

ALUMNI *for*
OBERLIN
VALUES

- Agenda review
- Announcements
- Presentation on Oberlin's falling economic diversity
- Q&A
- AOV & the future
- Small group discussion
- Report back
- To do list



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VALUES

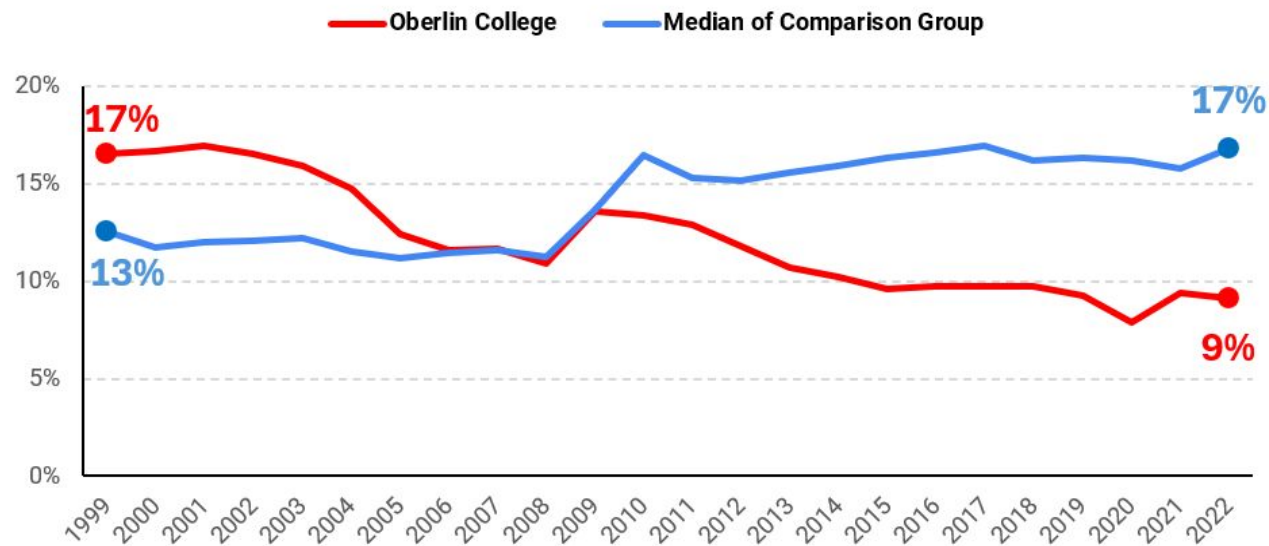
Why Is Oberlin the “Least Financially Accessible”?

A survey of Oberlin’s latest embarrassment

The Bottom Line

Oberlin's Pell Grant Percentage Has Plummeted—While Its Peers' Has Risen

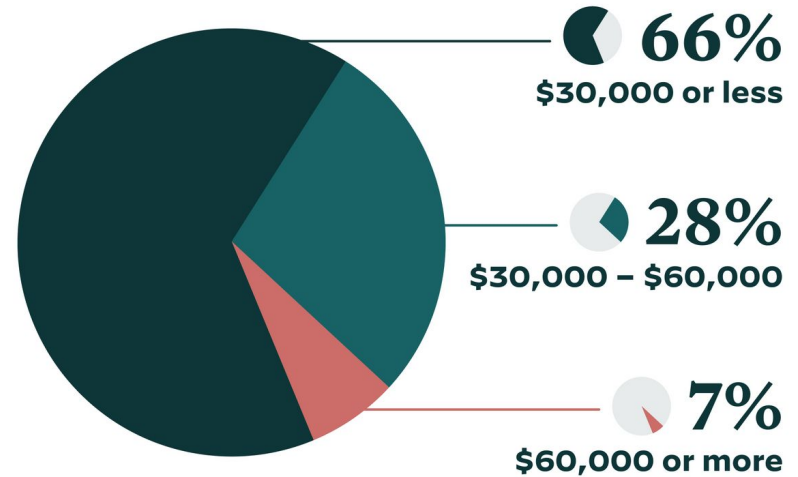
% of Pell Grant Recipients Among Undergraduate Students



Who are Pell Grant Recipients?

