Richard Shiels Recognized with Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching

Educators have the ability to evoke curiosity, to inspire exploration, and to share information with students. They can shape students’ minds, and help them to plan their futures. Dr. Richard Shiels, associate professor of history at The Ohio State University at Newark, has done just that, and was recently recognized for his work.

Shiels was one of ten Ohio State University faculty members who received the 2010 Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching, which honors faculty members for superior teaching. Recipients are nominated by present and former students and colleagues and are chosen by a committee of alumni, students, and faculty. Honorees receive a cash award that is made possible by contributions from the Alumni Association, friends of Ohio State, and the Office of Academic Affairs, as well as an increase to their base salary. In addition to monetary awards, the recipients will be inducted into the university’s Academy of Teaching, which provides leadership for the improvement of teaching at Ohio State.

Archie Griffin surprised Shiels during a class session to present him with the award. Griffin, senior vice president for alumni relations and president/CEO of the OSU Alumni Association, was joined by OSU representatives from Columbus, Newark, the Department of History, and William L. MacDonald, Dean/Director, Ohio State Newark.

Marcus Yoder, who will graduate in summer with a B.A. in history, said that Shiels has had a tremendous influence on him as a student and as a future history professor. Yoder said that Shiels “makes you want to learn history.”

“Dr. Shiels is a role model for me,” said Yoder. “He is so incredibly knowledgeable, he’s always prepared for class, and he cares deeply about his students at all levels.”

“Dick is an outstanding teacher who inspires both his students and his colleagues,” said MacDonald.

Shiels joined Ohio State Newark in 1976 and gained tenure in 1983. He earned a Ph.D. from Boston University and an M.A. in religion from Yale University Divinity School. He is also the director of the Newark Earthworks Center.

Archie Griffin presents a 2010 Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching to Associate Professor of History Richard Shiels, Ph.D.
A Message from the Dean and Director

The Ohio State University at Newark – A Part of Something Great

In 1957, when citizens of Newark strove to establish a regional campus of The Ohio State University in their community, they did so because they believed wholeheartedly in the importance of higher education and the great promise of access championed by public universities. Today, Ohio State continues to build upon its storied reputation for access and excellence through the implementation of four core strategic elements: becoming a national leader in the quality of our academic programs; being universally acclaimed for the quality of the learning experience we offer our students; creating an environment that truly values and is enriched by diversity; and expanding the land-grant mission to address our society’s most compelling needs.

Now, more than 50 years after its founding, The Ohio State University at Newark continues to play a critical role in perpetuating and enhancing the university’s broad vision for access, academic distinction, and research innovation. I’m extremely pleased to share several of the highly notable accomplishments and honors garnered by Ohio State Newark faculty and staff members during the past academic year.

• Associate Professor of History Richard D. Shiels, Ph.D., was honored this spring with the university’s Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching. Dick received the award from Archie Griffin, senior vice president for alumni relations and president/CEO of the Alumni Association, who traveled to Newark for the surprise classroom presentation.

• Angela Harvey, Ph.D., assistant professor of sociology, won the Carla B. Howery Teaching Enhancement Grant from the American Sociological Association and the Community-Based Research Award from the university’s Office of Outreach and Engagement.

• Nathaniel Swigger, Ph.D., assistant professor of political science, received the Paul Lazarsfeld Award for best paper in political communication at the American Political Science Association 2008 Annual Meeting.

• Library Director Susan Scott was honored with the Jay Ladd Distinguished Service Award from the Academic Library Association of Ohio.

• The entire campus embraced our growing Somali student population through multiple events, including a Cultural Connections program, the annual African American Heritage Dinner, and a Somalian Diaspora lecture.

• Student Joe Mandelstein and Associate Professor of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology J. Andrew Roberts, Ph.D., received a $5,000 grant from the Ohio State Digital Union to develop a new instrument for behavioral ecology.

In addition, Ohio State Newark continues to benefit from the generosity of community partners and benefactors. The ongoing support of many in the community has contributed immeasurably toward our goal of increasing access to the university. During this past year, the Board of Trustees of Ohio State Newark contributed toward the establishment of a scholarship fund for our students. I thank them for their leadership in this very important cause.

This past spring, while honoring faculty award winners, including Dick Shiels, Ohio State University President E. Gordon Gee used these words to describe Ohio State: “We are a place of bold innovation, vast imagination, great commitment, and unlimited promise.”

At Ohio State Newark, we are a part of something great. I’m proud to say that our faculty and staff members are active and inspired contributors to the greater university community. I hope that you’ll join me in congratulating them on the many successes achieved during the past year. I look forward to sharing more of Ohio State Newark’s achievements with you in future issues of Profiles.

