



2018 Report to Franconia/Eastern Conference

Dr. Jane Wood named president

For just the tenth time in its 119-year history, Bluffton University's Board of Trustees has named a new president. **Dr. Jane Wood took office July 1, 2018, and was inaugurated on Sept. 28, 2018.**

"Dr. Wood has demonstrated success in achieving enrollment growth at several institutions by leading academic program innovation, strategic planning, alignment and visioning processes that moved those institutions forward, along with proven success in building relationships for public and private partnerships to broaden the school's reach," said **Kent Yoder**, chairperson of the Bluffton University Board of Trustees.

"She is a committed Christian with leadership experience at both Catholic and Protestant institutions and a passion for social justice. We are excited that she was drawn to Bluffton for its mission, history and faith tradition."

New experiential-learning course

A \$25,000 grant will help Bluffton University implement a new, high-impact learning experience for sophomore students. The NetVUE Vocation Across the Academy Grant will allow Bluffton to pilot and implement a 5-credit-hour course called **Learning in Community**. All sophomore-level students will take the course starting in the 2020-21 academic year. The course will be part of Bluffton's Enduring Values Program, a new general education curriculum geared toward preparing students for both life and vocation.

"As presently envisioned, the sophomore course will draw together research and teaching from such disciplines as history, data analytics and social science," said Dr. Lamar Nisly, vice president and dean of academic affairs. "Students will engage studying nearby Lima, Ohio's complex history and current realities through interdisciplinary coursework on campus and through visits to the city. **Classroom analyses will come to life for students through experiential learning connections.**"

SIMPLY INNOVATE | THE CAMPAIGN FOR BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY

A five-year campaign is underway to move Bluffton into the future. Simply Innovate, the Campaign for Bluffton University, includes a \$26 million comprehensive goal. Construction is complete on the Moyer Nature Center, an early manifestation of the campaign, located in the Bluffton University Nature Preserve. The building's environmental science focus complements the campaign's signature project, the **Austin E. Knowlton Science Center**, which is scheduled to open on the main campus in the 2020-21 academic year. www.bluffton.edu/giving

Thank you!

Bluffton University currently enrolls **2 students from Eastern District churches.** **Alicia Loch**, West Swamp Mennonite; and **Emily Rush**, West Swamp Mennonite.

#BeaversAll

Maria Hernandez, a mathematics and physics double major, was a student representative for Bluffton University on the Mennonite Central Committee's Great Lakes Board. She was one of the first students to serve in this role.

Read more about Maria and other Bluffton students, faculty and staff at www.bluffton.edu/beaversall

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