Students who demonstrate “extreme”
financial need

Nearly All Pell Grant Recipients Come From Families With Incomes of \$60,000 or Less



Distribution of Pell Grant recipients
by income, 2019 – 2020

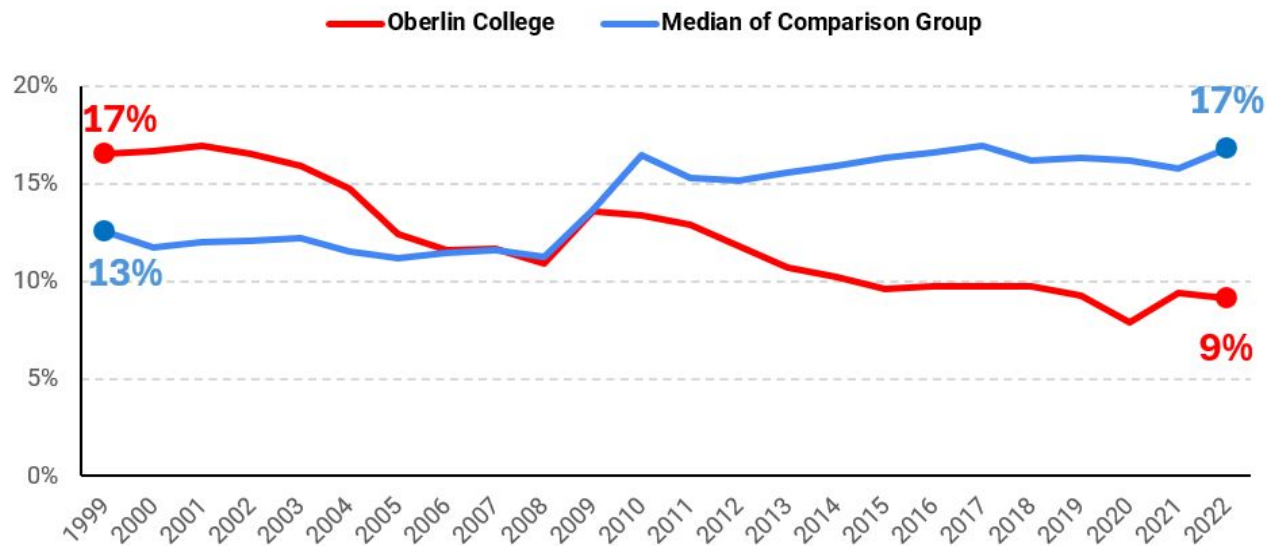
Numbers do not add to 100 due to rounding
Source: U.S. Dept of Education



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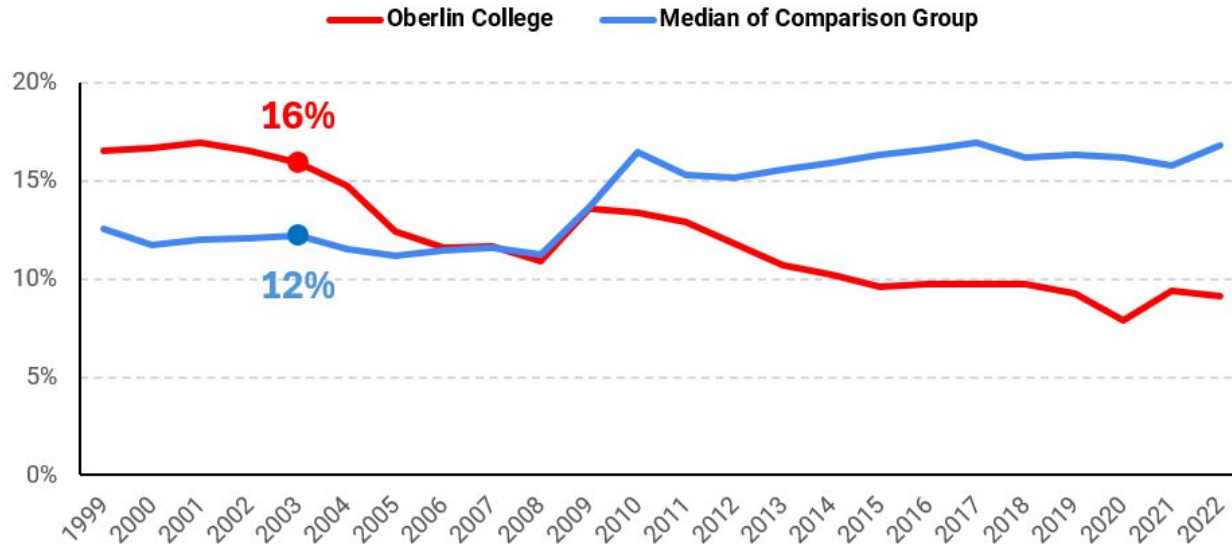
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2003, 16%: “We Enroll More Pell Grant Recipients”