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

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Ohio State Newark Students Recognized at Graduation Celebration

Graduating students at The Ohio State University at Newark were recognized at a special event on the evening of Tuesday, May 18. Over 300 guests attended the Graduation Celebration, which was held in the Alford Performing Arts Hall in the John Gilbert Reese Center.

Of those graduating in June, 45 students will receive master’s degrees, 139 will receive bachelor’s degrees, and 169 will receive associate degrees.

Dr. Robert A. Barnes was the keynote speaker. Barnes was the first full-time dean/director of Ohio State Newark, and later became the first president of Central Ohio Technical College, with whom Ohio State Newark shares the campus.

“I hope you participate in OSU’s tradition of education for citizenship,” Barnes told the graduates-to-be.

Barnes said he hopes the graduates will “participate and contribute to your community and vote at every opportunity.”

Following Dr. Barnes’ address, the Faculty and Staff Singers led the group in “Carmen, Ohio,” Ohio State’s alma mater.

Ohio State Newark students graduate with their class in June at Ohio Stadium (aka “the Shoe”). The Graduation Celebration in Newark is the campus’s way of recognizing the achievements of the students who did most of their coursework in Newark.

“We are proud of our students and are pleased to celebrate their academic accomplishments before they participate in the official graduation in Columbus,” said William L. MacDonald, Dean/Director, Ohio State Newark.

Participants at the Graduation Celebration were invited to attend a reception in the graduates’ honor following the program.

Simulation Game teaches Middle School Students the Importance of Life Choices

Staff from The Ohio State University at Newark joined colleagues from Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) to volunteer in a “Reality Store,” an interactive activity that is part of the PEAK (Providing Early Awareness and Knowledge) program. Five local organizations have joined forces to collaborate in implementing PEAK: COTC, A CALL TO COLLEGE, Newark City Schools, Denison University, and Ohio State Newark.

On Tuesday, May 18 at Liberty Middle School, the volunteers played roles in “Reality Store,” a simulation game in which the students assume an adult identity and, using life factors assigned to them, go through a “store” to purchase the various necessities of life, such as housing, transportation, insurance, utilities, food, and entertainment. The volunteers were stationed at the various tables, each offering a specific service.

The students’ identities were varied, and included high school dropouts to those with advanced degrees; some were married, others divorced; some had children; some had disabilities; and some smoked cigarettes – for which they paid a penalty. The identities were randomly appointed, and the students had to make do with the choices that their character had made earlier in life.

Each student carried a ledger that was used to keep track of their income and expenditures as they moved through the stations, each of which offered three purchasing categories from which to choose: Penny Pincher, Modest Middle, and Living Large. The category determined how often an individual or family might go to the movies, or what cable services they could afford.

One student approached the entertainment table groaning, “I just got robbed!” He had taken a spin at the “wheel of fortune” table where, much to his dismay, his savings were depleted with a single incident.

All was not lost for those whose fictitious life choices had put them in the red; students who had dropped out of high school, for example, were able to visit the checkout table to “earn” a GED, which would boost their income.

As the students finished making their rounds through the store, they were encouraged to write their thoughts on a large paper posted to the wall. Among the comments were “Being poor stinks. Get a degree so you can make it,” and “Wow, I feel bad for my mom” – some of the lessons, it seems, may help students to make better choices for themselves, but also to appreciate their parents’ efforts to provide for them.

In the 2009-10 academic year, the PEAK Program has reached out to 1,000 2nd and 8th grade students, mobilized nearly 200 community and college student volunteers and initiated over 400 hours of new early college awareness programming that directly engaged 44 different classrooms.
History Faculty Offers Breadth and Depth of Expertise

Diverse and creative research agendas, teaching excellence, student mentoring and engagement – all are qualities that have come to be widely associated with Department of History faculty members at The Ohio State University at Newark. From Latin American and modern European history, to Native American, military and women's history, Ohio State Newark history faculty members have active research interests spanning a wide and diverse mix of historical periods and fields of study.

In addition, department members have garnered numerous awards and honors. All have published books or have written extensively for publication in academic journals. Associate Professor Mitch Lerner's first book, *The Pueblo Incident: A Spy Ship and the Failure of American Foreign Policy*, won the 2002 John Lyman Book Award for the best work of US Naval History, and was nominated for the Pulitzer and Bancroft Prizes. In 2005-06, he held the Mary Ball Washington Distinguished Fulbright Chair in American History at University College-Dublin. Lerner has also served as a Fellow at the University of Virginia’s Miller Center for Public Affairs. In 2005 he won the OSU Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching and in 2004 the Robert A. Barnes Exemplary Teaching Award.

