The public dedication of the John L. and Christine Warner Library & Student Center at The Ohio State University at Newark and Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) drew several hundred people, including members of the community, staff, faculty and students. The event began at the entrance of the Warner Library & Student Center on Friday, October 3, at 1 p.m.

Featured speakers included Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Eric D. Fingerhut, State Representative Jay Hottinger and Senator Tim Schaffer.

Dr. William L. MacDonald, dean/director, Ohio State Newark; Sarah Reese Wallace, board chair, COTC; Dr. Thomas J. Hall, board chair, Ohio State Newark; Stephanie L. Volbrecht, president, Student Government; and Dr. Bonnie L. Coe, president, COTC, also addressed the crowd.

“John Warner’s vision to combine a library and student center reinforces our goal to spread intellectual dialogue beyond the classroom,” said MacDonald. “This building extends the spheres of learning; it encourages civic engagement, and broadens the community of scholars on this campus.”

At the ceremony, each guest was given a pair of scissors, and ribbon was woven through the crowd so that everyone in attendance could participate in the ribbon cutting. The scissors were later donated to Miller Elementary School in Newark.

“I love the fact that I don't have to travel to Columbus, or to any other campus, to have access to a high quality education,” said Volbrecht. “To the Warner family, and to all who contributed to this incredible building – thank you. You have given me a gift that is beyond measure – the gift of opportunity – and that gift will enable many future generations to also follow their dreams.”
A Message from the Dean and Director

Prepared Students to Lead a World Economy and a Multicultural Society

One of the strategies of The Ohio State University’s Academic Plan is to create a diverse university community. When the university introduced the plan in 2000, it put forth two great arguments for this strategy: Students need to be prepared to participate in the vast world economy, and students learn better in a diverse environment. The university's Diversity Action Plan, which came out just ahead of the Academic Plan, additionally noted that a more racially and ethnically diverse student body prepares students for “citizenship in an increasingly complex, pluralistic society” and “enhances the country’s economic competitiveness by effectively developing and using the talents of all citizens.”

Since the Academic Plan's release, Ohio State Newark has committed itself to increasing the diversity of the campus, and although we have had only moderate success in diversifying our faculty, we have had enormous success with our student body. When I arrived in 1992, members of racial or ethnic minority groups comprised about four percent of our student body. By the fall of 2007, that percentage had risen to nearly 12 percent. Furthermore, this growth in diversity has occurred in the context of a positive campus climate for diversity. In 2006, through the Student Satisfaction Inventory, we asked our students whether they agreed or disagreed with the notion that there is a strong commitment to diversity on our campus. Their scores were positive and statistically and substantively higher than the mean for students at other four-year public universities who answered the same question about their campuses.

Our positive climate appears to be benefiting the growth of our students' readiness to participate in our increasingly diverse society. In 2004 and 2007, through the National Survey on Student Engagement, the campus surveyed freshmen and seniors to study their perceptions of the degree to which the campus contributed to their understanding of people of other racial or ethnic backgrounds. The mean scores for both groups increased between the two points in time.

These encouraging indicators of our campus's contributions to diversifying the university community stem from our students' positive attitudes toward each other, and from the commitment of our faculty and staff to the university's Academic Plan and its underlying principles. Our attitude is one of "education for all," and we intend to improve on our successes.

William L. MacDonald, Ph.D., Dean and Director

Ohio Natural Resources grant awarded to expand campus recycling efforts

The Ohio State University at Newark and Central Ohio Technical College have greatly expanded their recycling program with the recent opening of the autumn 2008 quarter. The institutions are the recipients of a $26,000 matching grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to aid with the expanded campus-wide recycling effort.

The terms of the grant supply the campus with fourteen multi-container recycling stations that have been strategically installed in high-traffic locations throughout campus buildings. In addition, the campus has purchased a cardboard baler that will be installed the second week in November. Also, SBC Recycling is providing oversized cardboard containers for the loading docks to facilitate the recycling of the 65,000 plastic bottles delivered to the campus each fiscal year.

"The receptivity by students thus far has been commendable," said Dr. James Woolard, superintendent, facilities and support services.