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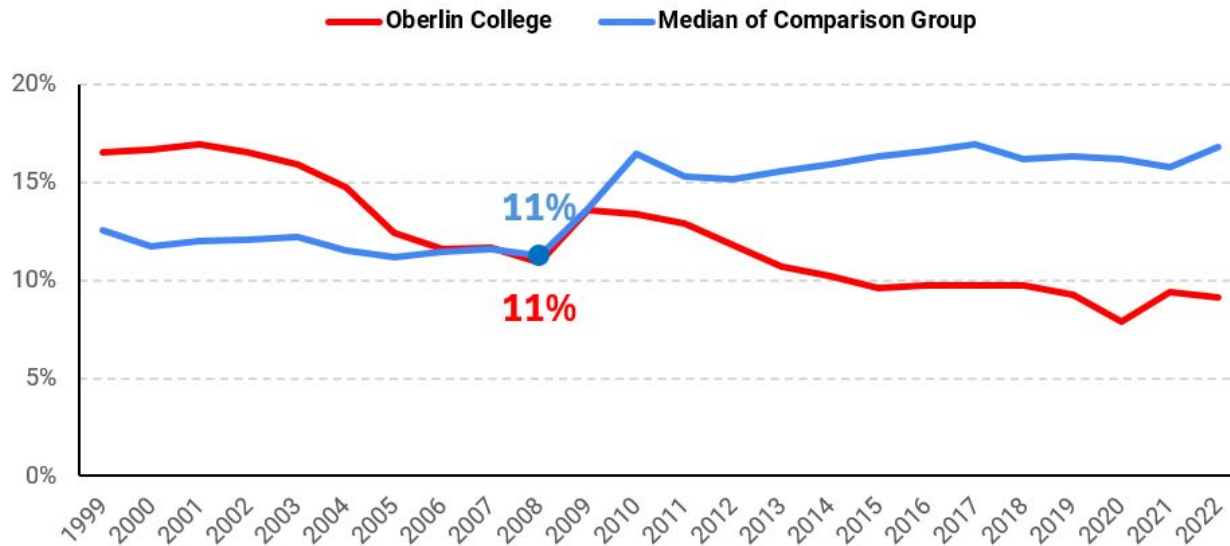
“While Oberlin can’t afford to be need-blind, we enroll more Pell grant recipients and more students with financial need as a percentage of the total student body than some vastly wealthier need-blind schools.”

-Edward Derby '87,
Assistant Director of Admissions

2008, 11%: Oberlin Rises to the “Challenge”

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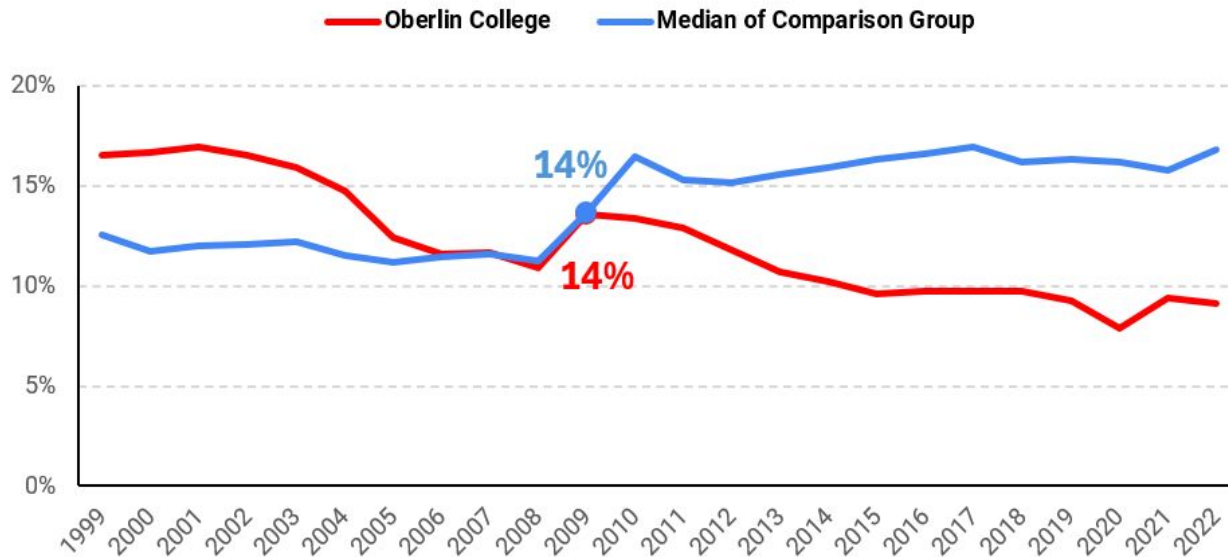
“[The Oberlin Access Initiative] commitment honors our history while helping Oberlin compete with other top-tier schools.”

