



2023 Impact Report



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

MANSFIELD

Ohio State Mansfield by the numbers

73.8%

Ohio State Mansfield's 2023 retention rate
(up from 72.2% in 2022)

15.1%

Increase in first-year enrollment
(487 students in 2023)

24%

of students are
students of color

2.5%

Increase in overall enrollment
(849 students in 2023)

Lower tuition

Two thirds the yearly tuition of
Ohio State's Columbus campus
2023-24 estimated cost of attendance: \$9,212
(\$12,859 in Columbus)

2.5-mile

path through the heart of
campus — open to the community
to run, walk, or bike.

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Dr. Anderman snags a photo with Brutus at the 2023 Regional Campus Homecoming Coronation at the Longaberger Alumni House.

From the Dean's Office

Dear friends,

Over the last year and a half, I have immersed myself in all things Ohio State Mansfield. From getting to know local superintendents, to working with community organizations, to playing cornhole with students...I have truly been invested in the success of the Mansfield campus. I can now say, without a doubt, Ohio State Mansfield is something special — and I believe that is because of all of you.

Our faculty and staff are relentlessly committed to educational excellence and student success in and out of the classroom. Our students are caring, passionate, and motivated scholars eager to positively impact the world. Our alumni are proud to be Buckeyes, and

even prouder to be Buckeyes from Ohio State Mansfield. Our campus community is energized by all the possibilities the Mansfield campus presents for workforce development.

As you know, my time as the Interim Dean will be coming to an end in Summer 2024 when the new Dean and Director begins their tenure. I am eternally grateful for each and every person who has made my time in Mansfield impactful, and I will certainly continue to carry my love for Mansfield with me as I go.

Go Bucks!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric M. Anderman".

Dr. Eric Anderman



Students find community at Ohio State Mansfield through study groups, student organizations, and learning communities.

BRIDGING GAPS IN EDUCATIONAL ACCESS

Mansfield campus receives Ohio Reach designation

Ohio State Mansfield was recognized for its ongoing support of foster care-connected students by the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE). The Mansfield campus is one of 28 inaugural campuses, technical centers, colleges and universities, to receive the Ohio Reach Postsecondary designation. The university was also recognized.

“The Ohio State University at Mansfield is immensely proud of our commitment to student success, regardless

of the journey that has led students to us,” said Interim Dean and Director Eric Anderman. “We are humbled and honored to have been identified for this recognition of our efforts toward supporting foster care-connected students. We will continue to provide resources like the Buckeye Food Pantry, career closet, free tutoring at the Conard Learning Center, learning communities and need-based financial aid awards to all students.”

Ohio Reach, administered through the Ohio Children’s

Alliance, provides resources to higher education institutions, child welfare agencies and foster care alumni enrolled in higher education to support their academic success.

“Ohio State is committed to removing barriers to access and creating a welcoming and supportive environment where every student can thrive academically, socially and personally,” said Ohio State Senior Vice Provost for External Engagement Ryan J. Schmiesing. “We are honored to be recognized with this important designation and look forward to expanding focused efforts to help foster care-connected students achieve their educational goals.”

Criteria for receiving the Ohio Reach Postsecondary designation include:

- Naming a designated campus liaison.
- Identifying champions in various campus departments.
- Providing students connections to resources for food, housing and basic needs.
- Offering community-building opportunities for students.
- Targeting outreach to students with efforts made for identification and support.
- Expanding on-campus services.
- Training staff to work with foster care alumni.
- Succession/transition planning.
- Data collection.
- Student mentorship programming.

“Ohio takes pride in offering diverse opportunities when it comes to higher education options, and in making those available to all students,” ODHE Chancellor Randy Gardner said in a press release. “This designation, similar to our Collegiate Purple Star designation for military-connected students, recognizes those colleges, universities, and Ohio Technical Centers that go above and beyond to support those students with foster care connections.” ✨



“We are honored to be recognized with this important designation and look forward to expanding focused efforts to help foster care-connected students achieve their educational goals.”

RYAN J. SCHMIESING
SENIOR VICE PROVOST FOR EXTERNAL
ENGAGEMENT



Over the past year, nearly 39% of college students across the country experienced some form of food or housing insecurity. (Recent study from the Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice)

BRIDGING GAPS IN EDUCATIONAL ACCESS

Serving housing insecure Mansfield campus students

The challenges of life, whether they are socioeconomic, medical, family or other, often create even wider gaps to cross in a student's journey to pursuing a college degree. Ohio State Mansfield already has programs in place to help students succeed, including the Student Emergency Fund, Buckeye Food Pantry and access to community resources. However, there are special circumstances that require increased assistance.

