's Cleveland, Ohio office.



Bill Uzl ('87) and Dr. Vidas Dumasius announce the birth of a son, David Ethan, on April 7, 2015. The family resides in Morgantown, West Virginia.

BOB GRAY '75 TO BE INDUCTED INTO NATA HALL OF FAME



Bob Gray '75 will be inducted into the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) Hall of Fame in Baltimore, Maryland this summer. According to NATA's website, the Hall of Fame recognizes the "very best of the athletic training profession, honoring athletic trainers who exemplify the mission of NATA through significant, lasting contributions that

enhance the quality of health care provided by athletic trainers and advance the profession."

Gray works as coordinator of Athletic Training Community Affairs for Cleveland Clinic Sports Health. In his role, he is responsible for staffing all athletic events the Cleveland Clinic sponsors with medical personnel. After graduating from Mount Union, Gray earned a master's degree in physical education with a specialization in athletic training from Indiana State University in Terra Haute, Indiana.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

1990s



Todd Strebel '92 has been named mathematics department chair at Steele High School in Amherst, Ohio. He is pictured with wife Kelly, daughter

Meg and son, Tyler.

Carriane (Tingley '92) Tuckley of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, was nominated for Woman of the Year for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Northeast Ohio Chapter. Before the organization announced the winner of Male and Female of the Year in May 2016, nominees, including Carianne, will be participated in a 10-week campaign in which they raised funds for a leukemia & lymphoma survivor. She is also an alumni advisor for Delta Sigma Tau sorority.

Lisa Bowling-Shaffer '93 is now working as a supervisor in customer service at Prime Time Health Plan (Aultcare) in Canton, Ohio.

2000s

Marla N. Presley '00 has been named litigation manager to the Pittsburgh office of law firm Jackson Lewis P.C.

Vince W. Finney '01 has been named to UBS Wealth Management Americas' Top 35 Under 35 Financial Advisor program.

Joshua Steiner '03 and wife Heidi announce the birth of daughter, Annie, on December 1, 2014. She joins brothers Wilson, 7 and Abram, 4. The family resides in Bluffton, Ohio.

Amy (Veverka '05) and Ben '03 Parker announce the birth of a son, Tobiah, on July 20, 2015. He joins sister Lydia, 3. The family resides in Canton, Ohio.

Kelly (Kiraly '04) and John Frammar-



Justin Todd '04 of Howard, Ohio, was named head varsity football coach for the Wadsworth City School District.

Erin (McCauley '05) and Mark '05 Lyons of Hudson, Ohio announce the birth of a son, Declan Mark, on May 1, 2014. He joins brother Brady Philip, 6.

Meredith (Ross '05) and Jeremy '03 Fisher announce the birth of a daughter, Lila Addison, on November 11, 2015. She joins brothers Brady, 7 and Gavin, 3. The family resides in Canton, Ohio.

Sarah Gnoddie '06 of Bedford, Ohio, was awarded the James E. Cook Scholarship in Young Adult Librarianship from Kent State University's School of Library and Information Science. Sarah received a degree in early childhood education with honors and a sport management concentration in recreation from Mount Union. She works as the youth program supervisor for Orange Community Education and Recreation while pursuing a Master of Library and Information Science degree at Kent State, with a specialization in teen library services.

Mike Lemponen '08 and wife, Jillian, were married May 2, 2015. Members of the bridal party included **Kevin Brown '08, Kevin Gray '10** and **Jeremy Harper '09**. Mike is a middle/high school health teacher and high school soccer and track coach for the Huron City School District.

Michael Pugh '08 and wife, Tara,

tino were married October 24, 2015. Members of the wedding party included **Katy Kiraly '08** and **George Kiraly Jr. '10**. The couple resides in Poland, Ohio.

ASSOCIATION MESSAGE



Well, another fantastic year at Mount Union has come to a close with the recent graduation of our 2016 Senior Class.

This year included some of the same successes and outstanding events as we typically enjoy being part of the Mount Union community such as adding another football national championship to the archives, another outstanding Schooler Lecture speaker with Chuck Todd and SCHOLAR Day.

I can't begin to tell you how exciting it was to participate in the senior events by presenting this year's Great Teacher Award. The winner, Dr. Grant Cook III, was so truly honored and humbled to receive the award and he reflects the qualities that we have seen over the many generations of educators and highlighted by their true commitment to the success of our students.

