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Monitor Newsletter January 31, 1995

Bowling Green State University

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Center for Environmental Programs coordinates various studies

Last year, more than 6,000 tons of industrial waste were diverted from local landfills through the efforts of Steve Halloran, a graduate of one of Bowling Green's environmental programs.

The environmental studies club organized a recycling program which has become known as one of the largest in the state. But recycling is only a small part of environmental-related study offered at the University.

The Center for Environmental Programs, directed by Dr. Thomas Berry Cobb, coordinates the disciplines. The center is responsible for overseeing two undergraduate degrees — a bachelor of science in environmental science and a bachelor of arts in environmental policy and analysis.

Elsewhere at the University, the College of Health and Human Services offers a bachelor of science in environmental health, directed by Dr. Gary Silverman, and the College of Education and Allied Professions has a bachelor of science in environmental science, directed by Dr. Adelia Peters, EDFI. Dr. Ruth Wilson, special education, has developed environmental programs for early childhood education.

"Environmental programs are intrinsically interdisciplinary," Cobb said, explaining the variety of offerings. "In essence, they teach the connectedness of nature. It's the spider's web analogy: you can't juggle one part without it being left throughout the whole system. So, students must have a broad, encompassing view of nature."

Sarah Woycikowski, an environmental policy and analysis major who will graduate in May, said she was drawn to the program after taking Environmental Studies 101, a basic course that satisfied a science requirement. Until then, she had been majoring in journalism. The class proved so interesting that she switched majors.

"Now I'm extremely happy with the program," she said. "In a nutshell, it's given me more focus on what I want to do. It's a very well-rounded program."

Woycikowski is now seeking an internship in the area of public interest and government. Once she graduates, she would like to work as either a legal assistant or a congressional liaison between bureaucratic agencies.

"There are well over 300 students in environmental programs campus-wide," Cobb said. More than 500 students a year go through the introductory class, which is offered six times a semester and once in the summer.

In proportion to the number of students it serves, the number of faculty at the Center for Environmental Programs is relatively small. It includes Cobb, full-time instructor Dr. Edward Wells, assistant director and academic adviser Justine Maggs, two graduate students and a part-time instructor from outside the University. Part-time teaching assistance is provided through other departments.

"It's a great program, which is largely due to its interdisciplinary emphasis," Cobb said. "We have students with all kinds of interests, from science to law to history."

Because of the wide range of knowledge required of those in environmental studies, working out a healthy ratio of breadth to depth is a major concern of the program. For example, students in the environmental science program must take an array of courses in the natural sciences, including biology, organic chemistry and physics.

Administrative Staff Council retains six-month leave recommendation

Administrative Staff Council voted Thursday (Jan. 19) to leave the crux of its handbook policy change recommendation concerning parental leave intact, despite some misgivings that the move might be too much, too soon.

ASC had two votes on Jan. 5 to recommend increasing maternity and paternity leave, whether by birth or adoption, from four to six months in order to be consistent with the leave afforded full-time classified staff.

Following the move, the ASC executive committee expressed concerns that the council may have been "trying to change too many policies in one document," said Pat Green, chair.

The committee suggested modifying only the maternity leave first and then studying the other issues separately in more depth. The committee was working on a tight deadline as the proposed changes needed to be sent to the personnel office by Jan. 20.

However, Nancy Foster, general counsel to the president's office, told ASC members that by dividing the leave issue by gender, could result in potential legal problems.

"In trying to equalize things between two staffs, you've highlighted a legal issue," she said. Whether the leave should be four or six months is a policy issue, but "you can't differentiate on the basis of sex between men and women."

She added that Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act contains provisions covering these work-related issues. She advised ASC to leave its recommendation as it was because it successfully addressed the first concern, which was to equalize leave.

A few wording changes were made to the original recommendation. The term "natal" is used to describe the leave, so it can encompass mothers, fathers, childbirth and adoption.

The recommendation also clarifies that if both spouses are employed at the University, both will be able to take leave. Currently, paternity leave is covered under the Family Medical Leave Act, which allows only 12 weeks.

After the handbook changes are reviewed by personnel it will go on to the Administrative Council, and then, if approved, to the Board of Trustees.
ENVIRONMENT  
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chemistry, geology, physics, computer science, statistics, calculus and technical writing. "These make up the core of courses that assure breadth. Then students choose an area of emphasis unique to themselves. They take another six courses in their area of specialization. This gives the depth," Cobb said.

The environmental policy and analysis majors study environmental law, policies and politics in addition to the basic science courses. They take classes in the social sciences, including sociology, political science, psychology and geography.

