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Bowling Green State University

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BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

AUGUST 7, 1995

The Ribeau era begins

New president offers a collaborative style

Building relationships, nurturing dialogue and encouraging a sense of community — these are the areas which Dr. Sidney Ribeau sees as "critically important" as he begins his tenure as Bowling Green's ninth president.

"We need to have a free, open exchange of ideas and information," Ribeau said during a morning meeting with media representatives on July 31, his first full day on campus.

"Probably the worst kind of environments that I've worked in are environments where people feel inhibited or information is suppressed. I'm a firm believer of something I learned in graduate school ... that through a dialectical exchange comes a higher quality idea."

Ribeau said he approaches his leadership roles and his daily life by trying to foster "a sense of community," which he defines as "cooperation, sharing, involvement and participation."

"Our University is a collective of ideas and experiences and aesthetic sensibilities. We have a rich resource here, we have intellectual capital here ... but that intellectual capital has to come together in a sense of community to be shared so that everyone can benefit from it."

The president said he will "work very hard to establish a high quality level of relationships in a variety of venues," including the on-campus constituencies of students, faculty, staff and administration. He also plans to build relationships with the state legislature, the city and the business community.

"I think one of the things that has characterized my administrative career and also my career as an academic is working collectively in good relationships with people," Ribeau said. He indicated that he will work closely with members of Administrative Staff Council, Classified Staff Council and Faculty Senate.

His immediate plans are to "get to know as many people as possible" and learn what is important to them in addition to giving everyone an opportunity to get to know him and his values.

While he said there are "no major problems" that need immediate attention, there are issues that the University will have to start looking into, such as "how do we incorporate technology in teaching and learning." He also plans to work



The president spent his first week in office meeting with staff, faculty and media.

with faculty and staff in assessing what kind of technology, including computers, is needed on campus.

Ribeau will be addressing administrative staff, faculty and classified staff during the annual convocations Aug. 28 and 29. He is also slated to appear at a Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce reception Aug. 23, a gathering of new faculty on Aug. 24 and the student convocation on Aug. 27.

Following the press conference, Ribeau gathered informally with the media in his office at McFall Center which was practically empty without his personal belongings which were in the process of being moved. He noted that he has had to learn how to use the Macintosh computer because the California State Polytechnic campus was DOS-based.

The president's schedule throughout the rest

of his week included having his University I.D. photo taken, meeting with employees and hosting one-on-one sessions with each of the vice presidents. He tried to learn a little in advance about the people he met for the first time so he could get to know them better, said Mary Grant, Ribeau's administrative assistant.

"He hit the ground running," Grant said. "His schedule is crowded, but there is nothing that's too small for him to handle. He's a super human being. He's kind, thoughtful and caring."

"The days have been very fast-paced but they flow well because of Dr. Ribeau's personality," said Janice Wasserman, administrative secretary in the president's office. "He's very open and very flexible and when in doubt he defers to people around him who have been here for a long time."

Ribeau to speak at faculty, staff gatherings

President Ribeau will greet faculty and staff and welcome in the 1995-96 school year during convocations scheduled for Aug. 28 and 29.

The general meeting for faculty and administrative staff begins at 8:45 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 28, with refreshments in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom.

Dr. Eloise E. Clark, vice president for academic affairs, will greet the assembly at 9:30 a.m., followed by remarks from Ribeau and Dr. Fiona MacKinnon-Slaney, chair of Faculty Senate.

Ribeau will also speak at the classified staff convocation scheduled to begin at 9 a.m., Aug. 29, in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom.

Following the serving of refreshments, Classified Staff Council Chair Nancy Lee will give opening comments and preside over the program. The agenda also includes the presentation of awards and comments by Robert Martin, vice president for operations.

Both meetings will be broadcast live to Firelands College.



Reporters ask questions during a first-day gathering with the media.

Poems explore how murder affects the survivors

Murder in a family. The idea is almost incomprehensible, yet became a reality for Dr. Richard Messer, English, when his wife was raped and killed in 1973.

Murder in the Family is the title of a book of poetry Messer has recently published about surviving the experience.

The book, published by Bottom Dog Press, is an attempt to reach out to others who have suffered traumatic events, to say "you can come through these things and feel joy again," Messer said. The book is divided into four parts called "The Violation," "The Being Together," "The Family" and "The Healing." It traces the progress from victims to survivors.

Messer noted that while it is necessary to come to terms with an event like murder in some way, one's first reaction is to try to recover by "pushing aside something that painful." But Messer chose writing as a way to "process, absorb (and) assimilate what happened in some way instead of just pushing it away."

Messer said he was surprised to find while he was assembling the poems into book form the healing section was by far the longest. "There are many poems of despair even in that phase," he commented. The process of healing was "almost one step forward, two steps back."

The poems are written in various voices, all aspects of the author.

There is the hopeful and sometimes despairing child, the older and wiser adult, the parent, the husband and the lover.

"The poems are dialogues between parts of myself," Messer said.

Some of the voices in the poems are amalgams of other family members and they trace the reverberations of the tragedy within the larger family.

