Welcome!

From our institution in the rolling hills of Southern Ohio, to your home, wherever you may be – Welcome to the Alumni Newsletter!

The Office of Alumni Relations is proud to bring you the first of four issues we will send this year. In each newsletter, we hope to bring you campus news, alumni updates, upcoming events, and worthwhile information that will keep you – our alumni – knowledgeable about what is going on at Rio.

First, we encourage you to tell us what you want to see in each issue. Submitting your information is easy. Our newly revamped website is a great resource to update your personal information, submit class notes, or to stay in the know. If you prefer to use the mail, we have included a card to send your information to our campus mail. One of our main goals as an Alumni Association is keeping our records updated and accurate, and it takes you to help us do our job. So stay in touch, please!

My personal goal as your Alumni Director is to encourage lifelong alumni participation. This year, I want to strengthen the bond between you and Rio. Whether this newsletter provides you with enough information, or you feel the need to come back to campus for a visit – whatever the case may be, I just want you to feel Rio Pride!

The history at Rio Grande is strong, unique, and forever embedded in these rolling hills. Please take some time to recollect your college experience, and then tell us about it. We love to hear your story of success to share with our current and future students.

I am very much looking forward to hearing from you and keeping you informed.

Sincerely,

Delyssa J. Edwards ’10
Alumni Council Members:

Chair – Meagan Matura Barnes ‘12
Co-Chair – Robin Fowler ‘01
Mary McCurdy Pierce ‘67           Jeff Fowler ‘87
Leonard Longo ‘63           Jane Johnson ‘71
Randar Luts ’03

Alumni Awards

In 2017, we presented these awards back and presented them to the following individuals:

Distinguished Alumnus Award – Patrick Young ‘80
Awarded for significant personal achievement

Atwood Achievement Award – C. Michael Reardon ’66
Awarded for meritorious service to University or Alumni Association

Rio Alumni Award – Leonard Longo ‘63
Awarded for professional and/or civic accomplishment

Rio Staff Award – Rebecca Thomas Long ‘99 and Carolyn Berry
Awarded to outstanding member of University’s faculty/staff

Nominations are now being accepted for 2018! Deadline is February 28, 2018.

Educators’ Hall of Fame

The Educators’ Hall of Fame exists so that the finest of Rio Grande’s former instructors may be recognized for their:

1. Knowledge of subject matter and ability to communicate subject matter with their students
2. Positive influence upon students
3. Positive contributions to Rio Grande’s academic environment and workplace

Nominations are being accepted until February 28, 2018.

Athletic Hall of Fame

Nominations are always being accepted for the Athletic Hall of Fame. This year’s deadline has already passed, but forms can be found online, or by request. Just call Delyssa at 740-245-7431. Our next newsletter will feature this year’s inductees!

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 20 – Rio’s Got Talent
March 24 – Family Day
March 27 – Rio Career Fair
March 29 – Campus Easter Egg Hunt
April 28 – Rock Out Rio
May 4 – Graduates’ Breakfast
May 5 – 2018 Commencement
November 16 & 17 – HOMECOMING 2018

*Watch for more dates in the next newsletter!
Gray is a Human Resources (HR) Consultant with the Department of Veterans Affairs. He provides direct consultation to over 153 VA Hospitals throughout the country. From 2005 to 2009, Gray proudly served in the US Marine Corps as an Infantryman, with two tours in Iraq.

In 2009, after departing the military, Gray used the GI Bill at the University of Rio Grande and worked as a Veterans Benefits Advisor for the university. He graduated in 2012 with a Bachelor’s of Science in Business Management. Prior to graduation, he began his career with the VA as an Intern in HR. Since that time, he has held a variety of technical jobs in VA human resources involving strategic workforce and succession planning, recruitment and placement, compensation, and classification.

In 2016, Gray was promoted to his current position working in Headquarters-Veterans Health Administration. He works virtually from his home for the VA, however, often must travel to one of the many hospitals throughout the country.

Gray is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in HR Leadership from Sullivan University. He is married to Alisha Gray (Rio Grad, Class of 2009 - Accounting) and they have a son, Miles, who just turned five. They reside in Chillicothe, OH.

Just by graduating from Rio Grande, you qualify for a DISCOUNT with Nationwide! Contact the Master’s Insurance Group today for a quote! Corporate Partners with Nationwide Insurance! Call us at 614-471-7676 for a quote today! Tell them you are a Rio Grad!
Get your copy of Rio history! You can purchase a copy of this book at our bookstore, or online at Amazon.com.

Book is written by Jacob Bapst and Dr. Ivan Tribe.

SUPPORT

Gifts to Rio are tax-deductible! If you are interested in giving, you can make a check payable to the University of Rio Grande, or make a gift online: www.rio.edu/donate