

Mortuary



Minutes

Transforming Death Care Education

Welcome to the nation's premiere death care education e-newsletter, dedicated to providing funeral service professionals with a lifetime of learning, news, and insight into transformational education.

From President Lechner:

As we launch into the New Year, this is a time of fresh beginnings—both for the college and a new cohort of students (the Spring 2020 class), who we welcomed to campus this past Monday, January 7. It is always inspiring to see their energy and enthusiasm as they start out on this new educational and career path. They may start the term with a tinge of anxiety, but they will soon adapt and settle into their studies, drawn by their eagerness to learn.



I also want to share the pride I have in this institution, as this year has been a time of tremendous success for CCMS. As I think back on what we achieved throughout 2018, I'm especially proud of new partnerships such as our agreement with Terra State Community College that allows students to earn an Associate of Arts degree with a pathway in mortuary science. Students in the cohort can complete their first two years of their education online, providing convenience and a cost-savings.

Another major initiative is our collaboration with Marion University to offer a 20% discount to CCMS alums in any of their thanatology courses. This agreement benefits not only our alumni, but also our profession by balancing continuing education with cost savings. And, it adheres to our mission of establishing an educational foundation on which our students and alumni can build a lifetime of learning as death care professionals.

For CCMS, such innovative and inspired thinking will extend into the New Year – and beyond. Our online and in-person continuing education program continues to expand, with timely topics offered throughout the year. We also will grow our InSight Certified Celebrant™ training sessions, serving both current students and working professionals.

Perhaps most exciting is the anticipated ground-breaking this spring for our Educational Cremation Center. As we finalize designs and schedule construction, one exciting aspect we've included is the opportunity for our graduates and friends to be part of this innovative, state-of-the-art building. From naming rights for the labs, classrooms and other spaces to a pathway featuring memorial and celebratory bricks (see page 4 for more information), there are many ways for you to be involved, to lend your support to a building which will surely take us boldly into the future. We will soon share details, and of course feel free to contact me if you'd like more information on how you can be part of this cutting-edge enterprise.

Please join with us as we make 2019 our best year yet!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack C. Lechner, Jr." The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Jack C." on top and "Lechner, Jr." on the line below.

January 2019

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Did you know?

- CCMS has a ratio of 19:1 students to faculty
- National Board Exam three year average scores: 83% passed in arts and 78% in science
- 2017 exam scores: 85% passed in arts and 78% in science



Students Give Back Through Service Projects

What do pancakes, giving blood and dropping off gently used clothing have in common? All are ways that CCMS students gave back during fall term supporting the community and, in some cases, fellow students.

From “Pancakes with a Purpose” to the Diversity Matters Club’s drive for used clothing and non-perishable food items and toiletries, from rolling up their sleeves for the Hoxworth blood drive, such events help connect students to the community. In fact, community service is part of the college’s mission and philosophy: as part of a sound education and learning environment, students learn to “function with distinction within their chosen profession and within the community.”

They are also a way to build the sense of “community” within the student body, as the students serve together. One event also benefited students who needed professional clothing for their apprenticeships. As shown in the photo, such activities are typically full of fun as well as service.



In Memory: Benney L. Haller

Benney Lee Haller, 74, died peacefully at home in Chillicothe, Ohio, on January 1, 2019. He was a graduate of Mendon Union High School, Class of 1962. Upon graduating from the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science in 1966, he managed funeral homes in Coshocton and Canton, OH.

In addition to his wife Peg, Benney is survived by their four children: Michael (Carol) Haller, Dr. Patricia Haller (Bradley Smith), Nettina “Tina” Haller, and Matthew (Jill) Haller, all of Chillicothe; grandchildren: Andrea, Benjamin, Nick and Daniel Haller, Bradyn Smith, and Meryl and Vincent Haller; many nieces, nephews, cousins and special friends. He was predeceased by his parents; step-dad Robert Vogelgesang; a brother H. Timothy; and a sister Terryanne. Both of Benney’s sons, Michael and Matthew, are graduates of CCMS; Michael in 1990 and Matthew in 1997.