Associate Professor Lucy Murphy, Ph.D., and Associate Professor Richard Shiels, Ph.D., received the Public History Award from the Ohio Academy of History in 2008 for the creation of the Newark Earthworks Center. Murphy is also the author of *A Gathering of Rivers: Indians, Metis, and Mining in the Western Great Lakes, 1737 – 1832*, and the co-editor of *Midwestern Women: Work, Community, and Leadership at the Crossroads.*


Former Fulbright Scholar Alcira Dueñas, Ph.D., assistant professor, received the Distinguished Diversity Enhancement Award and the College of Humanities Diversity Enhancement Award for 2008, together with other members of the History Department Faculty of Color Caucus.

Associate Professor Richard Shiels, Ph.D., takes his passion for history to activities beyond the classroom as well. He successfully advocated for the establishment of the Newark Earthworks Center (NEC), Ohio State's first scholarly center at a regional campus (of which he currently serves as director). Shiels is a four-time winner of the Thomas J. Evans Teaching Excellence Award and a 1995 recipient of the Robert A. Barnes Exemplary Teaching Award. This spring he was one of ten Ohio State University faculty members who received the 2010 Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Faculty Lecture Series Wraps Up another Season

Learning isn't just for university students – at The Ohio State University at Newark, members of the community continued to support the annual Faculty Lecture Series, hosted by Dean/Director William L. MacDonald, Ohio State Newark.

The Faculty Lecture Series provides a forum in which faculty members share their areas of expertise. In this forum, students of all ages are invited to learn outside the classroom. Participants are invited to take part in a discussion and exchange of ideas at the lectures, which are always free and open to the public.

Mary K. Bendixen-Noe, Ph.D., closed the 2009-10 Faculty Lecture Series with her talk “Engaging Students in Learning: Play in the Classroom” on Thursday, May 6 in the John Gilbert Reese Center.

Bendixen-Noe, an associate professor in the School of Teaching and Learning at Ohio State Newark, addressed what is often seen as two opposing viewpoints: the standards-based classroom and the developmentally-appropriate classroom and how to bridge the two.

Using examples of childhood games and toys from years-gone-by alongside current trends in teaching, Bendixen-Noe demonstrated the great differences in methods.

She explained how children lose initiative and engagement in the classroom when test-centered instruction focuses solely on drill, memorization and procedures that leave no room for creativity, reasoning, and higher level thinking. A lively discussion followed her presentation.

Peter Hennen, Ph.D., associate professor of sociology, opened the annual lecture series in November 2009 with his lecture “In a Different Voice: Embodied Gender and the Case of the Countertenor.” Howard Marcum, Ph.D., professor of mathematics, followed in February 2010 with “Music of the Spheres: An Invitation to Homotopy Theory.”
It is the goal of The Ohio State University at Newark to not only provide students with superior academic opportunities but also to enrich their lives with challenges and experiences that will allow them to grow. Ohio State Newark provides an expansive Student Life program that includes Student Activities, Multi-Cultural Affairs, Judicial Affairs, Career Services, Disability Services, Athletics, Recreation, Intramural Sports, Counseling Services and Residence Life.

**Student Activities** – The student activities department has a wide variety of clubs and organizations that fulfill a multitude of needs. With numerous organizations already active and the opportunity to begin new clubs, the possibilities for involvement are endless.

**Multi-Cultural Affairs** – The Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs promotes cultural awareness events on and off campus, and works to create an environment that is conducive to all students, regardless of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, race or disability. During the past year, the campus held a simulated civil rights march, honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a panel discussion about the Christian, Islamic, and Jewish faiths, and a multi-cultural fair during which students represented the culture of different countries through food, exhibits and traditional clothing.

**Career Services** – Career Services strives to educate students and alumni on how to achieve their career goals. The office supplies resources and strategies for choosing a college major, developing career goals, obtaining internships and even finding full time jobs. A career fair is held annually on campus, allowing students and alumni to explore job and internship opportunities with a variety of central Ohio employers.

**Disability Services** – The Office of Disability Services seeks to provide students with reasonable accommodations and support services at no cost. The office actively works to increase the level of awareness among the campus community, so students with disabilities are able to perform at a level limited only by their abilities, not their disabilities. For the second consecutive year, the Office of Disability Services has sponsored a campus book club providing an avenue for discussion and reflection on topics related to disabilities. This year participants read, *Look Me in the Eye: My Life with Asperger’s*, by John Elder Robison.

