Monitor Newsletter August 22, 1994

Bowling Green State University

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Building's classroom facilities are unique in Ohio

Olscamp Hall dedication ushers in new era of learning

Today isn't just the first day of a new school year. It marks the beginning of a new era in technological advancement and learning for the University.

Paul J. Olscamp Hall, the $13.5 million classroom building which features equipment to be used for distance learning, will be dedicated at 12:30 p.m. today (Aug. 22). All university personnel are invited to attend.

Gov. George V. Voinovich and Dr. James Appleberry, president of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, are slated to be the keynote speakers at the ceremony.

Other honored guests at the dedication include President Olscamp; Dr. Douglas Neckers, executive director of the Center for Photochemical Sciences, and John Mahaney Jr., both members of the University's Board of Trustees.

"This building is capable of doing incredible things. It will keep the University at the crest of the technology wave."

—President Olscamp

The two-story, 95,000-square-foot building can seat more than 2,000 students in 30 classrooms, seminar rooms and lecture halls. There is also a 600-seat conference center that can be divided into two smaller sections with movable sound-controlling partitions.

While the new building will ease the demand for classroom space on the campus and the 600-seat conference room is a welcome addition to the University's conference capabilities, it is literally the wiring which makes the building unique and its educational potential unlimited.

Designed by The Collaborative of Toledo and built by Rudolph/Leib of Walbridge, Ohio, the building's single purpose is communication.

No classroom building in the state has the capabilities for learning and communication that this building has, according to Tony Short, director of learning services for WBGU-TV 27 and the person responsible for coordinating the installation of the high-tech equipment in the building.

"In Ohio, this building is unique and it is state-of-the-art," he added.

Every room in the building is wired with fiber optic cable, allowing for unlimited electronic expansion and changes. Many of the rooms have TVs, VCRs, computers and other audio-visual equipment built in and one 20-seat classroom has a computer at every student's desk.

But it is the three "teleaching rooms," which clearly demonstrate the building's potential. The three rooms will seat a maximum of 20, 60 and 300 students, respectively.

Each room has a front console from which the professor (or an assistant in a nearby control room) can operate two types of VCRs, a slide projector, an audio system, a computer with graphics capabilities, and a copystand with a video camera. Whatever is being projected, displayed or broadcast can be seen by the students on two TVs, which the professor can also control from the console.

As the professor lectures, any of these media can be used to demonstrate the points being discussed.

But what makes this more than just a room filled with electronic gadgets are the three television cameras positioned around each room and the microphones which are built into the teaching podium and to each student's desk.

The professor can remotely control these cameras, and the pictures from the cameras can be transmitted to any distant location.

Depending on where the signal must travel, the transmission can be done by cable, microwave, telephone lines or satellite, making the transmission as practical and cost-effective as possible.

In addition, if the locations receiving the program have cameras and microphones, those pictures can be sent back to the classroom. At the very least, a telephone hook-up can be made between the classroom and the distant locations, allowing the professor to ask questions, even if they cannot be seen.

In a typical class, Short said, one of the TV cameras could be focused on the professor, another on the students, and the third on one of the television screens which is displaying the professor's supporting materials.

In this way, the students at the distant locations can see the professor when he or she is talking, the students when they are asking or answering questions, and the supporting materials which are amplifying the points the professor is making.

In essence, distance disappears, Short said.

In another configuration, a class can have a guest lecturer without the need for that guest to leave his or her home city. The students and guest will be able to see and, of course, hear each other, allowing for question-and-answer periods or other interactions.

Short said the potential is that students can be exposed to people that they might otherwise never have the chance to meet. A governor, senator, CEO or foreign government official, for example, may never be able to find the time to travel to Bowling Green to meet with a class, but can make it to the nearest broadcast center to meet via satellite.

How the building can be used is limited only by the imagination of the professor.
Dr. Ron Woodruff, biological sciences, has been named a Distinguished Research Professor by the University’s Board of Trustees.

One of the highest honors awarded to a faculty member, the title recognizes professors who have earned outstanding national and international recognition through research and publication in their chosen fields of study.

Woodruff is internationally renowned for his extensive research in the field of genetics using Drosophila, commonly known as the fruitfly. He is the director of the Mid-America Drosophila Stock Center, a facility housed at the University that provides species of fruitflies to researchers and educational facilities.

Woodruff’s work has been supported by grants from the National Science Foundation, National Institute of Environmental Health Services and NATO.

"Ron has established himself as a highly respected expert in all facets of mutagenesis," said Dr. Mark Gromko, an outstanding biological sciences, who on behalf of the department nominated Woodruff for the honor. Mutagenesis is the study of chemicals that cause mutations in DNA. "He has worked and published with a large number of collaborators representing laboratories from all over the United States and many foreign countries, including Australia, Brazil, Switzerland, Canada, Spain, Great Britain, Kenya, Sweden, India, Japan, and the former Soviet Union," Gromko said.

