Welcome to Westerville, Ohio and Otterbein University for the fourth Democratic Presidential Debate, hosted by CNN and the New York Times.

Otterbein University is proud to have been at the center of major movements in American life since its founding in 1847 and has been an early adopter of ideas that helped shape public views on major societal issues.

For example, Otterbein was one of the first colleges in the United States to give women access to the same academic programs as men, and its first graduating class had two women. University leaders were also active voices against slavery, gave assistance to people fleeing slavery in the South, and Westerville was a well-known stop on the Underground Railroad.

We continue this tradition of innovation and social change today by:

- Addressing the affordability crisis in higher education by becoming the only college in Ohio to cover the full tuition need for students from families making less than $60,000.
- Ensuring our remarkable brand of liberal arts and science education is accessible to all. Fully 1/3 of Otterbein students are from lower-income families and we are more diverse than the state of Ohio with nearly 1/4 of our enrollment being students of color.
- Linking our academic programs directly to workforce readiness. We host a dozen corporate R&D programs on campus, from start-ups to Fortune 100 companies, and each agrees to involve our undergraduates in their work.

As you prepare for your visit, we would be happy to help connect you to interesting and important resources on our campus and in our greater community, including:

- More information about The Point — central Ohio’s new home to economic innovation
- Classroom visit and discussion with an expert faculty member or engaged student
- Information about innovative businesses in our area and hear from Westerville community leaders and citizens

Please reference this Welcome Guide and or let my colleagues at the university or in the community know. We would be happy to connect you.

We look forward to our students having the chance to witness and experience this debate and we are proud that the candidates and America might take something back from Otterbein and Westerville. We hope you have a great experience this week here at Otterbein.

Sincerely,

John L. Comerford, Ph.D.
President, Otterbein University
Welcome.

Diversity in all forms

Economic innovation

Midwest values

One of the country’s fastest growing regions

WE ARE the perfect location.

Towers Hall, Otterbein campus

City Hall, Westerville OH

Columbus city skyline
Corporate Partnerships

The Point at Otterbein is an innovative space for students, faculty, staff, industry and the community. Among companies located there giving student experiences are: JPMorgan Chase, Nikola Labs, PolymerOhio, edgeThingZ, and Nestlé.

70+ Academic Programs

Recognized programs in Engineering, Musical Theatre and Zoo & Conservation Science, as well as graduate programs in Allied Health, Nurse Anesthesia and Psychiatric & Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

WE ARE the perfect location.

Westerville
COLUMBUS
OHIO

70,000 SERVICE HOURS offered by 3,000 Otterbein students each year
96 service learning courses offered

WE ARE committed to affordability.

Otterbein believes a college education is a right all students deserve. We're keeping a college education affordable for all students and their families.

The Opportunity Scholarship, the Urban Districts Initiative and a Dual Admission Program with Columbus State Community College create some of Ohio’s most affordable ways to earn a college degree.

WE ARE not afraid to do what’s right. >

We never have been.

Since its founding in 1847, Otterbein has been recognized for its pace-setting ideals including:

• Our commitment to inclusion — among the first co-ed colleges, including women as students and faculty; admitted African Americans before the Civil War; admitted Japanese American students from WWII internment camps.

• Our innovative curriculum — Otterbein’s integrative studies was ground-breaking 50 years ago; today it’s nationally recognized as a model of excellence.

• Our commitment to shared governance — national trail-blazers in giving students and faculty a voice and vote in decision-making.

WE ARE

95% of students were employed or in graduate school within six months of graduation.
THREE-YEAR AVERAGE, 2016-2018

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WE ARE a model partnership.

Otterbein University and the City of Westerville have shared a story since the beginning — including a common purpose to enrich the quality of life for all we serve.

One of the most impactful collaborations has been the recent development of The Point — central Ohio’s new home to economic innovation. Bringing industry, community and education together, The Point is solving 21st century challenges and is driving new technology from ideation to the marketplace.

Connect with us.
www.otterbein.edu

Academic Affairs
614-823-1556
academicaffairs@otterbein.edu
Kristi North
Includes:
Faculty and subject experts
Research opportunities
Academic student organizations

Center for Career & Professional Development
614-823-1520
rbrechbill@otterbein.edu
Ryan Brechbill

Center for Community Engagement
614-823-1270
mgilbert@otterbein.edu
Melissa Gilbert
Includes:
Student Volunteer Programs
Community Based Research
Community Partnerships

Marketing and Communications
614-823-1600
ponce1@otterbein.edu
Roberto Ponce

Office of Social Justice and Activism
614-823-1312
jprysock@otterbein.edu
James Prysock

Office of Events and Conferences
614-823-1847
events@otterbein.edu
Matthew D’Oyly

The Point at Otterbein
614-823-1948
ebender@otterbein.edu
Erin Bender
Includes:
Tenant Space
Maker Space

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Not sure who to contact?
Let us help make the connection.
614-823-1305

Westerville Visitors and Convention Bureau
www.visitwesterville.org

City Manager’s Office
614-901-6400
david.collinsworth@westerville.org
David Collinsworth

Community Affairs
614-901-6411
christa.dickey@westerville.org
Christa Dickey

Westerville Chamber of Commerce
(614) 882-8917
jdavis@westervillechamber.com
Janet Davis