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### SLSC Otterbein College Fact Sheet and Program Description Sent to Potential Donors

Chester L. Addington

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## THE OTTERBEIN COLLEGE STUDY PROGRAM IN SIERRA LEONE

The former Evangelical United Brethern Church and Otterbein College have a long history of concern for the people of Sierra Leone. Students from Sierra Leone have been attending Otterbein College almost continuously since 1886 and many of the school and government leaders of this developing Nation are graduates of Otterbein College.

Mrs. Mildred Stauffer, Assistant Professor of Education at Otterbein College became very interested in Sierra Leone through some of the Sierra Leone students on campus and proposed a program of sending selected Otterbein students planning to teach to Sierra Leone for an enriching experience. She visited school and government officials in Sierra Leone in the summer of 1968 to explore the possibilities with them. The interest was enthusiastic and she returned in the summer of 1969 to work out the details of assignments, housing and transportation.

Fifteen students have been selected and are presently studying the culture, government and the educational system of Sierra Leone in preparation for the overseas field study program. They will go to Sierra Leone for ten weeks during the winter term of College which happens to be the dry season in Sierra Leone. The Otterbein students will work with the Sierra Leone teachers on a teacher aid basis. They will attend some classes for teachers in Africa and prepare a research project on a topic related to education, history, social values, or the culture of the Country. An Otterbein faculty member will be with the students, but much of the research will be done by independent study. On return to the Otterbein Campus in March, the students will summarize their experiences and relate them to teaching situations they are likely to experience. Formal report papers will be completed during the spring term.

The participating students are expected to gain experience in the skills of planning and evaluation, gain depth of understanding of the teaching role, gain insights into the contributions of other people and gain confidence in their own leadership ability.

The program will place some of the students in United Methodist Mission Schools in Sierra Leone and the students will be able to see some of the mission operations in the field. They should develop a much greater understanding of the contribution that church mission programs are making in developing countries. It is possible that some young people will become mission workers because of this program.

Present plans call for the Sierra Leone Project to continue for three years subject to annual evaluation. Recommendations concerning the future of the program will be made after a comprehensive study of its effectiveness during the three year period.

This challenging program should not be limited to those students who can pay the extra costs involved. The College desires to keep the costs to the students who participate in the program at a rate no greater than regular college fees, therefore, the College must seek the additional funds to subsidize the program.

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If additional copies of this report are desired, please request them from:  
Dr. Chester L. Addington, Chairman  
Education Department  
Otterbein College  
Westerville, Ohio 43081

## FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT OTTERBEIN COLLEGE

- HISTORY** Otterbein College, founded in 1847, is fully accredited by North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education, co-educational, church-related, liberal arts college serving 1,400 students. From its beginning it has been affiliated with the United Methodist Church.
- FINANCES** The total assets of the college are \$12,074,617.00. The endowment is \$3,222,024 (market value) which produced \$121,262 (3.76%) in income during the last fiscal year.
- The total operating budget last year was \$2,728,911.00. Gifts from all sources last year totaled \$625,858.96. 31.5% of all alumni made contributions in 1968. The median salaries this year, including benefits, are: Instructors, \$8,134.00; Assistant Professors, \$9,978.00; Associate Professors, \$11,995.00; Professors, \$14,075.00.
- GROWTH** The enrollment has increased 90% in the last 10 years. A total of \$4,365,000 has been spent for new construction since 1954 representing the cost of erecting a Campus Center, a Science Building, a Dormitory, and a Health Center.
- IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES** Otterbein is presently engaged in a campaign to raise \$25,000 per year for three years for the pilot foreign study project in teacher education in Sierra Leone and to raise \$2,507,000 to erect a new library and to provide endowment for scholarships.
- LONG-RANGE NEEDS** During the next 10 years the college hopes to erect another dormitory, a classroom building, an administration building, a physical education plant, and a worship center involving a total cost of approximately \$5,350,000.00.