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Experts Localize National News for Local Residents

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – Being able to help local residents understand what is taking place throughout the nation and world is the goal of media outlets. There are many ways to achieve this goal, and at Cox Media Group Ohio, it has found several experts from Cedarville University to help it accomplish the task.

Whether the topic is an international crisis in North Korea or Syria, or trying to understand the recent presidential election, or even the growing concern of the opioid crisis, Cedarville University faculty have spoken into these topics on a regular basis for WHIO TV, WHIO Radio, and the Dayton Daily News -- the leading media arms of Cox Media Ohio.

"The faculty have the desire to bring context to any story they're asked to address by the media," said Mark D. Weinstein, executive director of public relations for Cedarville University. "Thankfully, we have a breadth of faculty who are experts in their academic discipline, and who can articulate key points on many different topics."

Cedarville’s expert faculty were honored Friday, April 21 in the President's Dining Room at Cedarville for their accomplished work with the media during the 2016-17 academic year. Since July 1, media outlets in Dayton, Ohio, and throughout the nation have engaged faculty in 453 national and international stories. In total, there have been 704 stories involving Cedarville University students, its programs and accomplishments.

All media placements during the current school year have reached an estimated 950 million people worldwide. The value for this media exposure exceeds $10 million dollars.

Cox Media Ohio has interviewed Cedarville University's top six faculty experts for 128 stories. Political and criminal justice topics, international crises, and the growing opioid problem are the four areas where Cox Media Ohio has leaned most heavily on Cedarville faculty for insight. Whether it's on WHIO Radio with Larry Hansgen and Brittany Otto, or in a Jim Otte special report for WHIO TV, Cedarville's faculty have been available to meet the needs for Cox Media Ohio.

"It's an honor to be able to speak into so many news stories, and to work with the news professionals at Cox Media Group Ohio," said Dr. Glen Duerr, assistant professor of international studies, who was a guest this morning on WHIO Radio. "I am thankful for the opportunities presented to Cedarville University faculty to comment on stories that impact our daily lives. Being able to share insight into many different kinds of stories makes us better professors for our students."

Dr. Mark Caleb Smith, director of the Center for Political Studies, is the leading voice with 247 interviews during the past nine months. The presidential election is a key reason why Dr. Smith increased his media interviews from last year's record total of 168. He spent one week in Cleveland for the Republican National Convention and recorded more than 40 interviews with state, national, and international media, including CTV -- the leading TV network in Canada.

Other faculty stars include Dr. Glen Duerr, assistant professor of international studies, Dr. Patrick Oliver, associate professor of criminal justice, Dr. Marc Claunson, professor of history and law, Dr. Marc Sweeney, dean of the School of Pharmacy, and Andrew Wonders, assistant professor of sport business management. Duerr has conducted 61 interviews, while Oliver has done 50, Claunson 23, Sweeney, 21, and Wonders 19.
Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,760 undergraduate, graduate, and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings, and leading student satisfaction ratings. For more information about the University, visit www.cedarville.edu.