For instance, in Richland County, only five students per year who age out of the foster care system are provided access to scholarships and federal funding to achieve their educational and professional goals. What happens to all the other children in the foster care system who don't meet the requirements? They are often adopted

by relatives which disqualifies them from receiving the benefits of the foster care system. These students are some of the most vulnerable to experience housing and food insecurity as they become adults.

Over the past year, nearly 39% of college students across the country experienced some form of food or housing insecurity. A student's journey becomes much more difficult when it is a daily struggle to have their basic needs met. This summer, the admissions teams became aware of several incoming students who wanted to become Buckeyes at Ohio State Mansfield but were currently experiencing homelessness.

"This year, three Richland County students were referred to the campus Student Success team from their graduating high school or local agency early in May. None are aging

out of the foster system. One student is currently living as a high school senior/graduate with a food pantry volunteer, whom she met while a client. A second student is living with a fellow friend's parents. A third is living with friends. This is extremely unusual. By September, we have had an additional 14 students seeking appeals for independence from their parents; in a normal year that number is around five. These are signs that our students are facing some very difficult situations, at a much earlier time than our Student Success team has seen in previous years." — Donna Hight, Assistant Dean

Hight and Director of Development Cindy Wood came together to find solutions to ensure that these students can pursue their educational dreams. Thanks to generous donations from the S.N. and Ada Ford Fund, Ohio State Mansfield launched the Compassionate BUCKS Room and Board Scholarship program. In its pilot year, the program provides students experiencing housing insecurity with full room and board, as well as wraparound services to support their educational and cocurricular success.

"This two-year pilot first meets students where they are and creates a secure haven for study and personal growth and also solidifies community partnerships with campus offices. That network includes community resources, room and board scholarships, and early intervention solutions during the critical first two years for the new student. We aim to establish a set of best practices for regional campuses during the first four semesters for a student, their most critical time." —Cindy Wood, Director of Development and Community Relations ✨

Support Ohio State Mansfield students:

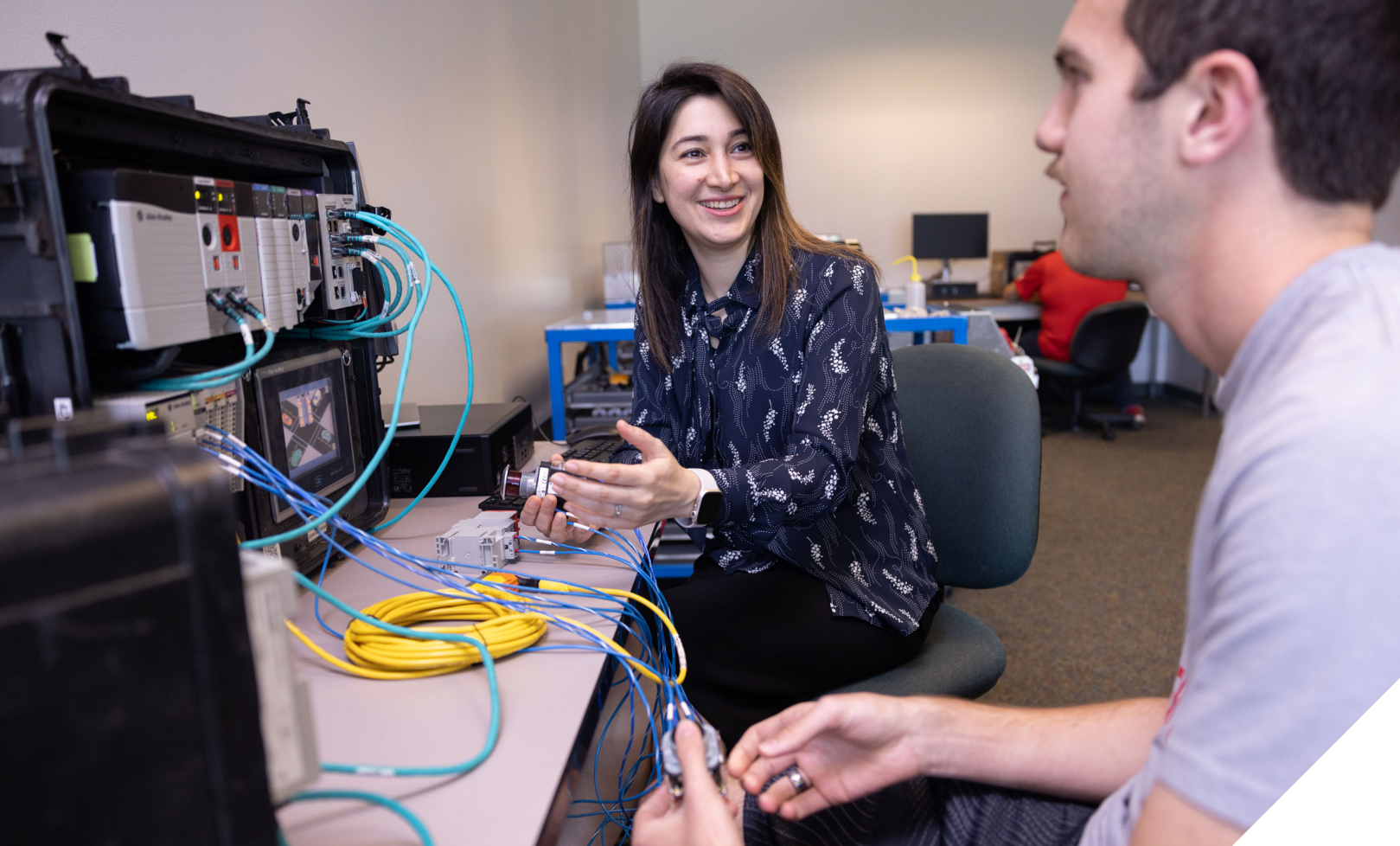
MANSFIELD COMPASSIONATE BUCKS ROOM AND BOARD SCHOLARSHIP

go.osu.edu/CompassionateBUCKS

OHIO STATE MANSFIELD STUDENT EMERGENCY AID FUND

go.osu.edu/MansfieldEmergencyFund





Students pursuing the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology (BSET) are now learning in brand new lab and classroom space on the 2nd floor of Conard Hall.

BUILDING ENVIRONMENTS FOR CAREER PREPARATION

The Charter Next Generation Films PLC Lab

Thanks to generous investment from Charter Next Generation Films, Engineering Technology students are gaining hands-on experience with tomorrow's technology to innovate in today's advanced manufacturing landscape.

A PLC, or programmable logic controller, is a digital computer used for industrial automation of electromechanical processes, such as control of machinery on factory assembly lines, amusement rides, or light fixtures. PLCs are used in many industries and machines. Unlike general-purpose computers, the PLC is designed for multiple inputs and output arrangements, extended temperature ranges, immunity to electrical noise, and resistance to vibration and impact. Programs

to control machine operation are typically stored in battery-backed or non-volatile memory. A PLC is an example of a real-time system since output results must be produced in response to input conditions within a limited time, otherwise unintended operation will result.

In Industry 4.0, PLCs are playing an increasingly important role. They connect machines and devices on the factory floor to the internet, allowing for real-time data collection and analysis. This data can be used to improve the efficiency and productivity of manufacturing processes.

PLCs are also being used to implement advanced manufacturing technologies such as predictive maintenance and artificial intelligence. For example, PLCs can be used to collect data on the condition of machines and to predict when maintenance is needed. This can help to prevent unexpected machine failures and reduce downtime.

With experience in programming and operating a PLC, BSET students are equipped to become leaders in the high-tech world of manufacturing, including careers such as an Automation Engineer, a Quality Engineer, or Plant Manager. ✨

Richland County Foundation Smart Manufacturing Lab

The Connected Smart Machines (CSM) lab is a facility where engineering technology students learn and practice the principles of continuous improvement (CI) while using Industry 4.0 technologies such as IoT, big data and artificial intelligence to improve processes. CI is a systematic approach to identifying and eliminating waste from processes and systems. It is often used in industry to improve efficiency and quality, but also applied to other industries and areas of life.

The Richland County Foundation is supporting workforce development of high-tech manufacturing needs in the region by investing in the Engineering Technology Program at Ohio State Mansfield. The Richland County Foundation Smart Manufacturing Lab features a CSM Lab equipped with a variety of tools and resources to help students learn about CI, such as lean workstations, kanban boards and value stream maps. Ohio State Mansfield students may also work on real-world CI projects with local companies.

An important part of STEM leadership education, the lab helps students develop skills needed to lead and implement CI initiatives. CI is a key skill for STEM leaders in all industries, as it can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their teams.

CSMs are equipped with sensors and other devices that allow them to connect to the internet and to other machines. The connectivity allows for data to be collected on their performance and for communication with other machines to optimize their operations.

Engineering technology students will graduate with an unparalleled understanding of CSMs and how to create a more efficient and quality manufacturing process. This will prove to be invaluable as students become industry leaders as Process Engineers and Project Managers. ✨



Our new lab spaces allow students to discover high-tech solutions through hands-on experience from their first year in the engineering technology program.