CCMS President and CEO Jack Lechner noted that when we experience the death of one of our own death care professionals, it may cause us to ponder how much of an impact our life has had on others. He states, “It was easy to see by the outpouring of support, people standing in line for up to three hours to pay their respect to the Haller family, the tremendous impact this funeral director had on his community.”

([Click here](#) for a complete obituary and video tribute)



Benney Lee Haller—
CCMS alumni 1966



CCMS Provides the Educational Foundation for a Lifetime of Success!

Our aim is to provide quality continuing education and certifications at an affordable price!

Bringing today's most sought after training, education, and certifications from the nation's most trusted providers!

Ohio Crematory Operator Permit

New Compliance Requirement

Have you completed the mandatory two hour law certificate requirement?

Last chance to meet the Ohio Board
extended deadline!

February 20, 2019 1:30—3:30pm

Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science

645 W. North Bend Rd. Cincinnati, Ohio 45224

Need help? coned@ccms.edu



Register online today **\$50.00**

(Board compliant, 2 CEU's, APFSP approved)

Congratulations to our 50 Fall 2018 Graduates

On Dec. 15, CCMS conferred degrees to the fall 2018 Class, with 50 students earning their college degree. A total of 34 students earned a Bachelor of Mortuary Science degree (BMS), with an additional 16 students completing their Associate's degree of Applied Science (AAS).

Ms. Lori Hicks, CCMS alumna and current president of the Ohio Funeral Directors Association, served as the commencement speaker and Zaviyon Davis provided the class president's speech

Congratulations to the following fall 2018 graduates of CCMS:

Bachelor degree of Mortuary Science –

- Summa Cum Laude ("with highest honors" – grade point average between 3.85-4.0): Alyssa Leigh Bills, Ivy K. Davis, Daniel Zebadiah David Lucas, Montana Renee' Patterson, Mallory Jo Price, Megan Elizabeth Ricketts, Jordan N. Stills, Jacob Wallace Stout
- Magna Cum Laude ("with great honor" – grade point average between 3.7-3.84): Catherine Teresa Johnson, Jacqueline M. Slusser
- Cum Laude ("with honor" – grade point average between 3.5-3.69): Christopher Edward Crosby, Laine Delong, Jacob R. Dunn, Katie N. Fahrer, Sydney Hanula, Presley Ellen Odom, Taylor Chad Slone
- Graduates: Michaelyn Shawnee Busch, Zaviyon DeVon Davis, Jamie Lee Kobylnski, Olivia G. Gwyn, Jozie Kay Hickman, Jack H. Hillis, Emilykate Maria Hopson-Boyd, Charles Horton Jr., Ashley Nicole King, Cory A. Knox, Charles MacDonald Lambert, Taylor M. Miller, Justine Heaven Adele Salazar, Clay Stewart, Toni Edrena Thompson, Joseph Bernard Thyen, Gabrielle Marie Ward



Associate's degree of Applied Science –

- Summa Cum: Brenda Ellerbrock, Jamie Irene Fisher, Gabriela Anne Hawk, Meredith McDowell, Mark Timothy Mettler, Elizabeth Nester, Tyler D. Parker, Rachel Marlise Reeves, Kelsey R. Yantz
- Magna Cum Laude: Joshua Bock, Dori Kehl
- Graduates: Ramah Maylyn Ballard, Lezlee R. DuBois, Kaleigh Eastwood, Derrick D. Myers, Colin David Vernon

"We're incredibly proud of these graduates as they represent what is great about the next generation of death care professionals," said CCMS President Jack E. Lechner. "The students work hard during their 16 months on campus to earn a highly coveted regionally and professionally accredited Bachelor of Mortuary Science degree and AAS, establishing a firm educational foundation on which to build a lifetime of learning in the death care profession."

He adds, "I continue to be amazed by these mature, professional, intelligent, compassionate, and dedicated young professionals that I'm privileged to see every day at CCMS," Lechner said. "Many of these students showed a true commitment to their studies, earning high academic honors. In fact, 28 of our 50 newest colleagues graduated with a GPA above 3.5 and 8 earned a perfect 4.0!"