To reinforce the campus’s commitment to recycling, the Newark Campus Recycling Committee will create ongoing educational programs that stress to faculty, staff and students the importance of recycling paper, plastic bottles, aluminum cans and cardboard throughout the academic year.
You never know what might happen if you simply ask. That’s the lesson the Newark Campus Young Democrats learned when the Obama-Biden campaign answered their invitation for vice presidential candidate Senator Joe Biden to speak on campus.

At the first meeting of the year of the Newark Campus Young Democrats, the group wondered if they might entice a politician to come to campus and speak about the importance of the election in Ohio. Perhaps, they thought, a local politician would be able to speak with them before the debate-watching party they had planned for the final presidential debate. Without much real hope of garnering any candidate’s attention during campaign season, the group somewhat offhandedly voted to send out invitations to as many candidates as they could.

Much to their surprise, the Obama-Biden campaign called back. Senator Biden addressed a near-capacity crowd in Adena Hall on Wednesday, October 15.

“The best part of this was not that Biden came, not that 2,000 people got to watch him, and that the campus was in the newspapers,” said Mitchell Lerner, Ph.D., an associate professor of history at Ohio State Newark and the faculty advisor for the Newark Campus Young Democrats. “It was that two of our students got to stand up on stage in front of the crowd and introduce him [Senator Biden]. I suspect that they will not soon forget the experience.”

The Ohio State University at Newark Dean/Director William L. MacDonald is pleased to announce two new full-time faculty members.

Kenneth Madsen, Ph.D., joined Ohio State Newark as assistant professor of geography. Before coming to Ohio, he was an instructor at Tohono O’odham Community College (TOCC), in Sells, Arizona, which primarily serves the residents of the Tohono Oodham Nation. Prior to that, he was the coordinator of distance education at TOCC.

Madsen’s teaching experience includes Introduction to Cultural Geography, Introduction to Human Geography, Geography of Arizona & the Southwestern U.S., Introduction to Physical Geography, Public Speaking, computer literacy and software classes. His research interests include globalization, borderlands, migration, ethnographic research and Mexico/Latin America.

Madsen received both his Ph.D. and his M.A. in Geography from Arizona State University.

Asuman Turkmen, Ph.D., joined the full-time faculty as assistant professor of statistics. Turkmen comes to Ohio State Newark from Auburn University in Alabama, where she taught calculus and a variety of statistics classes. In addition, she assisted in teaching graduate-level courses such as Experimental Statistics and Regression Analysis. Turkmen’s research interests are focused on multivariate data analysis, especially classification and regression.

Turkmen earned her Ph.D. in Statistics from Auburn University and her M.S. and B. S. in Statistics at Çukurova University in Adana, Turkey.

A citizen of Turkey, she is fluent in both her native tongue and English.
The John L. and Christine Warner Library & Student Center
Dedicated October 3, 2008

(right): Christine Warner Powell (seated) is joined by her husband, (far right) Thomas Powell; daughter and son-in-law, Melissa J. and Russell G. Bow; and grandson, Andrew Bow.

(above): The Norman R. and Alethea E. Sleight Community Room; (right): the Howard E. LeFevre Learning Commons; and (below): the Constance Corkwell Baldwin Fireside Lounge.

(below): Unveiling of the portrait of John L. and Christine Warner.

(bottom): Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Eric D. Fingerhut greets Christine Warner Powell.

(right): Thomas Powell grasps his wife’s hand at the dedication ceremony.
Astronaut and entrepreneur Dr. Mae Jemison captivated a standing room only crowd at Ohio State Newark’s Convocation 2008. Over 500 guests squeezed into the Alford Performing Arts Hall in the John Gilbert Reese Center to attend the annual celebration on Tuesday, September 23, the afternoon before the university’s opening day of classes for autumn quarter 2008.

Jemison urged the students to pay attention to what’s going on in the world around them, and to take advantage of the opportunities they’ll find at Ohio State Newark. She also told them to take chances.

“Take the time now to meet people who aren’t like you,” she said. “Do some things where you might not know what the outcome is.”

Jemison, the first woman of color to go into space, flew on the shuttle Endeavour in 1992 and was a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronaut from 1987 to 1993. After leaving NASA, she founded The Jemison Group, Inc. and is currently building a new business, BioSentient Corporation.