Many alumni were also able to participate in the activities surrounding the inauguration of Dick Merriman as president of our great institution. The point is that all of these outstanding events are open to all alumni and friends of the University. Participating in them not only brings back great memories of my time on campus as a student but also enables me to see the continued exceptional qualities of our students and university.

I know I feel energized every time I step foot on campus! I hope you, my fellow alumni, are making the efforts to get back on campus as often as possible to experience these same feelings. Don't ever forget the many fond memories of your time on campus and the many events and activities that helped to shape your life relationships and career. I hope to see you on campus soon.

—**Bill Schumacher '82**
Alumni Association President



welcomed a son, Trace Daniel, on November 24, 2015. The couple were married on September 22, 2012 in Cleveland, Ohio. Members of the bridal party included **Alana (Wolonsky '08) Tarry** and **Andrew Cavalier '08**.

Kelli (Miller '09) and **Brian Liddle** announce the birth of a daughter, **Peyton Nicole**, on January 2, 2016.



2010s

Melissa (Shuttic '09) and **Josh '10 Baker** were married May 23, 2015. Members of the wedding party included **Brittany Vanderhide '09** and **Sarah Zuch '09**.



Alexandria (Glanemann '10) and **Jeremy Foos** announce the birth of a son, **Kenneth Louis**, on May 4, 2015. The family resides in Fremont, Ohio.

Lauren (Shaub '10) and **Brian '10 Mogs** were married on September 6, 2015 at Mount Union's Dewald Chapel. Members of the wedding party included **Danielle Shaub '04**, **Katie (Blepler '10) Langhans**, **Kristina Romano '10**, **Emily Shaub '11**, **Matthew**



Decker '10, **Ryan Elsass '11** and **Justin Shaub '08**. The couple resides in North Canton, Ohio. Lauren works as a physical therapist for Mercy Medical Health Center in North Canton and Brian is a tennis professional at Paramount Tennis Club in Medina.

Maggie (Zronek '11) and **Dan '11 Grassell** were married on October 17, 2015. Alumni in attendance included

Tim Coan '10, **Brittany (Iwamodo '10) Coan**, **Ryan Cockrill '10**, **Josh Marcus-Donnelly '09**, **Logan Erwin '10**, **Alyssa Flitcraft**, **Steve Gillespie '08**, **Kevin Gray '10**, **Jeremy Harper '09**, **Jessica Hazen '10**, **Jordan Hazen '09**, **Matt Jankowski '09**, **Mike Lemponen '08**, **Jay Mathis '09**, **Tyra Meredith '10**, **Matt Parnell '09**, **Alecia Schalmo '10**, **Chris Switzer '09**, **Katherine Turner '12** and **Kelly Wiseman '11**.

Abigail Weingart '11 earned a doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.) degree



from Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine in May, where she was also awarded the Primary Care Scholarship. Abigail earned a B.S. in biology from the University of Mount Union and will begin a residency in pediatrics at Akron Children's Hospital.

Stephanie Stachnik '13 earned a Master of Education degree in clinical mental health counseling in August 2015 and became a Licensed Professional Counselor in September 2015. She is a counselor at Community Assessment and Treatment Services, Inc. in Cleveland, Ohio.

Megan (Stewart '11) and **AJ '11 Claycomb** were married April 25, 2015. Members of the wedding party included **Emily Mason '13**, **Alexandra Turner '13**, **Brandon Mathie '13**, **Hillary Carle '14**, **Sarah Milburn '13**, **Kylee Kolesar '13**, **Wade Warner '12**, **Roger Stewart '11**, **Sam Kershaw '11**, **Kaylen Stewart '10**, **Kimmy Sason '11**, **Marissa Fiorilli '11**, **Sara Kirkbride '11**, **Chaz Jordan '12**, **Krista (Johnson**



'11) Kappas and **Chris Kappas '08**.

Haley (Umbs '13) and **Martin Chaffin '14 III** were married on September 12, 2014 at the University of Mount Union's Dewald Chapel. Members of the wedding party included **Jeff Looker '14**, **Matt Doyle '14**, **Rhett LaRicca '14**, **Kalyn Peck '14**, **Katie Hall '13** and **Dana Goehring '16**. The couple resides in Alliance, Ohio.