Graduates may go on to work in waste management, natural resource management, conservation, animal issues or in chemical technology. Environmental policy and analysis is also a valuable basis for students who are interested in environmental law and plan to go to law school, Cobb said.

Graduates have also found jobs by being innovative. "They create positions by seeing where needs are," said Wells. Two of his students are forming a business to help companies meet environmental requirements. Two other students were hired by a Toledo engineering firm after a representative visited Wells' class looking for someone to help conduct environmental impact studies.

The center also reaches out to middle school and high school teachers through summer workshops, which are funded by the Ohio Board of Regents. Workshop topics include environmental physics and biodiversity.

There is not a master's program in environmental science available yet, although Cobb said he has heard from teachers attending the summer workshops that many students would like to come back to Bowling Green and take master's-level classes.

He expects that as concern for the environment permeates more areas of life, the University's program will need to expand to keep pace with the growing demand for classes in all related areas. — Bonnie Blankinship

Fire safety to be taught to staff

Do you know how to use a fire extinguisher? How would your office be evacuated in an emergency? Faculty and staff don't have the answers to those questions are encouraged to attend a "Train-the-Trainer" fire safety program sponsored by environmental health and safety.

The one-and-a-half hour program will teach fire prevention basics to representatives from various areas so that they can pass on the knowledge to their co-workers.

The class will include instruction in the proper use of various types of fire extinguishers and on what kinds of substances should be used for certain fires.

"What we're trying to do is make people aware of when they should try to fight the fire or just leave the building," said John Curtis, campus fire safety officer.

"People have a false sense of safety when they see that little red fire alarm," he said. The fire alarm in most buildings sounds a warning so those inside can escape, but it doesn't reach the fire department immediately. Building inhabitants should always contact 911 anywhere there is a fire in addition to sounding the fire alarm, he noted.

"There are various stages of fire and people should know them so they can be aware of what they are dealing with," Curtis said.

The program also will satisfy some recently enacted OSHA standards which mandate annual employee training on the use of fire extinguishers.

Faculty, staff and students campus-wide are welcome to attend the Train-the-Trainer program, Curtis said.

Those who are interested in attending are asked to contact him at 2-2171. The date for the course will be set when the number of registered employees is determined.

Using humor to deal with stress will be 1995 Wellness Day theme

A team prepares to answer a question during the Wellness Feud held at last year's Spring Employee Enrichment Day.

Dr. Stuart Keeley, psychology, has long been a proponent of teaching critical thinking. He has participated in seminars, co-written a general textbook on the issue and has been included in a compilation of thoughts of like-minded people.

Keeley has taken his enthusiasm for the educational concept one step further by writing a textbook for use in abnormal psychology classes.

Asking the Right Questions in Abnormal Psychology was published this year by Prentice-Hall, Inc.

The 140-page paperback is to be used as a companion text to the regular, much thicker texts filled with the psychological theories, names, dates and data, like the one Keeley uses when he teaches his own abnormal psychology classes. "They usually memorize that material for multiple choice tests. I'm trying to get them to read it for other purposes," Keeley said.

"The main goal is to move students away from being what I call 'spoon learners';" he explained. "I want to create an active, questioning atmosphere. Most students don't know what kind of questions to ask. This empowers them."

Keeley has been teaching critical thinking courses at the University for almost as long as he has been teaching psychology. "It's always been important to me but now it is super important," he said, referring to what some have noted as an increase in the number of people asking questions about what they hear or read.

"For many years I have been convinced that the most important goal in education is helping students learn how to think, rather than what to think," he writes in the preface of his new book. "To me, the surest way to attain that goal is to emphasize and encourage question-asking behavior. When we know what questions to ask, we can then join in the conversations taking place around us, whether they are about politics, personal relationships or abnormal psychology. "Questioning skills are especially important in the field of abnormal psychology, which is much more than just an encyclopedic collection of facts and theories. It is a field in which knowledge claims are in dynamic flux and need to be evaluated by all of us who might be affected by such claims," he said.


Both professors were included in a book called Conversations with Critical Thinkers, which was published in 1993 by The Whitman Institute, a nonprofit foundation established to address issues of thinking and reasoning.
Firelands prof explores self-esteem


"Dr. Mruk provides a thorough analysis of the vast literature from which he derives the most practical and effective methods available for the enhancement of self-esteem. His recommendations are based on both qualitative and quantitative findings and take into account both individual and societal factors," according to a synopsis from Springer Publishing. "This book should be required reading for all advanced students, researchers and academics, as well as clinicians, who are concerned with the enhancement of self-esteem."