*-Robert Lemle, '75
Chair of the Board of Trustees*

2009, 14%: Oberlin Rises to the “Challenge”

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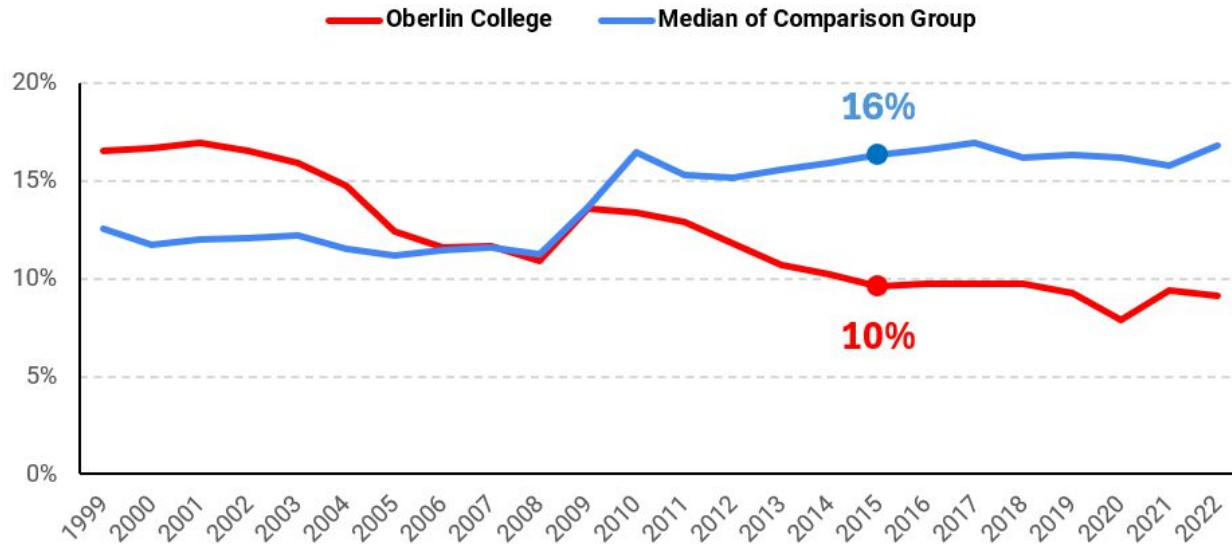
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2015, 10%: “Least Financially Accessible Among Peers”