Engineering technology students will graduate with an unparalleled understanding of CSMs and how to create a more efficient and quality manufacturing process.



The Regional Manufacturing Coalition, serving Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Morrow, and Richland counties, hosted their annual Manufacturing Days event. Local high school sophomores visiting campus for the event were the first students to experience the brand new Engineering Technology lab spaces.

Class Notes

We asked Ohio State Mansfield faculty to share what they have been doing in and out of the classroom. Here is what they said:

Stavros Constantinou

I am delighted that I am offering, for the fourth year, Geography 3755: Geography of the European Union and the Challenges of Sustainability as a global education class in Cyprus from May 3 to June 1, 2024.

This course carries four credit hours and fulfills a General Education Sustainability Theme requirement for new students (Autumn 2022 and later). This course has been approved as GE Integrative Practice: Education Abroad and Away.

As one of the students who enrolled in 2023 stated, "Get ready for enough experiences for two lifetimes."

Joseph Fahey

I'm excited to develop a new study abroad experience in 2024 — Theatre 2798: One Week of World-Class Theatre at the Stratford and Shaw Festivals in Canada. This four-credit hour course will meet the new General Education theme: Traditions, Cultures and Transformations and count as credit in the Education Away category.

After several weeks of online coursework, I'll travel with 12-24 students by charter bus from August 6 to August 12 to both festivals and see 10-12 shows, engage in exciting conversations with artists, take backstage tours, and make side trips to cultural and historic attractions, including Niagara Falls.

Jamison Kantor

This semester, I'm teaching a new Gen Ed course called "Space and Time Travelers," where we look at the history and development of time travel through different media. It has a broad sweep: we move from a delightfully bizarre 13th century utopian verse romance called "The Land of Cokaygne," to contemporary film and TV. This week it's James Cameron's first big hit *The Terminator*. Yesterday, one of my students commented that one of the things they enjoyed most about the course was the wild juxtaposition — and surprising coherence — between these different media forms. That's time travel in a nutshell!

Gabriel Karns

Ohio State's Maple Program notched its fifth year of syrup production and funded six student-based positions in the past year, along with several habitat restoration projects from maple syrup sales. A new General Education Maple course launches in Spring 2024, two multiyear USDA-funded research projects are nearing their final stages, and a new maple pavilion expands our education presence that featured nearly 20 different events in the past 12 months.

Andrew Kinney

In my first-year writing course, students used an open-source AI assistant chatbot to remake the 18th century classic *Letters from an American Farmer*, working collaboratively and in groups on creative visioning, prompt engineering, content revision, and reader response. The resulting text is an epic mashup, comically ridiculous in ways only humans can appreciate.

Scopas Poggo

I am currently working on my book manuscript "Voices of War and Peace in the Sudan, 1955-2022: Civilians, Combatants, and Foreign Observers." I anticipate the completion and publication of my book in spring 2025.

Heather Tanner

This year, I released a new book, *Lordship and Governance by the Inheriting Countesses of Boulogne 1160-1260* (Arc Humanities Press, 2023). This project was inspired by the thirteenth-century Roman de Silence about a noble heiress, raised as a boy because the bad king Ewan forbade women from inheriting, who became the greatest knight and jongleur in England and France. As I pursued this research, I was fascinated to find that noble men and women used the same means of lordship and governance.

My hope is that this book encourages other medieval scholars to see if similar patterns of lordship and governance emerge in the high and late medieval regions they study. Even more broadly, I hope this work continues the efforts of my colleagues and myself to change the master narrative of medieval political history — where women's roles are routinely examined, included, and taught as part of power and governance. ✨



Ernest, right, in a computer lab at Ohio State Mansfield with fellow student Zach Carroll (photo: Logan Wallace).

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT SUCCESS

Set for success with an engineering technology degree

By Ross Bishoff

WHEN ZACHARY ERNEST WAS SEARCHING for a way to rise in the manufacturing world, he found it in Ohio State's new Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology program.

The program launched in the fall of 2020 on Ohio State's regional campuses with the goal of preparing students to excel as business-oriented engineering leaders in the evolving manufacturing industry.

When Ernest graduates from Ohio State Mansfield

in May 2024, he'll do so with a degree in engineering technology. But the hands-on education he's receiving is already paying off.

Ernest recently spoke to Ohio State Impact about the engineering technology program.

Q: Why did you get involved in engineering technology?

A: I went to school for accounting when I was 18 and it really wasn't for me. I dropped out and started working full time in 2012 for Covert Manufacturing. But working on the floor as a machinist, I realized this job isn't going to be here in 20 years. I needed to figure something out.

