

## **Ohio University to offer graduate programs in higher education and student affairs on Chillicothe Campus**

Area residents will have the opportunity to earn master's or doctoral degrees in higher education and student affairs from Ohio University while taking classes on the Chillicothe Campus.

"These offerings provide individuals with the educational background they need to further succeed in their current professions or to make a career change into university student relations types of positions," said Sherry Early, Ph.D., program coordinator. "They are designed with a focus on providing students with courses that fit the schedules of those already in the workforce and training that prepares them for careers that align with their interests and passions."

Cohorts for the master's degree program in higher education administration will begin this fall, and the Ph.D. program is slated to launch in January 2015.

Information sessions will be held May 30 on the Chillicothe Campus in Bennett Hall room 110 for the programs. The master's program session will begin at 2 p.m. and the doctoral program information session will start at 3 p.m. Dr. Early and other representatives will be on hand to answer questions. Interested individuals are encouraged to contact Early at [earlys@ohio.edu](mailto:earlys@ohio.edu) or (740) 597-1739 by May 25 and indicate which session they plan to attend.

Both programs are designed to help individuals advance in their professions or make a career switch.

The Master's Degree in Higher Education Administration program prepares students for careers in college settings such as student affairs, alumni affairs, financial aid or the registrar's office. It is designed to accommodate working professionals.

"People who may be especially drawn to this offering are those who want to work in a college setting," Early said. "They may currently be employed in area elementary or high schools but feel they may be more comfortable working for a college or university long-term. Anyone who worked in student services as a college student, perhaps as a resident assistant or orientation leader, may find this appealing. It is also useful for individuals who want to specialize and sharpen their career focus while earning a master's degree to advance professionally."

The entire program takes 24 months to complete. Classes are conveniently scheduled to fit with working professionals' schedules. Classes will be held six times during the fall, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Fridays and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. Courses will be offered online during the spring, and the summer schedule is flexible, with both online and on-campus courses offered in Athens.

Students who earned a grade point average of at least 3.0 in completing their bachelor's degrees are not required to take the GRE for the master's program. Applications are due in late June, and classes begin in September.

The Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration program will be taught in a traditional format and is designed for full-time students. Students accepted into the program can apply for teaching and research assistantship positions to defray costs and provide career experience. The program includes six semesters of coursework and a dissertation. There will also be a cohort option to take courses on Fridays and Saturdays so they do not disrupt work schedules. Applications are due in August, and classes begin January 2015.