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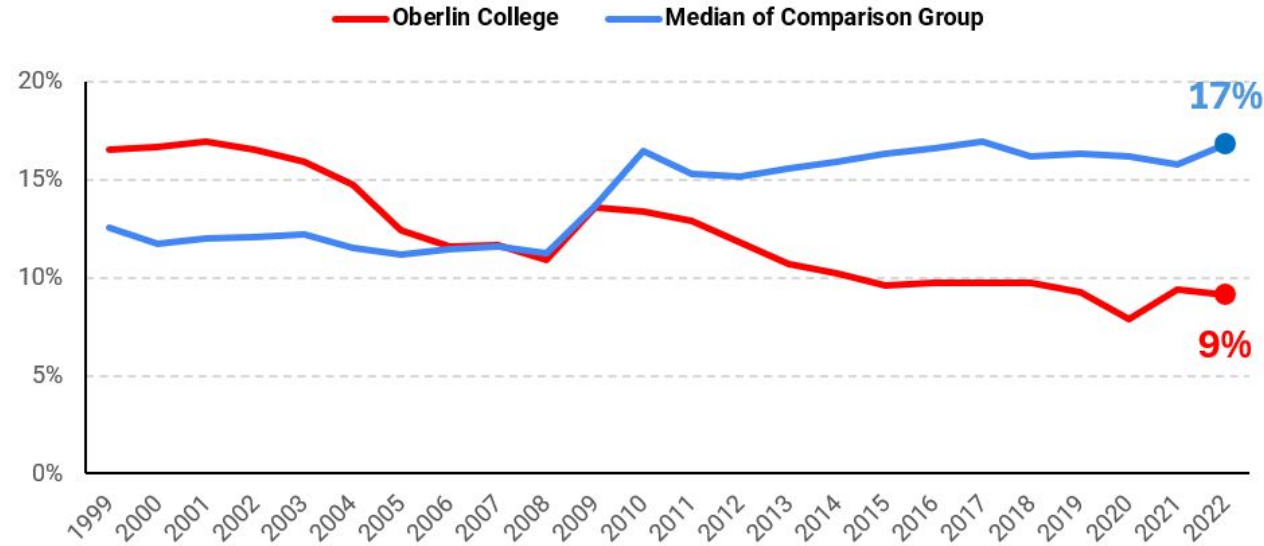
“With specific regard to Pell, it is important to remember that income is only one factor.”

*-Debra Chermonte,
Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid*

2023, 9%: Oberlin's "Dreadful Placement at the Bottom"

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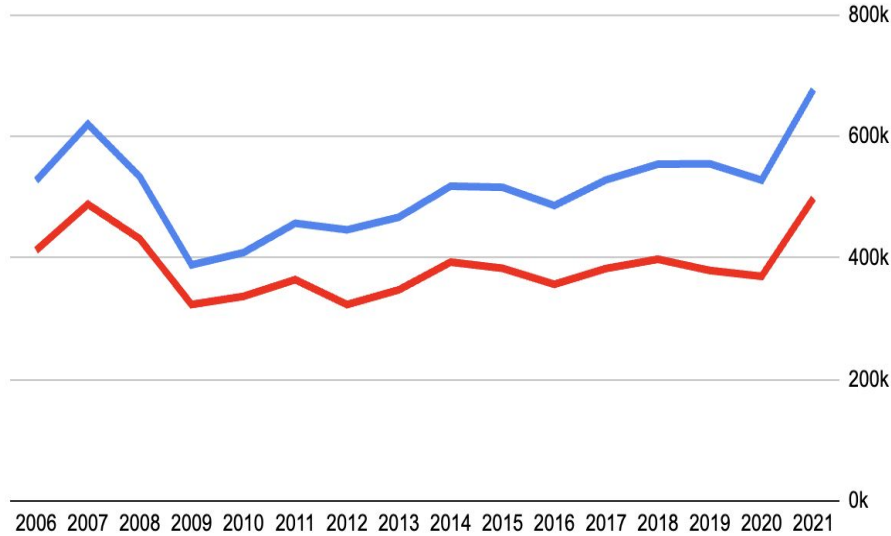
“Your suggestion that Oberlin work to increase the percentage of Pell Grant recipients is intriguing.”

*-Matthew Lahey,
Oberlin General Counsel &
Secretary for the Board of Trustees*

Where Is the Money Going?