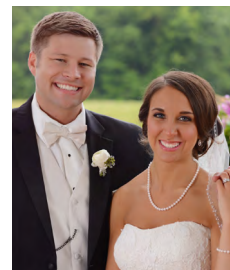
Kyle Dreger '14 was a guest speaker at the annual Stir Trek convention in Columbus, Ohio. Kyle is lead user experience designer at Patriot Software in Canton, Ohio.

In summer 2015, **Laura Kibby '12** studied Buddhism and spiritual connections to nature in the Old World rain forests and diverse cultural environments of Thailand.



Laura, a teacher at Boardman Glenwood Middle School in Boardman, Ohio, took the graduate course in pursuit of her master's degree from Miami University's Global Field Program.

Gina (Serluco '10, M '14) and **Andrew '11 Brown** were married July 19, 2014 in Boardman, Ohio. Members of the bridal party included **Chelsey (Stedronsky '11) Sabatino**, **Jen Senskey '10**, **Kyle Brown '10**, **Kevin**



Brown '08, **Ryan Brown '07**, **Aaron White '10**, **Vincenzo Pierro '12**, **John Marshall '12** and **Jeff Senuta '10**. The couple resides in Willowick, Ohio. Gina is assistant principal at Willoughby-Eastlake Schools and Andrew was recently hired as a sales representative for Vanguard Wines in the Cleveland area.

SAVE THE DATE

...for 2016 Mount Union's Alumni Weekend and Homecoming!



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU BACK ON CAMPUS! **October 7 • 8 • 9**

Deaths

1930s

Evangeline (Glass '35) Case of Beloit, Ohio, died on December 17, 2015.

Mary (Robertson '36) Coleman of Steubenville, Ohio died October 2, 2015.

Betty (Fisher '38) Wood of Eugene, Oregon, died on November 21, 2015.

1940s

Eugenia (Zima '43) Braun of Herndon, Virginia, died on March 22, 2014.

Alice E. (von Storch '43) Worman of Mentor, Ohio, died January 11, 2016. After graduating from Mount Union, Alice enlisted in the Women's Army Corp and later served as the director of Christian Education at the Willoughby Methodist Church and the Christ Episcopal Church in Shaker Heights. Throughout her life, she was an avid traveler and skier, and an active member of the St. Andrew Episcopal Church.

Elizabeth (Burton '44) Frankenberg of Sebring, Ohio, died February 18, 2016.

Mary Jane (Shaweker '44) Trustdorf of Lincolnshire, Illinois, died October 17, 2015.

Margie (Schwein '44) Williams of Mansfield, Ohio, died January 13, 2016. Throughout her life, Margie's love and passion for the arts led her work at the Mansfield Art Center for 20 years until her retirement. She was known for keeping incredible journals and for her writing abilities.

Ruth Elizabeth (Wemple '45) Bolz of Cary, North Carolina, died February 8, 2016. Ruth was an active member of the United Methodist Church and during her time living in North Carolina she joined the Society of Mayflower Descendants, Daughters of the American Revolution and Colonial Dames. She had a love for music, which she passed along to her children.

Dorothy (Smith '46) Brown of Kalamazoo, Michigan, died on March 2, 2016.

Lora Ruth Hurst '47 of Warren, Ohio, died January 17, 2016.

Betty June (Ritter '47) Olson of Fort Pierce, Florida, died October 10, 2015.

Irene (Rowan '48) Koval of Westerville, Ohio, died March 18, 2016.

Martha (Lutz '48) Unger of Sebring, Ohio, died March 18, 2016.

Thelma Hill '49 of Mentor, Ohio, died February 25, 2016. Thelma served in the Peace Corps in St. Lucia from 1963-1965 and taught science for various schools. She was a member of the Buckeye Trail Association, Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the Burroughs Club.

Ernest Linsmaier '49 of Alliance, Ohio, died on March 25, 2016.

James Lotze '49 of Massillon, Ohio, died July 7, 2015.

S.O. Swygert '49 of Columbus, Georgia, died on March 21, 2016.

Richard S. Mather '49 of Massillon, Ohio, died October 2, 2015.

1950s

Thaddeus W. Jurczyk '50 of Cleveland, Ohio, died October 30, 2015.

Tony Lee '50 of Alliance, Ohio, died November 15, 2015.

Charles D. MacLagan '50 of Somerset, Massachusetts, died March 12, 2016.