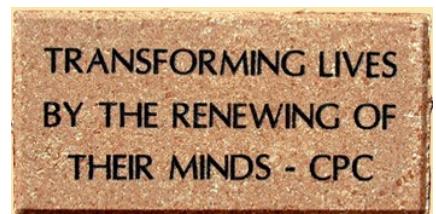
Reflections

“Pathway to the Future” Part of New Educational Cremation Center

A path of engraved bricks will serve as the entryway for the college's new Educational Cremation Center, linking the current building to the state-of-the-art learning facility. The path connects the past to our future – a way to salute the past, preserve the present and ignite the future.

Commemorative bricks are a great way to honor a significant individual – such as celebrating your year of graduation, recognizing a favorite teacher, or to show your gratitude to someone who has made a difference in your life. It's a perfect way to create a legacy or to acknowledge someone. The \$100 cost includes the brick and 3 lines of permanent engraving; other sizes of bricks and memorialization are available at extra cost. The brick purchase is tax deductible and all proceeds support the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science.

For more information or to complete your order, [click here.](#)



“We cannot hold a torch to light another's path without brightening our own.”

- American author Ben Sweetland

FUN FACES OF

Graduation Practice for Semester 4

#CCMSMUGSHOTMONDAY



Open House

Saturday, March 9, 2019 @ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

[Register to join us](#)

Visit CCMS to get the scoop on admissions, prerequisites, financial aid, and more. We look forward to meeting you! (Note: Other upcoming open house events will be held Thursday, June 13 from 4– 6 p.m. and Saturday, October 5 from 10 a.m. to noon)



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#CCMSmugshotmonday

Send us your mugshot! social@ccms.edu

You could be featured on CCMS Facebook!

Need a mug? [Shop the CCMS online store!](#)



Shop CCMS Merchandise

Looking for that perfect holiday gift for a CCMS student or alum? Want to show your CCMS pride? Shop our online store for authentic CCMS trademark products! Get your CCMS swag here: [Shop the CCMS online store!](#)



Did you know....

- CCMS has produced 12 National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) presidents, a legacy of leadership that is unrivaled
- CCMS students and faculty perform more than 500 embalmings every year? The high volume of procedures – which includes embalmings as well as minor and major restorations, cosmetics, cremations and transfers – provides our students a unique level of hands-on practice.



CCMS is unique in that it receives no state or federal funding, outside of the financial aid our students receive for tuition, for its operation. As a result, CCMS heavily relies on support from our alumni, private individuals, corporate partners and members of the Cincinnati Foundation for Mortuary Education. Such generous and continual support is in large part why we have remained successful for well over a century.

Giving to CCMS can be done either directly or through ways that can provide tax benefits and even income to the donor, such as a gift through your will, an IRA rollover or other retirement asset, designation gifts, charitable gift annuity or gifts of stocks and bonds. Please contact us at (513) 761-2020 or email support@ccms.edu to discuss which giving options are most beneficial to you and to the college.

Convenient, Easy Way to Support CCMS Through AmazonSmile

You can now support CCMS through AmazonSmile! Every time you make a purchase through Amazon that you would've made anyway, 0.5% of your purchase will be donated to CCMS at no cost to you.

[Click here](#) or go to smile.amazon.com to get started. So, do your shopping year-round through AmazonSmile as you support CCMS.



Just Swipe and Support: Kroger Rewards Card

We're now part of the Kroger Community Rewards program – similar to the AmazonSmiles, CCMS will receive a portion of most purchases made at Kroger stores whenever folks swipe their rewards card.

It's easy for you as a customer to enroll – [Click here](#) to login to your Kroger account. Under the "savings and rewards" tab, click on Kroger Community Rewards. Once on that page, you can then search for Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science, then click Enroll. Then, whenever you're shopping at Kroger, just swipe your registered rewards card for purchases to count.

Kroger says it can take up to 10 days after registering for purchases to begin earning rewards – once it's in effect, you'll see at the bottom of your Kroger receipt: "At your request, Kroger is donating to CCMS."



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