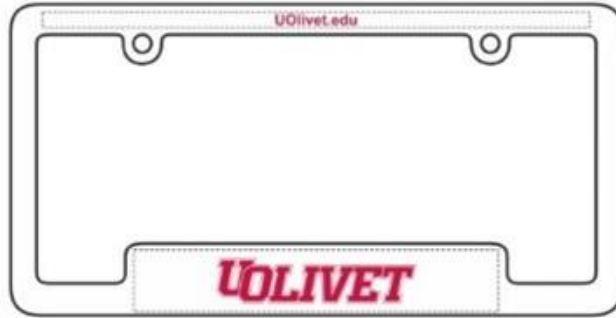




UO Alumni Newsletter

February 2024



It's Time for a Friendly Alumni Giving Competition!

February 21, 2024, marks 180 years of education at Olivet! To celebrate, we are hosting an online Alumni Giving Competition. The graduation decade with the most money raised on **February 21, 2024**, wins! Every winning decade participant with a donation over \$25 will receive a UO license plate cover. Not to mention bragging rights! Spread the word and get ready for an alumni showdown. Save the date and donate on **February 21, 2024!** View the leaderboard and donate [here](#).



Thanks to the Spirit Store and the company One of a Kind, we are now offering hats, purses, bags, etc., made from OC apparel. These One of a Kind items are only available in-store at the new Cutler Student Center! Spirit Store hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Get to campus and check them out!



Cutler Student Center is Open!

From the groundbreaking of the Cutler Student Center in May 2023 to the opening of its doors on January 22, 2024, THANK YOU to everyone who has been a part of this incredible journey! Be sure to return to campus and check out this fantastic space!





Join us in Grand Rapids at the Butterfly Exhibit!

Kris Moore '87 and her daughter, **Taylor Moore '23**, invite you to join them for an alumni afternoon at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids. Registration includes entry to the *Fred & Dorothy Fichter Butterflies are Blooming* exhibit in the Lena Meijer Tropical Conservatory and light refreshments in the Pfeiffer Room. The event will occur on **Saturday, March 9, 2024, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm**. Tickets are \$10/person. Children ages two and under are free. Family and friends are welcome! [Register Here](#)



Join our Team!

Are you thinking about a career change? Olivet has a variety of openings for both full-time, tenure-track faculty and adjunct faculty. It is an exciting time as The University expands programs and services for students! Our employees are engaged, innovative professionals who are eager to succeed. If you wish to join this diverse, dynamic work environment, use the link below to apply. What a great way to re-engage with your alma mater! [View Positions & Apply](#)



Announcing a new Comet2Comet Giveaway!

Have you joined our networking platform, [Comet2Comet](#)? Would you like a pair of these awesome athletic socks? Well, now's the time! Complete your profile on the site AND reach out and connect with someone in the community, and we will send you a pair of socks. Already a Comet2Comet member? Update your profile AND connect with a community member, and you will receive a pair of socks, too! The offer is valid between now and February 29 or while supplies last. Don't delay! Sign up today! [Why Join Comet2Comet?](#)



Council Comments from Alumni Council Chair [Barron Evans '77](#)

Greetings Alumni...

Welcome to February, the month we celebrate Founders' Day on February 21— our 180th year since John Shipherd walked onto the Square. I'm delighted to share my fifth Council update. From its inception, the University's founders believed, *"We wish simply to do good to our students and to teach them the divine art and science of doing good to others."* It's in that spirit that the Alumni Council is building the means and creating the inspiration for how our alumni can help students and each other. As 14 Council Members who span six decades, we know the difference engagement can make in achieving positive outcomes. As mentioned previously, engagement can be:

- *Attending, planning, or hosting on and off-campus events
- *Supporting student activities
- *Partnering with faculty and administration on projects
- *Affinity group activities
- *Council or Ambassador participation
- *Philanthropy

And while that is expansive, we've gained insights from our recent Alumni Council Engagement Survey. When asked, "What has prevented you from being engaged with The University in the past?" the top three responses were:

*Distance/geography/events primarily in Michigan

*Time/family obligations

*Limited focus on Greek Life

We heard you! The Council and the Alumni Office will continue to make inroads on how we can make your engagement experience possible. If any of these concerns sound familiar, please note that you can be the leader of improved engagement no matter where you are! There are no boundaries where events or online engagements can happen. Regardless of where you reside, you can help organize regional get-togethers or participate in online activities. Another option is to participate in the alumni podcast. The Council is also open to communication with Greek organizations around improved alumni engagement.

For now, an easy 10-minute task is to register on our alumni platform [Comet2Comet](#). This will help the Council and alumni office engage with you and enable you to engage with others better. Your thoughts are welcome at any time! Email the [Alumni Office](#) or [me](#) with questions or concerns.

Alumni Events 2023/2024

February 14, 2024- Cruising the Coast Dinner Cruise, Daytona, FL

February 15, 2024 - Walt Parker '58 Dinner, Ocala, FL

February 17, 2024 - Cruising the Coast Dinner Cruise, Naples, FL

March 9, 2024 - Meijer Gardens Butterfly Exhibit, Grand Rapids, MI

April 12, 2024 - Cocktail Reception, The Dearborn, Chicago, IL

May 10, 2024 - Cocktail Reception, Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit, MI

June 22, 2024 – Cruising the Coast Sunset Cruise, Petoskey, MI

July 19, 2024 - Lansing Lugnuts Baseball Game, Lansing, MI

Questions, comments, or concerns?

Contact the alumni office at alumnirelations@uolivet.edu or (269) 749-6628