**Athletics, Recreation & Intramural Sports** – The campus has six intercollegiate teams that compete as part of the Ohio Regional Campus Conference, two teams that compete outside of the ORCC, as well as a variety of intramural teams with over 250 participants and an athletic facility available for recreational use by the campus community.

**Counseling Services** – New challenges, experiences and changes are not always easy for students to get used to. A professional and licensed counselor is on hand in the Office of Counseling Services to help students make the adjustment.

**Residence Life** – The residence halls located on the Ohio State Newark campus provide about 180 students with a home away from home, leadership and employment opportunities, as well as coordinated activities. Each quarter the Office of Student Life offers a variety of social, cultural and educational programs that will complement the learning atmosphere on the full-service campus. To learn more visit newark.osu.edu.

**New Student Group, Music.Art.Dance., performs “Razia’s Shadow”**

Students interested in theatrical arts formed a new student group called M.A.D. (Music. Art.Dance.). The group is made up of students from Ohio State Newark and Central Ohio Technical College (COTC).

For their first performance, M.A.D. presented “Razia’s Shadow: A Musical,” on Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15, in the Alford Performing Arts Hall in the Reese Center. “Razia’s Shadow” is a musical written by the Indie band Forgive Durden. It was created first as an album in 2008, and has since been performed by countless groups. It tells the story of a world divided in two by the selfish actions of a powerful and egotistical, yet insecure, angel. After generations of darkness, the world is eventually brought back together by the love and sacrifice of a couple brave enough to fulfill their destinies.

M.A.D. student members who took part in the show were: Cara Kennedy, Kaylie Bowman, Jerramy Cole, Lawrence Goff, Andrew McQueen, Alexis Hampton, Kayce Downey, Eric Ingram, Brad Helwagen, Stevan Womack, Maryanne Brown, Hillary Tufo, Eddie Mills, and Kasandra Wyman. Advisors were Ohio State Newark’s Amy Lister and COTC’s John Roberts and Tamarak Harris.

M.A.D. members plan to produce a musical each quarter.
It’s a week before finals, and The Ohio State University at Newark Math Center is practically filled to capacity. From September 2009 to June 2010, the Math Center logged 6,296 visits from 830 unique students. Located in the beautiful John L. and Christine Warner Library and Student Center, the Math Center provides help on a walk-in basis, resources (including sample exams) and a brightly lit room with comfortable tables and inviting décor, all while remaining completely free to every student. Students can receive help with math assignments at any class level.

Support is provided by “the cream of the crop” when it comes to skilled and helpful professional staff and student workers. Student Assistants must pass every calculus course with an A, obtain their math teacher’s recommendation, and have successfully completed a Math Review of Algebra and Calculus before being hired.

Appointments are never necessary – the Center operates on a drop-in basis only.

Coordinator Rose Hart, Ph.D., opened the center in 1986, and has seen it grow from a space shared with the Ohio State Newark Writing Center in the basement of Founders Hall to the colorful, inviting space it occupies today.

“The help we provide is aimed at retention and remediation,” said Hart. “Our mission has always been to supplement and enrich the math curriculum taught here at Ohio State Newark, as well as support our faculty members.”

Hart noted that the center’s philosophy also focuses on empowering students – by helping each student gain the knowledge and confidence that enables them to complete an assignment on their own.

Copies of past exams are available, with the solutions, in order for students to become better prepared for their midterms and finals. Math software, handouts on math topics, and copies of current textbooks are all available, as well as CDs on topics such as “How to Use a Graphing Calculator.”

Ongoing training is an important component to the Math Center’s success. Hart holds weekly staff meetings during which employees discuss tutoring tactics and concerns.

“We know that just walking through our door may be a very difficult step for some students,” noted Hart.

Math Center literature emphasizes the workers do not do homework for students, grade student papers, or help with take home quizzes/exams. Instructors inform The Math Center about specific problems that students are to complete entirely on their own, as well as provide the center with a copy of take-home quizzes and exams.

The Math Center is open approximately 50 hours per week, including weekends and every quarter except summer. All hours are open hours, no appointment is needed. For additional information please visit newark.osu.edu.
Staff and Faculty Learn from Cross Cultural Communication Sessions

A group of faculty and staff members at The Ohio State University at Newark and Central Ohio Technical College recently completed a year-long journey to increase their knowledge about issues of diversity. A three-session Cross Cultural Communication workshop series began in November 2009 with the initial session exploring the topic “How Can We Better Support Each Other across Differences?” The group explored ways that campus employees can work together to create a safer, more accepting and supportive environment for students, faculty, and staff. The session was conducted by Tuesday Ryan-Hart, a culture change facilitator.