During his career, Woodruff has garnered numerous awards, grants and fellowships, including the prestigious Fulbright Research Award and the National Institute of Health Career Development Award.

His work is published in more than 20 different journals and five edited books and symposia. His work has also appeared in such publications as Science, Nature, Genetics, Developmental Biology, Mutation Research, Genetical Research, Heredity, Environmental Mutagenesis and Genomes.

As a result of his expertise in genetics, Woodruff has been called to serve on committees and subcommittees of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Genetics Society of America, the American Society for Testing and Materials and the Ohio Biological Survey.

In addition to his research, Woodruff was lauded for his work with graduate and undergraduate students. Of the 16 graduate students he has advised, several are currently in postdoctoral positions around the country, two hold faculty positions and one holds an administrative position in government, according to Gromko.

A native of Texas, Woodruff received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from East Texas State University in 1966 and 1967, respectively. He received his doctorate from Utah State University in 1972.

He taught at the University of Texas at Austin, did research at the University of Cambridge in England and did research at the University of Oklahoma before joining the Bowling Green faculty in 1977.

University raises $4 million in private funds for the third year in a row

For the third time in as many years, the University has raised more than $4 million in private funds.

At the June 30 close of the fiscal year, a total of $4.2 million had been raised for the 1993-94 year. While that number was down slightly from last year’s record $4.5 million, Kenneth C. Frisch, development, said overall he is very pleased with the year’s performance.

Among the highlights of the year was the wrap-up of a two-year $1.825 million arts campaign that raised a total of nearly $2.19 million for the School of Art, theatre department, dance program, College of Musical Arts and the Arts Unlimited program.

New records were also established in alumni giving and pledges made through the University’s telefund. This year a record 15,024 alumni contributed nearly $2.1 million to their colleges, departments or special programs such as athletics or the marching band. The annual telefund raised more than $658,000 in pledges. That money helped buy books in the library and new computer terminals. It funded several scholarships, allowed

OLSCAMP HALL

From the frost

faculty members and students who will be using it, Short said.

"To make certain that as much imagination can become reality as possible, the cost of the building includes a TV satellite truck which can be used to go to remote locations and send back programs to the classroom.

Janet Schnupp-Lee, education curriculum and instruction, is planning on putting the TV truck to use this fall in a College of Education and Allied Professions classroom methods course.

Five times during the fall semester, the truck will be going to an elementary school in Ohio and video cameras will be set up in the classroom of an exemplary and/or award-winning teacher.

Bowling Green students, back in their own classroom on campus, will be able to observe the teachers and students, observe the techniques the teachers use and then talk to them afterward.

"This is the only way this type of program could be accomplished," Schnupp-Lee said. "Even if we could organize a field trip to a teacher’s classroom, having all of those college students in the back of the room would create an unrealistic situation. The video camera is unobtrusive, the activity is live and the feedback is immediate. I’m looking forward to it," she added.

"This classroom building is going to change the way we think about education at Bowling Green," President Olscamp said. "There is a need for the global and the foreign countries and this building gives us the technology to make that possible."

"As an example of how that may happen, Olscamp announced that the University is seeking permission from the Ohio Board of Regents to offer a master of library science degree beginning this fall.

What makes the degree unique is that all of the classes will be taught at the University of Arizona and Bowling Green students will 'attend' via satellite communication.

"This is the future," Olscamp said, adding that a fiscally responsible institution will not be able to justify the hiring of faculty and the commitment of other resources to stand a program which is being done and done well—at another university, regardless of where it is located.

Dr. Inge Klopping, assistant dean for information services in the College of Business Administration, echoes the president’s thoughts, but adds that while most people’s first reaction is that students and faculty can now communicate halfway around the world, teleteaching will be extremely valuable much closer to home.

"There are certain areas of the state where higher education is not possible without a long drive. Tele-teaching fills that need. It goes out to the consumer and it gives the University the opportunity to serve people it couldn’t serve before," she said.

The benefits could even reach into the high schools. Suppose, Klopping said, there are three students in a high school that would like to take a Russian language class.

It would be financially prohibitive to offer a class for those three students, but they could electronically sit in on a University class. Or if there are three students in 10 different school districts, a special tele-teaching course could be designed for them.

"We will see an increase in the use of long distance learning. We need to be reaching out to high school and community college settings. It will help serve publics that we could never reach before and that will help keep the University competitive," she added.

Before anything can be done, however, Short said that faculty will need to understand the capabilities of the building. To that end, orientation seminars and application workshops will be held during the fall.

One population that does not need an orientation is the students, Klopping said. Students have grown up with the technology—MTV, Nintendo and the Internet.

"They’re in a different world," Klopping said, adding that it is the faculty that will need to catch up. "Technology can enhance instruction. It can make a classroom more exciting and make students more inquisitive.

"Tele-teaching is a positive start for education in the 21st century," she added.

"This building is capable of doing incredible things," Olscamp concluded, adding, "It will keep the University at the crest of the technology wave."