Mruk, a clinical psychologist, joined the Firelands College faculty in 1984 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 1989. He was named Firelands College Distinguished Teacher in 1990. He also served as director of the college's human services program from 1984-93.

He has many years of experience as a psychotherapist and currently serves as a consultant to Firelands Community Hospital Mental Health Services. He has also served as a board member for Safe Harbour Domestic Violence Shelter, Sandusky.

Mruk has presented a wide variety of workshops, media interviews and talks and has published two book chapters, four refereed journal articles, two non-refereed articles, a research report for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and a software program for computer-assisted instruction in psychology. He has also served as the editor for a professional newsletter. He is a member of the American Psychological Association and the Ohio Psychological Association.

Faculty/Staff Presentations

Eric F. Dubow and Douglas G. Ullman, both of whom are assistant professors, presented "Home-based Service for At-risk Families: Two Models Integrating Evaluation and Service Delivery" as part of a panel discussion at The Midwestern Psychological Association's Affiliates Meeting of the Society for Community Research and Action, Chicago, III., in May.

John Tisak, psychology, presented "Redundancy Analysis for Multiple Longitudinal Variables With Stationary Compositing Weights" at the annual meeting of the Society for Multivariate Experimental Psychology, Princeton, N.J., in October. He also presented "Psychometric Examination of the Work Control and Job Decision Latitude Scale" with Carla Smith, psychology, Rob Schmiede and Susan Hahn at the Research Methods Division of the American Psychological Association, Conference on Causal Modeling, Purdue University, Ind., in March.

Charles R. Chittle, economics, presented a paper titled "Multilateral and Regional Integration: Implications for Western International Firms" at the International Research Seminar, Nov. 1-6.

Stephen M. Guity, aeroacoustics, presented and conducted two workshop sessions on "On Case Study: Bridgeport Sikorsky Airport" and one on "Developing Training Programs for Your Workforce" at the Federal Aviation Administration/American Association of Airport Executives Airport Safety and Maintenance Manager School in Jacksonville, Fla., Oct. 3.

Faculty/Staff Grants

Douglas Ullman, psychology, received $2,000 from the Four County Family Center, for funding one advanced clinical psychology graduate student for fall 1994.

Joyce Jones, college access programs, received $190,000 from the U.S. Department of Education for continued funding to provide classroom, laboratory and field experience activities to enhance the interest and capabilities of those upward bound students who have completed the ninth grade and have indicated pursuance of higher education in mathematics and science.

Michael A. J. Rodgers, photochemical sciences, received $152,090 from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, for continued exploration into the nature and properties of singlet molecular oxygen and its role in photodynamic action.

Lorrell Lowe, biological sciences, received $2,050 from the Nature Conservancy, Arlington, Va., for a sample analysis of periphyton to evaluate the ecological impact of pollutants on Big Darby Creek. He also received $2,750 from the Department of Army for taxonomic evaluation of diatoms for the U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency.

Charles Johnson, College of Business Administration, received $5,000 from the College of Business Administration, College of Business Administration, for stipend and general fee support for a full-time graduate student of the MBA program.

Younghee Kim, applied human ecology, received $13,081 from the Scientific Hospital Supplies, Inc. for funding of a study on the effects of a new formula on children with PKU.

Lynn Darby, Mary Ann Robertson, and Kathleen Browder, all of HPER, received $1,000 from the Ohio Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance for funding a study to assess the validity of a portable energy expenditure device when monitoring children during walking and hopping.

Michael A.J. Rodgers, photochemical sciences, received $61,470 from Roswell Park Cancer Institute Division, Health Research Inc. for funding for a continuing project on the understanding of structure-activity relationship of photosensitizers used in photodynamic therapy/photocoagulation.

Winifred Stone, graduate college, received $5,286 from the U.S. Department of Education for the Patricia Roberts Harris program which is designed to increase the access of minority and underrepresented groups to graduate education in career fields of biological or mathematical sciences.

Student Affairs director lauded

Dr. Edward Whipple, vice president for student affairs, was recently recognized for his exceptional service to men's and women's fraternities at the 18th annual meeting of the National Interfraternity Conference and the Association of Fraternity Advisors in Houston.

Whipple first began working with fraternities and sororities at Iowa State University where he was Greek affairs coordinator. Being the associate dean of students at Texas Tech University and later the dean of students at the University of Alabama, he gave him the opportunity to work closely with fraternities and sororities.