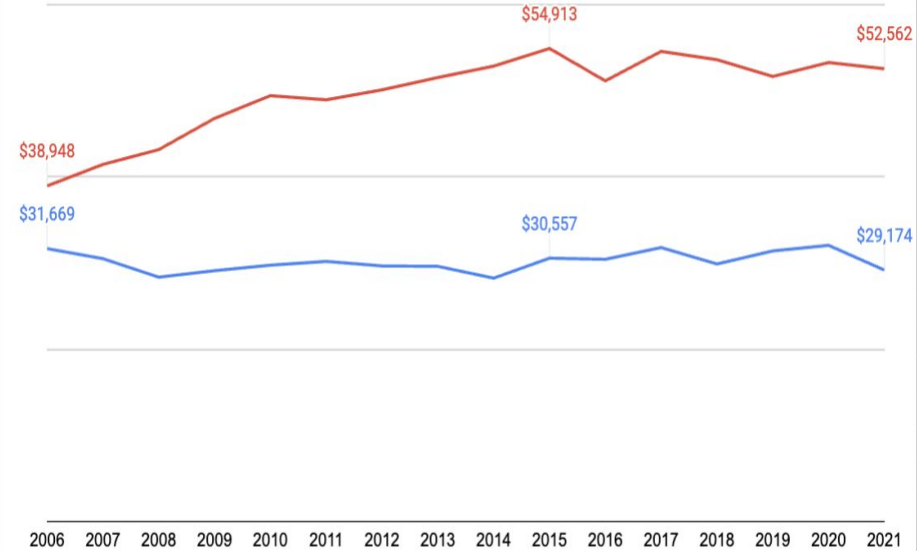
Oberlin's Endowment Per Student Has Tracked Peers

— Oberlin Endowment Per Student — Median Endowment Per Student for Comparison Group



Oberlin's Average Tuition Is Now 80% Higher Than Its Peers

— Oberlin Avg Tuition after Aid (adjusted) — Median Avg Tuition after Aid for Comparison Group



What Oberlin Is Fundraising For

\$5M Gift Supports Oberlin Business Programs and Curriculum

JANUARY 12, 2024 • Office of Communications

“The \$5 million gift is contingent on raising an additional \$5 million, as the goal is to encourage other donors to support an expanded business program at Oberlin.

“In 2024, **Oberlin will create an ad hoc advisory committee** of internal and external representatives to advise on the business program and **focus on raising funds for the \$5 million match.**”

-Oberlin Office of Communications

Q and A

Please type a question in the chat if you need clarification on something before the discussion



AlumniForOberlinValues.org/donate

Sources

- Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/use-the-data>
- [\\$5M Gift Supports Oberlin Business Programs and Curriculum](#), Oberlin Office of Communications, Jan. 12, 2024
- [E-mail from Matthew Lahev to AOV Steering Committee](#), Dec. 22, 2023
- [Oberlin's Pell Grant Ranking Merits Concern](#), Steven Volk, Professor of History Emeritus, Oberlin College (*Oberlin Review*, Letter to the Editor, September 22, 2023)
- [Oberlin Needs to Improve Economic Diversity](#), Editorial Board (*Oberlin Review*, September 22, 2023)
- [The Top U.S. Colleges With the Greatest Economic Diversity - The New York Times](#), David Leonhardt and Ashley Wu (*New York Times*, Sep. 7, 2023)
- [Where Are the Low-Income Students? Not Here.](#), James S. Murphy (Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 11, 2023)
- [The 20% Solution: Selective Colleges Can Afford to Admit More Pell Grant Recipients - CEW Georgetown](#), Anthony P. Carnevale and Martin Van Der Werf (Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 2017)
- [Oberlin Least Financially Accessible Among Peers](#), Oliver Bok, Editor in Chief (*Oberlin Review*, October 9, 2015)
- [Top Colleges Doing the Most for Low-Income Students](#) (New York Times, Sept. 16, 2015)
- [A Question of Access](#), Richard Bader (*Oberlin Alumni Magazine*, Summer 2008)
- [Race, class and leadership at Oberlin College](#), Edward Derby '87, Assistant Director of Admissions (*Oberlin Review*, Online, 2003)

Comparison Group

- Oberlin College
- Amherst College
- Bowdoin College
- Carleton College
- Colgate University
- Connecticut College
- Grinnell College
- Hamilton College
- Haverford College
- Kenyon College
- Middlebury College
- Pomona College
- Reed College
- Swarthmore College
- Vassar College
- Wesleyan University
- Williams College.

What We Can Do

- **Get others involved**
 - Forward AOV e-mails to Obies
 - Have one-on-one conversations with Obies
- **Provide information**
 - Fill out [AOV survey on giving](#)
- **Let Oberlin know about changes to your giving plans**
 - Office of Alumni Engagement: alumni@oberlin.edu
 - Office of Advancement: giving@oberlin.edu
 - President: cambar@oberlin.edu
 - Board of Trustees: secretary.office@oberlin.edu
- **Volunteer**
 - 2024 reunions
- **Donate at AlumniForOberlinValues.org/donate**



Scan for survey
on giving