Sims Family Continues to Pay Forward

Gary Sims was at Ohio State when Woody Hayes was the football coach. He understands the coach’s admonition to pay it forward. “This community has always been good to me and my family,” said Sims, the CEO of Sims Brothers, Inc.—and the latest donor to Ohio State Marion’s science building project.

Sims recently committed $50,000 individually—and another $50,000 from the company that bears his name. The gifts will be spread over five years.

New science labs will replace those built in 1968 in Morrill Hall, allowing, for example, an entire chemistry class to work under exhaust hoods at the same time. A new science building would also allow for more sophisticated science instruction, particularly in fields such as environmental science—where Gary Sims makes his living. Sims Brothers, Inc. reprocesses and recycles metals, paper, and plastics. “I’m sure there’s something that’s developed every day that, down the road, could help our business,” he said. Perhaps that something will come out of one of the labs his gift will help create.

Gary received his Ohio State degree in business administration in 1979, but he started his Ohio State career on the Marion campus where the smaller classes and intimate nature of the campus got him off on the right foot academically. “You know, even if you sit in the last row you’re still only twenty feet away from the professor, so you do have to pay attention,” he recalled. Like many of today’s current students, Sims was the first generation in his family to go to college. “My dad always wanted all of his kids to have an education and we’re very thankful to have an Ohio State education,” he said. “We’re proud of it.”

Just as it was for him personally, Gary Sims realizes that education will be the key to his hometown’s future. “Information nowadays doubles and triples so quickly. We’re going to be using things five or ten years from now that we haven’t even thought about. And it has to be the universities that come up with those things,” he said.

The Sims family also supports a scholarship endowment in Marion, as well as the basketball program on the Columbus campus. Having a piece of Ohio State in Marion, said Sims, “is a wonderful connection to have…it’s just an opportunity for so many to get an education.”
Traditions

From the Dean and Director

Dr. Gregory S. Rose, Dean and Director, The Ohio State University at Marion

To the right on this page are three news notes about Ohio State Marion’s connections—with another central Ohio higher educational institution, with the entire Ohio State University, and with members of our communities. Through the new “Partnership” with Columbus State Community College, Ohio State Marion will build and extend the academic pathways between Ohio State and Columbus State that currently are being reinforced and expanded but in a unique and path-breaking way that has Ohio State Marion offering courses on Columbus State’s new Delaware Campus. The two institutions have collaborated to develop a complementary schedule of courses on that campus. At Delaware, students can take all of their courses from Ohio State or from Columbus State—and here is the arrangement’s most unusual characteristic—or they can take a mix of Columbus State and Ohio State courses at the same time. The overarching goal is to enhance educational opportunities and encourage more students to receive a college education. The news item about the Roads Scholars visit to the Marion campus is a reminder that we are all part of “One University,” a mantra repeated by President Gee at every opportunity as a reminder to faculty, staff, students, and the public that “We are Ohio State!” regardless of location. The Kuhn Gallery’s summer exhibits are a great showcase in a true art gallery space for community artists to show their work and community friends to experience the talent we have around us.

Partnership

Students, faculty, staff, alumni, college officials, and the community joined together in celebration of a unique partnership in Delaware County that has brought together the educational resources of The Ohio State University and Columbus State Community College on one campus in Delaware County.

The celebration took place on Wednesday, September 14, 2011, with refreshments and remarks by Columbus State President David Harrison and Ohio State President Gordon Gee. To symbolize the new partnership, the two presidents planted a Buckeye tree on the campus.

Roads Scholars

President E. Gordon Gee was joined by nearly fifty new faculty members and administrators from across the university as they arrived on the Marion Campus during the 2011 Roads Scholars Tour. As the state’s land-grant institution, the university has created partnerships in each of Ohio’s 88 counties and works aggressively to address emerging needs and opportunities. The annual trip is an effort to provide participants with a first-hand look at a few of those important partnerships.

Kuhn Gallery

The Wayne & Geraldine Kuhn Fine Arts Gallery is located in Morrill Hall on the Marion campus. This past summer, the gallery continued its tradition of presenting shows featuring outstanding artists with local ties. An opening reception was hosted on August 3, 2011, for Life is a Beach, a show highlighting the photographic art from the studio of Pamela G. Daum, a native of Marion.
The Greatest Generation...

Karen Ream
Assistant Director of Development and Community Relations of The Ohio State University at Marion

Fall has arrived and our campus is bustling once again with activity, quite a change from the lazy, hazy days of summer. It’s an exciting time of the year, as not only have traditional-aged students returned, but we continue to see those of all ages enjoying the many opportunities and benefits of education on the Marion campus. High school graduates of all ages can, of course, take classes for credit, but if you are an older individual, as am I, you are welcome to take our classes (for non-credit) at no charge through Program 60. Anyone 60 years of age or older can audit any class on campus provided that the instructor and the registrar approve. We offer over 200 classes each quarter and if you choose, you can opt out of homework and exams. What a great way to learn new things!

Another approach is through our LEI (Learning Enrichment Institute), a program for lifelong learners aged 50 and over. These are short courses from one to eight sessions each and of varying interests. This fall we are offering 20 classes with topics from amateur radio to Zentangle©. For a small fee you can take one or all.

The Ohio State University at Marion is here for you. Please call me at 740/725-6320 for more information on how you, too, can “be all you can be!”

Prairie Nature Center Shelter Dedication

Restoration of the Marion Campus Prairie was begun in 1977 under the supervision of Dr. Larry Yoder. With the establishment of the Prairie Nature Center, the prairie has served as an outdoor learning laboratory used by students and professors, as well as community organizations, school groups, scouting groups, and garden clubs.

On September 29, 2011, the new Prairie Nature Center Shelter was dedicated to longtime Ohio State donor and prairie activist, Trella Romine. She and Dr. Yoder were both on hand for the ceremony and open house.
Traditions
Dr. Gregory S. Rose, Dean and Director
Dave Claborn, Director of Development
C. Gary Iams, Traditions Editor

Ohio State Marion presents

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November 10: The Rolling Hams, Blues, Funk, & Classic Rock
March 15: Warren Mailley-Smith, Concert Pianist
April 12: Simple Gifts, Ethnic Folk Music
May 10: OSU Chorale & OSU Symphonic Choir, Choral Ensembles

All performances begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Morrill Hall Auditorium

Celebrate the Arts with Us!

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