Whipple, who came to Bowling Green last summer from Eastern Montana State University, said he was impressed with the leadership of the Greek community at the University and especially with the Panhellenic Council.

This semester, Whipple plans to continue his close relationship with fraternities and sororities by meeting with leaders to become more familiar with the issues facing the Greek units. Being a member of a fraternity or sorority "should be a positive experience for students which enhances life on campus," he said.

Instructional grant deadline nearing

Faculty members are reminded that Feb. 13 is the deadline for applications for instructional Improvement Grants which provide allocations of up to $1,000 for innovative projects that lead to a demonstrable improvement in pedagogical skills and have a positive effect on student learning. Instructional materials are available in the department/school offices or from the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs (2-2915).
DATEBOOK

Monday, Jan. 30
Auditions, Open auditions for BGSU's annual one-act play festival, 7 p.m., 405 University Hall. For information, call 2-2222.

International Film Series, "Being Watermelon" (1990), 8 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.

Tuesday, Jan. 31
Auditions, Open auditions for BGSU's annual one-act play festival, 7 p.m., 405 University Hall. For information, call 2-2222.


Wednesday, Feb. 1
Men's Basketball vs. Miami, 7:30 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Thursday, Feb. 2
Administrative Staff Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Alumni Room, Union.
Board of Trustees Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Founder's Courtyard.

Lenhart Classic Film Series, "A Raisin in the Sun" (1961), 9 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.

Friday, Feb. 3
Hockey vs. Alaska-Fairbanks, 7 p.m., ice arena.

Hollywood Comedies of the 1930s Film Series, "Dinner at Eight," 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.


Saturday, Feb. 4
Men's Basketball vs. Kent, 11:30 a.m., Anderson Arena.
Hockey vs. Alaska-Fairbanks, 7 p.m., ice arena.

Hollywood Comedies of the 1940s Film Series, "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankensteiin," 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.

Sunday, Feb. 5
BGSU Faculty Artist Series Performance, recital by artist-in-residence Jerome Rose, 4 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free.


Monday, Feb. 6
International Film Series, "Rasputin" (1964), directed by Elem Klimov, 8 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Subtitles. Free.

Continuing Events
Exhibition, "The Decade of Painting: Austria 1980-1990" and "Dale Daryl Levy: Drawings" will be on display Jan. 25-Feb. 9, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays and 2-5 p.m. Sundays, Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Free.

Exhibition, "Your Genetic Caution" by Geo Rica will be shown Jan. 26-Feb. 9, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays and 2-5 p.m. Sundays, School of Arts Gallery. Free.

February events highlight African-American culture

In recognition of Black History Month, a variety of activities have been scheduled on campus during February, ranging from musical performances to lectures. The University's African students will host a series of lectures examining the culture of Africa, beginning with "Marriage, Courtship and Other Rites of Passage" Feb. 2. Other lectures will be held March 2 ("Culture and Customs") and April 6 ("Colonialism and Racism,") and "Images and Stereotypes of Women").

The performance will take place at 8 p.m. in the Amani activities room at the Common.

On Feb. 9, Bowling Green will participate in a teleconference on "Retention Strategies for Campus Diversity." from 1-3 p.m. in 113 O'Connell Hall. The teleconference, produced by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and is designed for faculty and administrators who lead and maintain campus diversity efforts.

Students will be participating in the annual Stompdown step show and competition sponsored by the BGSU Panhellicnic Council. The event is scheduled for 7 p.m. Feb. 10 in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the University Union.

"Black Anthology: The Rhythmic Sounds of a Soulful People," a theatrical overview of the development of African-American music will be offered at 8 p.m. Feb. 11 in the Eva Marie Saint Theatre.

Programs sponsored by Personnel Services explore diversity, hiring practices and ADA

Three training programs will be offered by Personnel Services next week for faculty, staff and supervisors:

"Selection and Hiring for Supervisors," 8:30 a.m.-noon Feb. 8, will be presented by Patricia Patton, personnel services, who will help supervisors build skills needed for interviewing and choosing the best possible candidate for the job.

Jack Taylor, multicultural affairs, will present a "Diversity Training" session from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 9. Taylor's program will point out the significance of diversity training in examining personal biases, developing communication, and creating a positive work environment and building a sensitivity to racial and ethnic differences.

Rob Cunningham, disability resources, will present a session on "Disability Awareness," from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 10. The session will look at the need for sensitivity towards persons with limitations and will review the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

All programs will be held in the Personnel Training/Conference Center in the College Park Office Building. To register, contact Yolanda Patton at 2-8421.

