

# Upper Arlington Rotary Club



# ROTARYVIEW

SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

OCTOBER 5, 2021

UPPER ARLINGTON ROTARY CLUB  
District 6690, Columbus Ohio, USA  
Club 3694, Chartered 1972

## DR. DAVID HARRISON

PRESIDENT - COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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[www.district6690.org](http://www.district6690.org)

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

For make up locations, check the club web site or call the make-up hotline at (614) 470-1002.



Our speaker today was **Dr. David Harrison**, President of Columbus State community College. **Don Leach** introduced Dr. Harrison. Dr. Harrison is the fifth President of Columbus State.

Columbus State does, indeed, have 27,000 students enrolled this term – but the total number of students served in a year is 45,000. This speaks to the transitory nature of the student population that takes advantage of the school's programs. This makes Columbus State the second largest school in Ohio behind only Ohio State. The school has campuses in Columbus and Delaware County as well as nine regional learning centers. It provides more online learning opportunities than any college in the state and provides a nearly \$1 billion regional economic impact.

At the outset, Dr. Harrison noted that a practice he's used since the pandemic began is to begin every meeting with gratitude. He cited, and is grateful for, Rotary's worldwide efforts to deliver clean water to communities in the developing world. He specifically pointed out Rotary's efforts in Guatemala and thanked UA Rotary and Rotary in general for those ongoing efforts.

Columbus State has by far the most diverse student population central Ohio and by far the most affordable. The college's partnership with Ohio state and other universities creates the

most affordable pathway to a Bachelor's degree in the state of Ohio. Many students are balancing one or more jobs while they attend school and also balancing family responsibilities.

Students arrive at Columbus State on their way to something else. The school is focused on a strategy of student success. Students are perhaps seeking an Associate's degree or they're attending to earn a certificate in a construction or other trade – a certificate that will send them directly into the workforce. Increasingly, students are moving on a path toward a Bachelor's degree via the partnerships with OSU and eight other universities. This program is called the "Preferred Pathway" that guarantees admission to the university as a Junior in the student's chosen field of study. Tuition rates for these students are typically half of what they would be at the university.

Focusing on student completion rates has yielded positive results. Low income student completion has improved by 50% over the last decade. The same rate for students of color has improved by 24% over the same period. Columbus state has been nationally recognized by the Achieving The Dream organization for these efforts.

In addition to academic interventions to help students succeed, Columbus State has initiated a growing strategy of non-academic interventions aimed at providing assistance. Food, housing, transportation and child care are areas of focus. These are factors that can slow students down and interfere with their progress. These issues are also equity issues and they were worsened with the onset of the pandemic. Through community partnerships Columbus State has begun to address these issues.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view this meeting and all previously recorded Rotary meetings

Upper Arlington  
**Rotary**  
Club 

## GREETERS

**October 12**  
Beau Taggart, Jim Nicklaus

**October 19**  
Beth Hatch, Larry McVey  
Brian Bainbridge (v)

**October 26**  
Tim Kellogg, Tim Irwin

## REGISTRATION DESK

**October 12**  
Don Leach  
J.D. Dickerson

**October 19**  
Dick Stone  
Janine Hummer

**October 26**  
John Cleland  
John Hansel

## CALENDAR

**October 12 - Scioto CC/ZOOM**  
Chris Holtmann, Head Coach –  
The Ohio State University Men's  
Basketball Team  
Host - John Ness

**October 19 - Scioto CC/ZOOM**  
UA City Council  
Candidate Forum  
Host - Brad Frick

**October 26 - Scioto CC/ZOOM**  
Rex Kern, Ohio State Football All  
American/National Champion  
QB & Lee Caryer, Author of Rex  
Kern Biography  
Host - Bill Hosket

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Submit your volunteer opportunity  
to [herb@herbgillen.com](mailto:herb@herbgillen.com) for inclusion  
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## OUR NEXT MEETING