Session II, held in January 2010, brought together a student panel from varied social and cultural backgrounds. The diverse group related their collegiate experiences at Ohio State Newark and COTC in regards to interacting with faculty, staff, and other students, as well as the reception they have received from Licking County residents and business owners.

During the final session, held in mid-April, John Berry, Ph.D., Ohio State Newark director of student life and COTC vice president for enrollment management and student life, led the group in a hands-on workshop to generate ideas to create a vision for diversity leadership. Through storyboarding and brainstorming, all of the participants played an active role in creating the next steps for furthering diversity efficacy and community awareness.

In May, 16 faculty and staff members who had completed all three sessions were honored by Ohio State Newark Dean and Director William L. MacDonald, Ph.D., and COTC President Bonnie L. Coe, Ph.D., at a reception in the John L. and Christine Warner Library and Student Center.

“The concept of this series was truly embraced by the participants, which is a wonderful testament to the importance that diversity awareness holds on this campus,” said Jacqueline H. Parrill, director of human resources for Ohio State Newark and vice president of human resources and institutional planning for COTC.

The series was a collaborative effort between the Office of Human Resources, the Office of Student Life, and the Diversity Committee. This year’s diversity series was the second consecutive workshop series held on campus. Sessions were open to all faculty and staff.

Blueprint: College

This past spring, ten Newark families got an insider’s view of how to turn their children’s dreams for college into reality. Blueprint: College, a five-week college-planning program offered at The Ohio State University at Newark, assists parents in creating “blueprint plans” to help set the right path toward their children’s academic and college success.

The free series was held weekly on Thursday evenings from April 29 through May 27, 6 – 8:30 p.m. The program was piloted on Ohio State’s Columbus campus and was adapted at Ohio State Newark specifically for parents/guardians of children enrolled in Ben Franklin, McGuffey, and John Clem Elementary Schools in the Newark City School District.

Parent workshops were conducted in areas critical to first-generation college students, including choosing college preparatory high school courses, academic programs, saving for college, and applying for financial aid. While parents participated in workshops, children attended College Camp, led by Ohio State Newark students.

During a graduation ceremony held on the final evening, each family was recognized for their participation, and each child shared with the entire group what he or she aspires to be when they grow up. To help parents understand the college experience, all who completed the program are offered free tuition for a class at Ohio State Newark.

Blueprint: College was a collaborative effort between the five local organizations that comprise the CAN DO Access partnership: Central Ohio Technical College, A CALL TO COLLEGE, Newark City Schools, Denison University, and Ohio State Newark.
Open Admissions
If you are an Ohio resident, graduated from a chartered high school or have a GED, and never attended any other college, you can enroll at The Ohio State University at Newark. Transfer students must have a minimum grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

By the Numbers
Average Class Size: 25
Autumn Term, 2009 Enrollment: 2,515
Campus Size: 177 acre complex
Distance from Columbus campus: 40 miles

Academic Support
Students come to Ohio State Newark with varying levels of academic talent and physical abilities. Numerous resources are available, including The Writer's Studio, Math Center, Learning Support Services, as well as Honors and Fellowship programs.

Bachelor's Degree Majors
You are a Buckeye from the beginning at Ohio State Newark. All 160 Ohio State majors can be started at Ohio State Newark. The following bachelor's degrees can be earned completely at Ohio State Newark: Business Administration, Education, English, History, and Psychology.

Wednesday, September 22 - Autumn quarter 2010 classes begin,
The Ohio State University at Newark and Central Ohio Technical College

Be Part of Something Great!
Many students complete their entire degree at Ohio State Newark because they enjoy the small class size and intimate college setting the campus provides. Others move on to the Columbus campus to complete their degree. No matter where a student chooses to attend – their transcript will be from a world-class teaching and research institution – The Ohio State University.

Whether a high school student or recent graduate, transfer student, or an adult planning on returning to continue your education, visit www.newark.osu.edu and click on Future Students to get started on becoming a Buckeye.

Phone Numbers  740-366-9333  1-800-963-9275, ext. 69333 (Toll Free in Ohio)

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Non-Discrimination Statement
The Ohio State University at Newark does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, age, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, color, veteran status, and/or disability. General information, questions, concerns, or complaints related to these matters are to be directed to the Title IX Coordinator, John Berry, Warner Center, Suite 236, Ohio State Newark/COTC, 1179 University Drive, Newark, Ohio 43055-1797 (740.364.9578) or ADA/504 Coordinator, Connie Zang, at the same location.