Carol (Andrews '50) Richmond of Maple Heights, Ohio, died December 9, 2015. Throughout her life, she loved visiting Chautauqua, New York, and was active as a Methodist youth counselor.

Alice (Weir '50) Myser of Canton, Ohio, died November 30, 2015.

Walter Haidet '51 of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, died January 24, 2016.

Mary (Jolly '51) Henshaw of Cave City, Kentucky, died November 29, 2015.

Harold J. Logan '51 of Huntington, West Virginia, died on December 12, 2015.

Georgia (Shollenberger '53) Vogel of Mountain View, Arkansas, died January 19, 2016. Vogel enjoyed a career of supporting others through working with the YM-YWCA and Logansport School

Administration in Logansport, Indiana. She also held counseling positions in Batesville, Mountain View and Mountain Home, Arkansas. Throughout her life, Georgia enjoyed spending time with her family and traveling.

Robert C. Roessler '55 of Mountain Lakes, New Jersey, died January 20, 2016. Throughout his life, he traveled internationally as a financial controller for many companies including Goodyear, Gillette, Revlon and GAF. Robert enjoyed reading, antiquing, traveling and spending time with his wife.

John M. Cargill '57 of Wadsworth, Ohio, died on December 8, 2015.

Rev. Gordan F. Hinkle Jr. '58 of Metter, Georgia, died January 4, 2016. Gordan owned the Whistle Stop Hobby Shop in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he was an avid collector of toy trains. He was ordained as a Lutheran pastor in 1963.

1960s

Joan (Davis '60) Guylas of Tuscon, Arizona, died March 15, 2016.

Gayle E. (Moran '60) Vogelgesang of Littleton, Colorado, died April 11, 2015. She was a member of the United Methodist Church and moved to Mt. Dora, Florida in 1983 before moving to Littleton in 2012.

Rose (Drake '61) D'Eramo of Youngstown, Ohio, died January 16, 2016. She was an avid reader, loved needlework and was known for her passion for helping people. Rose worked at the Zanesville YWCA, taught English at Austintown Fitch High School and loved tutoring students.

Kenneth Valentine '61 of Worthington, Ohio, died September 11, 2015.

Donald L. Denny '62 of Beloit, Ohio, died January 9, 2016. He was employed as a principle at Knox School and was a farmer. He was a member of the Bethel United Church of Christ and was a Ruritan, Mile Branch Grange member and Farm Bureau member.

Joel I. Tolerton '62 of Mayville, New York, died October 4, 2015.

Shirley (Coleman '63) Burns died October 30, 2015.

James G. Davis '63 of Albuquerque, New Mexico, died December 21, 2015.

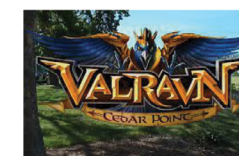
Bette Lou George '63 of Alliance, Ohio, died January 13, 2016. After her retirement, she worked at Rodman Public Library and the Mount Union Library as the director of the research department.

ALUMNI CALENDAR



MOUNT UNION'S SUMMER OF FUN

Cedar Point Discounted Tickets



We've teamed up with Cedar Point for a **'good-any-day' discount!** Try the new dive coaster Valravn!

Mahoning Valley Scrappers



Bring the family to a Scrappers baseball game in Niles plus enjoy **fireworks** post-game. **Friday, July 22** at **7:05 p.m.**

Lake County Captains



Bring the family to the Captains ballpark for a baseball game plus post-game **fireworks**. **Friday, July 15** at **7 p.m.**

Akron Rubber Ducks Game



Have a ball with family and friends at the **Akron Rubber Ducks** baseball game plus post-game fireworks. **Saturday, July 30** at **7:05 p.m.**

Foodie Field Trip Wine Tour



Join us for an exclusive wine tour hosted by Foodie Field Trips. **Thursday, July 21** from **9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

Family Fun Fest



Attend our **end-of-the-summer family get together** at Mount Union, complete with family friendly games and more on **Saturday, August 13** from **1 - 3 p.m.**

For complete details, visit alumni.mountunion.edu.

David Snyder '66 of Louisville, Ohio, died November 16, 2015.

Robert Morgan '68 of Lewis Center, Ohio, died March 1, 2016.

Dennis Williams '68 of Louisville, Ohio, died November 19, 2015.