**OCTOBER 12TH**  
Scioto CC/Zoom

Upper Arlington  
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# DR. DAVID HARRISON

## PRESIDENT - COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

When the pandemic closed much of the economy in March, 2020 the school adopted a series of principles focused first on safety and public health and secondly on compassion and flexibility for students. The goal was to assure that bureaucracy did not get in the way of keeping students engaged. A third principle dealt with communications with a focus on student success. All of these principles were developed with the realization that many students' lives and routines were disrupted. Online schooling for their families and job uncertainty are examples. The most vulnerable students were struggling even more. Generally, Columbus State sought to be a calm place in the storm.

Dr. Harrison expressed his appreciation for the support that the school received for its Spring, 2020 bond issue. The passage of the issue provides capital resources that Columbus State never had before. The capital plan that had been developed before the pandemic is now being reevaluated and updated to address post-pandemic changes in the employment sphere. They are working with employers (CEO's and HR Execs) to address those changes.

Two key strategies have emerged as a result of discussions with employers.

1. Accelerated training centers... While historically students have been prepared for their second job, there is a new focus on helping students earn a good first job that provides good income, healthcare benefits and paid time off. There are many such jobs waiting for qualified employees. Hopefully such centers could be located in strategic locations – where employment centers are or where target population centers are.

2. Learn and earn... Students work and go to school at the same time with an employer in the field they want to be in. The program is similar to an internship or apprenticeship program. The ultimate goal (still unrealized) is to help all along the way to the greatest extent possible. The help provided will hopefully address non-academic issues such as child care needs, shift changes that don't sync with academic schedules and a variety of other issues. Maximum cooperation between the school and the employer will be critical.



This model will become more than a program for the few. By working with employers there can be a positive effect on student debt since some employers provide tuition assistance or tuition reimbursement.

Student career awareness is a pivotal factor in student retention and success. Clearly demonstrating and reinforcing the path toward a meaningful career is critical. Employers and schools need to work cooperatively to make sure students see and understand the path they are on and where it can lead them.

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## THE MEETING



**Joe Valentino** asked **Dave Hammond** to offer the invocation and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no visiting Rotarians. **Brian Bainbridge** introduced his guest.

The next Rotary board meeting is at 5:30 PM Monday (10/11) at Trinity.

**Andy Livingston** reported that the recent memorial for founding member **Bob Whetzel** was well supported by club members and a record amount was contributed to the UA Rotary Foundation in memory of Bob.

OSU head basketball coach **Chris Holtmann** will be our speaker next week.

**Bill Hosket** conducted harassment. Members without pins were fined a dollar. **Brad Frick** was fined \$5.00 in absentia for failing to arrange a candidate forum for the "mayoral election" at First Community Village where **Jim Ayers** is apparently running. Noting that **Bob Whetzel** was a charter member of the club, Bill asked **Herb Gillen** if he knew the number of charter members. Herb guessed 24 which was off the mark (there were 33). Everyone present paid another buck. **Chip Knoop** estimated the number of students at Columbus State at 22,000. Once again the room paid up. There are 27,000 enrolled in the current term. Finally, dollars ended up on the table for all but birthday honorees **Rick Ray** and **Jimmy Rogers**.



## NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:



**Cheryl Turnbull** reminded us of the current Operation Warm campaign which will provide a new winter coat to each student at West Broad Elementary School. The coats will be distributed on October 20. \$20 buys a new coat. Contribution information was on the tables. Contributions may be made online at [Bonzy.org](http://Bonzy.org) or through a check to the UA Rotary Foundation.

**Jack Cotter** promoted next week's Rotary Roundtable (10/12) which will be held at OSU's Waterman Farm. A tour, come rain or shine, will be given and should last about 90 minutes. We meet at the farm for a 10:00 tour start. He noted that there is a lot more to the farm than the pasture and the cows we've all seen in passing. We'll meet on Kenny Road just off Lane Avenue. Directions to follow.

