

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE CHAIR
COTTEY COLLEGE COMMITTEE
2021-2022

As this committee focused on *Carrying Our Story Forward*, they encouraged the chapters throughout the state to seek prospective Cottey students within their families and community. Currently, there are three Cottey students from Ohio who plan to return in the fall and five additional young women have been accepted to enroll as freshmen.

Included as part of their tuition, sophomore students safely traveled to Paris, France over spring break for their International Experience with faculty and staff.

This year's Commencement took place in-person on May 15th. The ceremony was live-streamed for those who were unable to attend.

In addition to the articles this committee submitted for the fall and winter editions of The Heartline, several Cottey College newsletters were sent to the Reciprocity Cottey chairs and the Cottey chairs of chapters not affiliated with a Reciprocity Group. This communication helps all Ohio P.E.O.s to be kept informed about "everything Cottey".

In 2021 Cottey College informed the committee that it had been twenty-four years since the bedrooms in the Ohio Suite had been refurbished. There were many Ohio chapters and individual sisters who enthusiastically stepped up to meet the challenge of raising the \$15,000 needed for this project by January 1, 2022. The refurbishment of the bedrooms was originally scheduled to take place this summer; however, due to a delay in delivery of the items and the difficulty of making these changes during the academic year, the new furnishings will not be completed until Fall 2023. Along with Cottey's recent installation of air-conditioning in Reeves Hall, the Ohio Suite students are sure to love their new surroundings.

Cottey recently approved plans to create an education lab to help students become successful K-12 teachers. This new learning center will be located in the lower level of the Ross Library. It will have three distinct spaces to promote formal and informal learning: a mock classroom, a resource room, and education faculty offices. Dr. Jann Weitzel will officially retire as the president of Cottey College on June 30, 2022. During a celebration the end of April, the Cottey Board of Trustees shared a special SURPRISE announcing the new learning center would be named, *The Jann Rudd Weitzel Education Lab*, in honor of her lifelong passion for education. The total cost to create the lab and establish an endowment fund to create ongoing costs is \$225,000. Cottey has already received a very generous gift of \$75,000 for furnishings, technology, and supplies. P.E.O. chapters and individuals can contribute towards this project by sending their check to Cottey College, Office of Institutional Advancement, 1000 W. Austin Blvd., Nevada, MO, 64772 and indicate it is a gift for the education lab.

Many thanks to committee members, Kathy Calabrese, Siobhan Smith and OSC adviser, Jane Koch for their willingness to help this chair and for the time they spent sharing information about Cottey with others.

Lyn M. Allyn, DU / Chair
Kathy Calabrese, DZ
Siobhan Smith, DQ