William F. Loudon '69 of Evansville, Ohio, died September 27, 2015.

1970s

Donald "Andy" A. Campbell '76 of Toledo, Ohio, died March 2, 2016. Donald had a love for sports and followed all of his favorite Ohio teams. He also loved fishing, listening to classic rock and attending concerts.

Lee A. Brown '79 of Alliance, Ohio, died February 1, 2016. Lee was employed at First Merit Bank and was a member of Union Avenue United Methodist Church and the Alliance Lions Club.

Katharina Cibulas '79 of Alliance, Ohio, died April 18, 2015.

1990s

Kurt Foster '91 of Akron, Ohio, died December 6, 2015.

Jon Erik Anstrom '98 of Boardman, Ohio, died February 5, 2016.

Darcy L. Thorne- Leonard '99 of Lisbon, Ohio, died February 24, 2016. She was a kindergarten teacher at Carrollton Elementary and was a member of the Bethesda Presbyterian Church.

2000s

Erich G Carpenter '01 of Shadyside, Ohio, died September 26, 2015.

2010s

Sydney C. Breyer, a freshman of Springboro, Ohio, died October 7, 2015.

Sydney was a member of the Honors Program, Kappa Phi, flag corps and the band.

Friends

James William Kennedy Sr. of York, Maine, died December 1, 2015.

Fred Whitney Jr. died July 4, 2015.

Francis Daily died November 3, 2015.

Sharlene Schenk died November 22, 2015.

Freda Reeves died October 18, 2015.

Lenora Hampu of Alliance, Ohio, died December 20, 2015.

Chester Bartman of Massillon, Ohio, died October 17, 2015.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION WITH THE MOUNT UNION OFFICE OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

We would love to stay in contact with you and your family!

Address | Email | Children Information

Contact us at alumni@mountunion.edu or update directly online at alumni.mountunion.edu

Name and Address The information I am providing is new.

Dr. Rev. Mr. Ms. Mrs. Miss Name _____ first _____ last _____ maiden _____ Year of graduation _____

Dr. Rev. Mr. Ms. Mrs. Miss Spouse's name _____ first _____ last _____ maiden _____ Year of graduation (if from Mount) _____

Home address _____ box/house number and street _____ city _____ state _____ zip _____

Home telephone number () _____ Cell phone number () _____

Email address _____

Occupation The information I am providing is new.

Your occupation (title) _____

Employer (full name) _____

Business address _____ box/house number and street _____ city _____ state _____ zip _____

Telephone number () _____ Email address _____

Spouse's occupation (title) _____

Employer (full name) _____

Business address _____ box/house number and street _____ city _____ state _____ zip _____

Telephone number _____ Email address _____

Children The information I am providing is new.

Child's name _____ male female Date of birth _____ month / day / year _____ projected HS grad year _____

Child's name _____ male female Date of birth _____ month / day / year _____ projected HS grad year _____

Child's name _____ male female Date of birth _____ month / day / year _____ projected HS grad year _____

Marriage Announcement The information I am providing is new.

Date of marriage _____

Honor or Achievement

Recent honor or achievement _____

Other Information



Dr. Edward '54 and Helen (Wright '53) Farnham

For Dr. Edward '54 and Helen (Wright '53) Farnham, being philanthropic is simply the American way.

"If you read the newspapers, you'll learn that Americans are the most generous people in the world," Edward said. "We were brought up that way."

The Farnhams have extended their charitable giving to numerous organizations throughout the years, but they always keep their loyalty to Mount Union at the forefront of their generosity. Both grew up in Alliance and have remained connected to the University and their hometown throughout their lives. Helen's father, Robert D. Wright, was a former men's basketball coach at Mount Union, leading the team during World War II.

Edward, a retired general surgeon who was instrumental in modernizing surgery at Medina Hospital, and Helen, a former teacher at Mayfield Heights and Worthington, Ohio, have chosen to strengthen and advance Mount Union in multiple ways over the years.

Edward and Helen's generous support of Mount Union has earned them membership into the Forever Mount Society, Heritage Society and The Mount Union Fund's 1846 Society. In addition, Edward and Helen named a faculty office in the physician assistant studies area of Gallaher Hall. Donating his time and talent, Edward is a member of the Physician Assistant Studies Advisory Council.