FACULTY/STAFF POSITIONS

The following administrative staff positions are available:


Northwest Ohio Educational Technology Foundation: Assistant media resources manager (nine-month, part-time). Contact personnel services (2-8426). Deadline: Feb. 3.

University Computer Services: Director, computer operations. Contact personnel services (2-2227). Deadline: Feb. 9.

FOR SALE

The biology department has for sale an Avstar board which allows direct hook-up to CICS after Computer Services installs the line. The part was sold new for $69. Make an offer. Contact Chris at 2-2234 or via e-mail at chris@randy.bgsu.edu.

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Statistics researcher is named Distinguished University professor

Dr. Arjun Gupta, professor of mathematics and statistics, was named Distinguished University Professor at the Feb. 2 meeting of the Board of Trustees. Gupta is the 15th recipient of the award, considered to be one of the University's highest honors. Only faculty who hold the rank of professor and whose creative professional achievements have won national distinction and recognition are eligible for selection as a Distinguished University Professor.

Gupta's accomplishments in the field of statistics and mathematics include presenting lectures throughout the world, participating in national and international conferences and editing professional publications. In 1990, he was the recipient of another University honor, the Olscamp Research Award.

Gupta is an elected fellow of the American Statistical Association, the Institute of Statisticians and the Royal Statistical Society of England.

More than 100 articles he has written have been published and he has edited, co-edited or co-authored six books in the field of statistics. Since 1990 he has been editor of Statistical Theory and Methods Abstracts and is a member of the International editorial board for Communications in Statistics. He also serves on the editorial board for two other publications, Abacus and International Journal of Sciences and Engineering.

Over the past 22 years, Gupta has written invited papers for 31 national and international conferences, symposia and publications. He has chaired more than 15 individual sessions and has directed or helped organize several conferences. He has presented more than 80 invited talks at various colloquia, universities and professional meetings, including advanced lectures on statistical methods for the United States Air Force.

Gupta joined the University in 1976. He received his doctoral degree from Purdue University, bachelor's and master's degrees from Poona University in India, and a bachelor's degree in statistics from Banaras Hindu University in India.

Assistance in fund-seeking now available on-line and in new office

Anyone who has filed out a grant application or researched funding for a project knows that the process can be confusing, lengthy and frequently frustrating.

A newly relocated and renamed office on campus hopes to ease that pain.

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research (formerly the Research Services Office) located in 106 University Hall assists faculty, graduate students and staff members in all aspects of both internally and externally funded projects.

"We'll help them develop a strategy, a long-term game plan, or we can just serve as a springboard for other ideas."

—Anthony Boccanfuso

The name change from Research Services to Sponsored Programs and Research was designed to reflect the myriad of projects the office oversees. "We are involved in a lot more than research. Folks should feel free to come by and explore the opportunities," said Dr. Anthony Boccanfuso, director.

The staff helps identify sources of funding for basic and applied research, performing arts, instruction/curriculum development, creative activities, workshops and conferences. As an example of some of the diverse projects the office oversees, a grant proposal sent to the Wood County Solid Waste District last year resulted in a new recycling truck for the University.

The office staff includes a grants specialist, two secretaries and three graduate assistants who have backgrounds in such things as technical writing and computer issues. A position has recently opened for a full-time assistant director who will be involved in reviewing applications.

Assistance is available through various means, including individualized searches, a monthly newsletter with application listings and other funding-related information, and a resource library located in the office.

Two weeks ago SPAR opened a gopher site on BGNet, which allows anyone to conduct funding research from their computers, at home or at work. The gopher site provides access to SPIN (Sponsored Programs Information Network), a database with detailed information on thousands of federal and non-federal funding opportunities such as fellowships, travel, research, curriculum development and sabbatical support.

The computer database empowers people and gives them the ability to research the viability of funding a project before proposing it, but it won't replace the staff at SPAR, according to Boccanfuso. "We'll still do searches for people who want us to do them. The best thing people can do is have an idea is call us," he said. "We'll help them develop a strategy, a long-term game plan, or we can just serve as a springboard for other ideas. The worst-case scenario is if a person has no contact at all with the office until two days before a grant application is due."

In addition to offering assistance in seeking external funding, SPAR maintains several internal programs, such as travel grants for faculty members and the faculty research committee basic grants and major grants program. SPAR also oversees programs for graduate students, including thesis and dissertation awards and professional development funding. The office also documents research compliance data regarding projects which involve human subjects, care of animal subjects and biosafety.