But he also added that the technology is changing so rapidly and so dramatically, that this building is not the end of the story. "It’s just the beginning."
New editor named for Monitor

Sheila Rieser, former editor of The Johnstown Independent in Johnstown, Ohio, is the new editor of Monitor.

She succeeds Melissa Peper Firestone, who has taken up the practice of law in her hometown of Napoleon, after serving for seven years as editor of Monitor.

A native of Columbus, Rieser received a bachelor's degree in journalism from The Ohio State University and was editor of The Independent for the last six years. She also worked for The Grove City Record and in the public relations office of OSU's College of the Arts.

MONITOR POLICIES

Accepting Material for Publication

Monitor is a publication produced for faculty and staff of Bowling Green State University. It is a means for faculty and staff to communicate with one another on issues of importance to a segment of the University community or to the entire community.

Material is generally accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, although it is assumed that some items which come in at the last minute will take precedence if they are of an important nature. Persons who miss copy deadlines have no guarantee that material will be published.

Faculty & Staff Notes

Due to the volume of notes received, faculty/staff notes are published on a space available basis.

All items submitted for publication in the Faculty & Staff section must be given in writing. No notices will be taken over the telephone. This lessens the chance for errors. Items are published in chronological order of receipt of the item within a category and are used at the discretion of the editor.

Only those activities which are of a professional nature are published. Monitor does not accept notices concerning bridge tournaments, election to service club offices, etc. Faculty, administrative and classified staff are welcome to submit items for publication in one of four categories:

Grants;
Publications (books, journal articles, etc.);
Recognitions (election to office, appointment to committee, etc.);
Presentations (papers or lectures presented at professional meetings).

Letters to the Editor (Commentaries)

Monitor accepts "Letters to the editor" for publication in a "Commentary" section. An editorial advisory board which includes appointed representatives from the Faculty Senate, Administrative Staff Council, Classified Staff Council and the Affirmative Action Office reviews all letters submitted for publication. Letters can be faxed or delivered to Monitor.

Commentaries should not exceed 600-800 words. All letters which exceed the allowable length will be returned to the author to condense.

If a commentary is submitted for publication in Monitor, the author must affirm that it will not be published in any other campus publication until it has appeared in Monitor.

Letters which are submitted simultaneously or have been previously published in the BG News will be refused because both publications reach the faculty/staff audience.

The deadline to submit letters is 5 p.m. Tuesday for publication in the following Monday's Monitor. All letters must be signed and typed.

MONITOR

Monitor is published weekly by the Office of Public Relations for faculty and staff of Bowling Green State University. The deadline to submit material is 5 p.m. Tuesday, the week preceding publication.

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OBITUARIES

Dr. R. Serge Denisof

Dr. Ronald Serge Denisof, 55, retired professor of musicology at Bowling Green State University's College of Musical Arts, died Aug. 12 at his Bowling Green home. He is survived by his wife, Lorrene (nee Elll'Ollment), Phillip, and Mike. He leaves two brothers, Robert and Paul of Bowling Green; two sisters, Carol and Susan; and a brother, Jack of Plymouth, Minnesota.

Dr. Denisof, a musicologist and ethnomusicologist, was one of the preeminent scholars of Hawaiian music. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota in 1967, his master's degree from the University of Chicago in 1969 and his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1974. He taught at the University of Michigan in 1974-75 and 1977 and at Cal Poly Pomona. He taught at Bowling Green State University from 1974-85. As a researcher, Denisof traveled throughout Hawaii and the islands of the Pacific to study Hawaiian music and culture. His work focused on the history and development of Hawaiian music, particularly the development of the ukulele and the role of music in Hawaiian society.

Denisof was a prolific writer and educator. He authored numerous articles and books on Hawaiian music and culture, including "Puaikuma: Hawaiian Music and the Ukulele," "Hawaiian Music: A Cultural History," and "Hawaiian Music: A Musical History." He was also a sought-after scholar, serving as a consultant to various museums and cultural centers. His work has been influential in the study of Hawaiian music and culture, and he is credited with helping to bring Hawaiian music to a wider audience.

Denisof's contributions to the field of musicology were recognized with numerous awards and honors. He was a fellow of the American Antiquarian Society, a member of the American Musicological Society, and a member of the Hawaii Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was also the recipient of the prestigious Kamakakehau Nāwahī Award for his contributions to Hawaiian culture and music.

Denisof was passionate about his research and teaching, and he was dedicated to the education of future musicologists. He was a beloved teacher and mentor to many students, and he was known for his engaging and informative lectures. His passion for Hawaiian music and culture was evident in his teaching, and he was always eager to share his knowledge with others.

In addition to his academic pursuits, Denisof was also an accomplished musician. He played the ukulele and was a member of several musical groups. He enjoyed performing Hawaiian music for audiences around the world, and he was known for his exceptional playing.

Denisof's passing is a great loss to the field of musicology and to the study of Hawaiian music. His contributions to the field will continue to be felt for many years to come, and he will be remembered as a dedicated scholar, teacher, and musician.