Making a difference in the lives of Mount Union students, the couple established the Dr. Edward L. and Helen (Wright) Farnham Endowed Scholarship to assist students pursuing careers in the sciences.

The Farnhams reside in Medina, Ohio and enjoy traveling and spending time with family. Their grandson, Brian Farnham, is a 2014 Mount Union alumnus.

Learn how you, too, can create a lasting legacy at Mount Union.

It's easier than you might think to make a significant impact on higher education. For more information, contact Sherrie Wallace, director of gift planning, at (800) 992-6682 ext. 7803; (330) 823-7803; or wallacsj@mountunion.edu.

Yes! I / We are proud to invest in The Mount Union Fund or, please direct my gift to _____

- My / Our check is enclosed (made payable to the University of Mount Union)
- Please charge \$ _____ to my: Visa Mastercard Discover

Name _____ Address _____

Number of Installments _____ Due Date(s) _____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____

Card Number _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____ Email _____ Telephone _____

Please use the postage paid envelope provided in the Mount Union Magazine or give online at: alumni.mountunion.edu/give

Planned Giving

Planned gifts have significant impact on the future of Mount Union. These gifts enable you to make a meaningful difference in the lives of Mount Union students while enhancing your financial and estate planning goals, offering tax and income advantages. Types of planned gifts include: charitable trusts, charitable gift annuities, retirement assets and will bequests.

- I am interested in a planned giving consultation.
- Mount Union is in my will.

Please note: The University of Mount Union does not sell alumni contact information. It does however, provide access to our alumni list to a limited number of third party vendors with which the University has contracted to conduct business on its behalf (market research, class agents, etc.).

An update about you and your family is always requested by fellow alumni, and the Office of Alumni Engagement would like to know as well! If you have any news for us, complete this form and send it to:

Office of Alumni Engagement
University of Mount Union
1972 Clark Ave.
Alliance, OH 44601
(800) 992-6682
(330) 823-2030
Fax (330) 829-2805
alumni@mountunion.edu

You also may update your information online at: **alumni.mountunion.edu**.

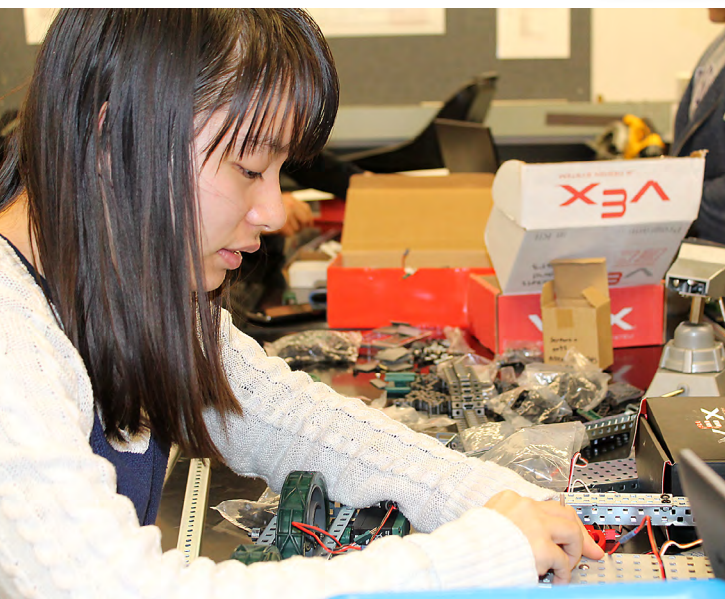
Remember, pictures are welcome! They will be used at the discretion of the magazine staff, as space allows. Photos that are submitted for publication in the magazine cannot be returned.

mountunion.edu

1972 Clark Ave.
Alliance, OH 44601

REFER A STUDENT!

mountunion.edu/prospective-student-referral-form



DO YOU KNOW ANY PROSPECTIVE PURPLE RAIDERS?

As a **PURPLE RAIDER**, you know first-hand what it takes to bleed purple, and chances are you know a student who would be a **PERFECT FIT** for Mount Union.

Encourage them to visit! We're confident that when people step foot on Mount Union's campus, they'll **FALL IN LOVE** just like you did! Legacy Families are welcome anytime to **CONTINUE THE TRADITION!**

GO TO mountunion.edu/prospective-student-referral-form to submit their contact information {Be sure to have the complete name, address, email and year of high school graduation before you begin}.