The Convocation audience was also greeted by Ohio State Newark Dean/Director William L. MacDonald, who gave what he called their “first test” of the academic year: He shouted “O-H!” and the crowd responded with “I-O!”

Other speakers included Stephanie Volbrecht, student government president; John M. Berry, director of student life; and Paul Sanders, associate dean, who led the audience in singing “Carmen, Ohio,” the Ohio State alma mater.

Convocation guests then attended a picnic at the Reese Center. Radio station CD-101 provided music and games outdoors, while Newark Campus Dining provided the lunch.

Buckeye Book Community 2008-2009

Public invited to join the campus community for book lectures, meet the author, and film screening

Ohio State’s First Year Experience programs are designed to help incoming students maximize the first year by getting comfortable on campus and connecting with the university. As part of the First Year Experience at Ohio State Newark, students can participate in the Buckeye Book Community (BBC).

Each student who participates in the BBC will receive a complimentary copy of this year’s BBC book, Ernest Gaines’ A Lesson Before Dying. Throughout the academic year, the campus will hold a variety of public programs revolving around the book, including several faculty-led discussions and lectures that will allow readers to explore the book’s themes from the perspective of varying fields of study, a screening of the book’s movie adaptation, and a chance to meet the author in person. Buckeye Book Community books are selected with the intention of creating a context for conversation about issues of importance in today’s world.

Buckeye Book Club activities are free and open to the public, and the community is encouraged to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

Critically acclaimed, A Lesson Before Dying is an intensely emotional story of a young black man convicted of a murder he did not commit. Gaines, who credits his boyhood experiences in helping him develop characterization, has been heralded for his vivid portrayal of life for blacks in the deep south.

All activities will be held in the Alford Performing Arts Hall in the John Gilbert Reese Center. Lectures will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Lecture Dates:
- Dr. Tiyi Morris, Department of African American and African Studies; January 14
- Dr. Peter Hennen, Department of Sociology, February 4
- Dr. Stephanie Brown, Department of English, February 25

See the Film:
- Come to the screening of the film, A Lesson Before Dying, March 4, 5:30 p.m.

Meet the Author:
- Meet Mr. Gaines in person on May 14, at 7:30 p.m.
William Acklin was in the first class attending Ohio State Newark in 1957. A resident of Newark, he chose the school for practical reasons.

“My mother, a widow and teacher in the Newark school system, was paying my tuition,” he said, “so it made sense to begin my college closer to home.”

Acklin recalled that attending Ohio State Newark classes in the same place that he’d attended high school made college seem like a continuation of high school. Unsure what career path he wanted to pursue, “Ohio State Newark was beneficial to my transition to higher education studies,” he said.

He moved to the Columbus campus in his sophomore year, majoring in business administration, and graduating in 1962. After serving in the Army and getting married, Acklin earned an MBA from the University of Dayton in 1976.

Acklin went on to become Director of Human Resources at Denison University in Granville from 1976 through 2006. Now retired, he is active in his church and has been traveling extensively with his wife, Connie.

About changes on the campus and in the surrounding community, Acklin said, “The changes are wonderful for the community and provide great educational opportunities for young and old to take college courses.”

“Attending Ohio State Newark was a great opportunity for me to get started in college,” Acklin said.

He offered encouragement to potential students who might be unsure of their ability to succeed in college: “Attending in a smaller setting where individual attention may be more available would be a great benefit.”
Arts Come Alive at Ohio State Newark

Great Performers Series
The 2008-2009 season of the Great Performers Series opened on October 29 with live jazz from guitarist/composer Joel Harrison. From the Alford Performing Arts Hall in the John Gilbert Reese Center, Harrison was joined by Columbus-native Christian Howes, jazz violinist; Fima Ephron on bass; and Jordan Perlson on drums.

The series will continue on Monday, March 16, 2009, when the Carolina Chocolate Drops will perform at 7 p.m. in the Alford Performing Arts Hall. The Carolina Chocolate Drops are three young African-American musicians who have researched and become masters of very early Black musical performance styles in the U.S. They perform on banjo, fiddle, guitar, voice, and jug.