So I went back to Ohio State, initially just for general education classes. Then, Ohio State Mansfield introduced the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology program and my CEO (at Covert) thought it was a fantastic program so she decided to pay for my school.

At that point in my career, I knew I wanted to follow manufacturing because it was my passion. It was a leap of faith, but it's definitely worked out for me.

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT SUCCESS

Q: And this program is already helping you?

A: Absolutely. Two years ago, I was promoted into the quality department. About a year ago, we lost one of our engineers and the quality manager said, 'I don't want to outsource this job when we'll have an engineer in a year,' so they promoted me. That was obviously phenomenal.

A lot of what I did at Covert prepared me for that, but so has the engineering technology program. The way I learn and approach new things, I got that from school. Time and resource management, that education has been huge toward learning new things.

Q: What have been the highlights of your experience with BSET?

A: I give it high praise. Working in manufacturing daily, to come into the program and see how this education reflects positions in management is critical. Early in the program, you gain a macro view of engineering, robotics, management, Lean Six processes, PLCs (programmable logic controllers) — that background is invaluable and the big benefit is problem-solving.

Plus, the class sizes are super beneficial. There's 12-14 people in our class so professors are always available. For me being a nontraditional student, I need that access; if I'm struggling, I need answers. And I get that hands-on help.

Q: Have you found any mentors?

A: Amber Rader, the program coordinator, has been amazing. She teaches my learning style and I love that. She's been great with laying things out in terms I can relate to through hands-on activities. Plus, with her (employment) background, she's done it all herself, she's trained to do these things and explains it so well.

Q: That hands-on learning aspect is really important to you?

A: Definitely, I'm a hands-on learner. We spend a lot of time in the labs and they reflect what we learn in the lectures and books. When you can read about a subject and apply it in the lab, it's a whole new way of learning. For example, I tried to learn circuits out of a book — couldn't do it. I was so lost. But when you're in there working, it makes sense.

Q: What is ahead for you?

A: Our senior year focuses a lot on operations management, which I'm really looking forward to. I want to get the economics and management side of things. Those two together can be powerful for me in helping a company succeed.

On top of that, with our capstone projects in the fall we'll be getting our green belts in Lean Six Sigma certification, which is super beneficial. I'm also entertaining the idea of getting my PMI certificate, which

“If you want to get ahead of the curve, this program is for you because manufacturing companies will need people who have a macro idea of many different departments and skills and can problem-solve. That's what this program does.”

ZACHARY ERNEST
ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY STUDENT
AT OHIO STATE MANSFIELD

is for project management. Those certifications give you the ability to take on a supervisor role and improve the processes of any facility I'm at.

Once I tackle this Bachelor's degree, part of me wants to get my MBA in Business Management. The Fisher College of Business has an online MBA program I've been looking into and it'd be incredible to have that knowledge.

Q: It sounds like this program has not only educated you, but it's really opened your eyes to more things?

A: Absolutely and that's one of the best things about this program. It prepares you for anything, it really helps you understand all the fields of manufacturing so you don't need to be too heavily reliant on other people. You have knowledge about all the roles in a company, which helps me look at the overall process and build better ones.

Q: Would you encourage others to enroll in this program? If so, why?

A: From a manufacturing background, there's no denying we're headed to an automated manufacturing process across the board. We're already there in a lot of fields. Robotics and automation have taken hold. That means the lower skill-level employees are going to fade away. If you want to get ahead of the curve, this program is for you because manufacturing companies will need people who have a macro idea of many different departments and skills and can problem-solve. That's what this program does. ✨

This story originally appeared in Ohio State Impact in April 2023.

Event highlights [Visit mansfield.osu.edu/events for more!](https://mansfield.osu.edu/events)

Thursday, January 18 — Community Forum at 3rd Cup Tea:
Everything you need to know about the FAFSA

Friday, March 1 — *The Trail to Oregon!* Musical production, Ohio State Mansfield Theatre

Saturday, March 2 — *The Trail to Oregon!*

Sunday, March 3 — *The Trail to Oregon!*

Monday, March 4 — *The Trail to Oregon!*

Thursday, March 21 — Alumni Honors and Student Scholarship Luncheon

Thursday, March 21 — OSU Artist Laureate Tour Performance

Thursday, May 2 — Graduation Celebration, Mansfield Campus

Sunday, May 5 — Spring Commencement, Ohio Stadium

May 16, 17, 20 — Leader Richland

First day fun

Mansfield campus students celebrated beginning of Autumn semester by taking first day of school photos to share with their friends and family.





THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY AT MANSFIELD

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