The concept of family is important to Messer. "There is so much violence, particularly against women and children. I wanted to promote a feeling of solidarity within families and with victims of violence, who are often stigmatized. Murder definitely doesn't fit with the Great American Dream."

An enhanced feeling of family between individuals might also prevent some violence from occurring, he said, by promoting a sense

of responsibility toward others.

Messer would like to see some sort of national monument in memory of victims of violence as well as a center where victims and families of victims could share experiences and offer support.

"This would be a focal point that would give some dignity to those who have died and place their deaths within a context," he said. "It also would serve to remind us that this violence is happening and it's happening a lot more often now."

But the last poem in Messer's book, "Look Around You," expresses the author's eventual realization. It says: "We mourn for those who die, and we move on through the knowledge that what has happened to them, no matter how brutal or tragic, does not define them — or us, our spirits and our souls tell us who we are and give our lives their meaning. Look around you."

Messer has taught in the creative writing program since 1975, and has done post-graduate work in depth psychology at the C.G. Jung Institute in Zurich. His poems have appeared in *The Nation*, *The Christian Science Monitor* and *Denver Quarterly*, among others. — Bonnie Blankinship



Richard Messer

Sports psychologist is distinguished alum

Clinical psychologist Dr. Jerry May of Reno, Nev., will be presented the 1995 Distinguished Alumnus Award at commencement exercises on Aug. 12.

May will become the 36th recipient of the award, the highest honor given by the University Alumni Association.

May earned his master's and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology from Bowling Green in 1968 and 1974. He obtained a bachelor's degree in psychology from Western Washington University in 1966.

A faculty member of the School of Medicine at the University of Nevada, Reno, since 1974, he currently is a professor in the psychiatry and behavioral sciences department and associate dean for admissions and student affairs in the School of Medicine.

May is a former team psychologist for the U.S. Alpine ski team. He currently is the team psychologist for the U.S. sailing team. He also is in demand as a consultant in such areas as leadership and management skills, wellness, stress management, team building and fun in the workplace.

Although May doesn't routinely divulge the names of individual clients, the press has reported one of them is world-class tennis player Monica Seles. May testified regarding her emotional condition in Hamburg, Germany, during the retrial of the man who stabbed Seles during a 1993 tennis match. Seles, who had not competed in a tennis match for two years, is now attempting to make a comeback. The ordeal of Seles' recovery and her treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder are recounted in a recent issue of *Sports Illustrated*.

While a student at Bowling Green, May received a special citation for superior performance from the graduate faculty in 1968. In 1986 he won the psychology department's Distinguished Alumni Award and in 1994 he was named one of 23 Accomplished Graduates of the University's Graduate College.

May has published extensively in professional journals and has been interviewed frequently by reporters for major news media throughout the country.

Recreation center to reopen Aug. 26

The Student Recreation Center will reopen following repairs on Saturday, Aug. 26.

Hours of operation will be noon to 6 p.m. Aug. 26-27 and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Aug. 28-29.

Regular hours, which resume Aug. 30, are: 7 a.m.-11 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday; 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday; and noon-9 p.m. Sunday.

Opening Day meetings slated for departments

The following meetings have been scheduled for colleges and departments on Opening Day, Aug. 28:

11 a.m.

- Arts and Sciences — Lenhart Grand Ballroom
- Business Administration — 1007 Business Administration Bldg.
- Education and Allied Professions — Jenson Auditorium, Education Bldg.
- Musical Arts — Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center
- Health and Human Services — Town Room, University Union
- Technology — 127 A and B, Technology Bldg.

1:30 p.m.

- Libraries and Learning Resources faculty/staff — 150 A Jerome Library
- Musical Arts department meetings
- Arts and Sciences advisers — 121 Olscamp Hall
- Education and Allied Professions advisers — Jenson Auditorium, Education Bldg.
- Technology advisers — 220 Technology Bldg.

2:30-3:15 p.m.

- Graduate faculty — 115 Olscamp Hall

3:30 p.m.

- School and department faculty meetings (except Musical Arts)

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

8-11-1	Secretary 1 pay grade 6 Office of Student Life
8-11-2	Student Services Counselor pay grade 7 Financial Aid and Student Employment

Falcon's Nest to close

During the week of August 14 the Falcon's Nest in the Union will be closed for general maintenance.

During that week, a la carte food service will be available in the Bowl-n-Greenery from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Summer hours end

Summer hours for the main campus and Firelands College will end Friday, Aug. 11.

Beginning Monday, Aug. 14 and throughout the academic year, offices will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except on holidays. Several offices close from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch.

FACULTY/ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Administrative positions:

Biological Sciences: Laboratory aide (temporary, part-time, grant-funded). Contact Personnel Services (2-8426). Deadline: Aug. 11.

College of Business Administration: Assistant director of graduate studies in business. Contact Personnel Services (2-2227). Deadline: Sept. 1.

Firelands College: Coordinator, career services. Contact Office of the Dean, Firelands College, 901 Rye Beach Rd., Huron, Ohio 44839. Applications accepted until position is filled.

Intercollegiate athletics: Assistant women's gymnastics coach. Contact Personnel Services (2-8426). Deadline: Sept. 2.