On Wednesday, April 15, 2009, Anupama Bhagwat will perform North Indian Classical (Hindustani) music on sitar with tabla (pair of hand drums) accompaniment. An Indian woman, Bhagwat will offer a rare opportunity to hear “classical” music from another culture, a music based on unique principles of timbre, improvisation, and spirituality. This performance will take place at 7 p.m. in the Alford Performing Arts Hall in the John Gilbert Reese Center.

The Great Performers Series is offered free of charge and endeavors to share exciting, live music with the community.

LeFevre Art Gallery
LeFevre Gallery promises another season of exciting work from artists close to the community. The autumn quarter opened with “Images of Earthworks,” which will remain on display until December 29. The exhibit features the work of seven artists who have produced pictures of earthworks using a wide range of technologies, from LiDAR technology to photography.

The winter quarter will bring work from Mohsen Shirzadian, an Iranian photographer from Delaware, OH. “Photographs from My Home Country: People, Culture, and Everyday Life” features Shirzadian’s personal vision.

Local artist Chad Sines will close the season in the spring quarter with a solo exhibition. A Newark native, Sines’ work is colorful, imaginative and meaningful.

Visit www.newark.osu.edu for details of these upcoming exhibits. The gallery is open Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. There is no fee to visit the gallery.

The Ohio State University at Newark Department of Theatre
2008-2009 season

Post Mortem, by A.R. Gurney, November 13, 14, 15 and 20, 21, 22. Curtain time is 8 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre in LeFevre Hall. Tickets are $3 for students and $4 for the general public. The play is open to all ages; however, there is a limited amount of profanity.

Anne Sexton’s Poems, a reading of selected poems, January 16, 7:30 p.m.
John L. and Christine Warner Library and Student Center, free

The Indian Wants the Bronx and Line two plays by Israel Horovitz, March 5, 6, 7 and March 12, 13, 14, Black Box Theatre, LeFevre Hall

Devil’s Dictionary, by Ambrose Bierce, dramatic reading, April 10, 7:30 p.m.
John L. and Christine Warner Library and Student Center, free

The Laramie Project, by Moisés Kaufman, May 28, 29, 30 and June 4, 5, 6
Black Box Theatre, LeFevre Hall
Campus Calendar of Events

Open to the public!

November 2008

Thursday, 11/13 – Saturday, 11/15; Thursday, 11/20 – Saturday, 11/22
Autumn Theatre Production - Post Mortem by A.R. Gurney
Tickets: $3/students; $4/general public
Black Box Theatre, LeFevre Hall, 8 p.m.

December 2008

Friday, December 5
Holiday Celebration & Santa Visit - FREE
Children visit with Santa & music from the Dunham Harps Ensemble, from 6 – 7:15 p.m.
Concert (Heisey Brass and University Chorus) 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
John Gilbert Reese Center – Ballroom, gallery & Alford Performing Arts Hall, 6 – 8:30 p.m.

January 2009

Thursday, January 8; Friday, January 9
Auditions! – Israel Horovitz's The Indian Wants the Bronx and Line
Black Box Theatre, LeFevre Hall, 7-9:30 pm

Friday, January 16
Winter Reading: Anne Sexton's poems - Theatre Department - FREE
John L. and Christine Warner Library and Student Center, 7:30 pm

February 2009

Thursday, February 5
Faculty Lecture Series - FREE
Melissa K. Jungers, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology
“Cognitive Aspects of Music & Language”
John Gilbert Reese Center – Ballroom, 7 – 9 p.m.

March 2009

March 5, 6, 7 and 12, 13, 14
Winter theatre production- Two plays by Israel Horvitz: The Indian Wants the Bronx and Line.
$3/students; $4/general public
Black Box Theatre, LeFevre Hall, 8 p.m.

Monday, March 16
Great Performers Series – FREE
The Carolina Chocolate Drops - Banjo, fiddle, guitar, voice and jug
Alford Performing Arts Hall, John Gilbert Reese Center, 7 p.m.

More information, Dr. Emoff at 740.366.9271 or emoff.1@osu.edu

For up-to-date information about events on campus, please visit www.newark.osu.edu and www.cotc.edu