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Bowling Green State University

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BGSU is first in the MAC in number of merit scholars

More top scholars are attending Bowling Green State University than any other school in the Mid-American Conference, according to fall figures released by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. A total of 42 students who were named National Merit Scholars during their senior year of high school — based on scores on standardized tests, scholarship and school recommendation — enrolled at the University last fall.

This compares to 33 who attended the University of Toledo (in second place) and 19 who attended Miami University (third place).

Bowling Green was second in the state in the number of merit scholars, coming in behind Ohio State University which had 91.

This is the second year Bowling Green has ranked first in the MAC and second in the state based on the number of merit scholars in attendance.

The reasons for this may be “a combination of our academic reputation, excellent University Honors Program, significant scholarship available, and personal attention paid to students during the recruitment process,” explained Gary Swegan, associate director of admissions.

Each October, the corporation administers the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test / National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) to more than one million high school juniors in more than 19,000 high schools in the United States.

The top 15,000 scorers on this test (distributed on a state proportional basis) are named National Merit Semifinalists. Semifinalists are then required to take the SAT on approved dates and confirm the PSAT results with their performance, provide high school information, complete an autobiographical sketch, and obtain a letter of recommendation from the school.

In early February of the students’ senior year, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation names approximately 13,500 finalists from the original group of semifinalists.

University officials prepare to do battle in doctoral review

In the wake of the loss of state funding for a doctoral program in history and in advance of anticipated similar reductions in education and English, the University is delivering several strong messages to the Ohio Board of Regents.

Last Tuesday the executive committee of Faculty Senate was unanimous in drafting two resolutions condemning the elimination of funding of the doctoral history and urging the regents to pro­vide reasonable oppor­tunities for universities to respond constructively to concerns” raised by external panels of experts studying other programs before the decision to reduce funding for these is made.

The resolutions will be presented to the entire membership of Faculty Senate for a vote tomorrow. The State Investment Committee of OBOR will begin looking this week at the reports of the external panels’ review of several doctoral programs. A final decision by the regents regarding the future of these programs is not expected until March.

Two external panel reviews threaten University programs. They have recommended that funding be cut for the educational administration doctoral specialization and the creative writing and literature components of the English doctoral program.

President Sidney Ribeau expressed his “deepest concerns” in a letter to Elaine Hairston, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, regarding the panel’s advice regarding educational administration.

Bowling Green offers a doctoral degree in educational administration and supervision, under which students may specialize in either school administration or higher education. The panel recommends continuation of the higher education specialization but suggests that Bowling Green enter a collaboration with the University of Toledo for a degree in educational administration.

“Given our origins as a teacher’s college, the central role education programs play at our institution and the significant symbiosis between a well focused and structured doctoral program and education programs at the undergraduate and master’s levels, I cannot imagine Bowling Green State University without a doctoral program which serves this constituency,” Ribeau wrote. He pointed out that 25 percent of the 40 students completing their doctoral degrees in this field are African American, which is a comparatively high number of minorities who are served by a doctoral program.

In response to concerns from the external panel that the level of faculty scholarship in educational administration is low, Ribeau explained that the College of Education and Allied Professions has just completed a strategic plan which includes a proposal to restructure the educational administration and supervision program. The restructuring, which includes a refocusing of the curriculum and redesignation of the degree to a doctor of education, “will bring the degree program more in line with the expertise of our faculty and the mission of the college,” Ribeau wrote. In addition to this restructuring, the college has recently hired two new faculty members for the educational administration program.

Another external panel of experts has recommended that funding be discontinued for the literature and creative writing specializations of the doctoral program in English. The panel said that Bowling green should concentrate its efforts only on the specialization in rhetoric and composition.

In its review, the panel suggested that the University’s doctorate in American culture studies best serves students seeking a focus in American literature and that a reconfigured master of fine arts program would best serve students studying creative writing.

In a response to the panel’s recommendation, the English department pointed out that it has made “significant changes in degree requirements that strengthen the background of literature students.” These include altering entrance requirements to include a greater depth of background in history and limiting literature specialization to American literature and modern and contemporary British literature.

The department also expressed concern that the reliance on American culture studies to handle students interested in getting a doctoral degree in literature does not address how an interdisciplinary program whose faculty are based in many different departments could handle the overflow.
Schimpf, Wittwer named to posts in auxiliary services and benefits

Two women with a high degree of experience in their fields have recently been named to important posts at the University. Jane Schimpf, director of food operations since 1984, is the new assistant vice president of auxiliary services in the operations area. Donna Wittwer, a registered nurse who served as manager of health care and life insurance for Libby-Owens Ford for the last seven years, is the new manager of benefits for Personnel services.

Schimpf is responsible for providing technical guidance, management and supervision of approximately 1,300 employees in food operations, the bookstore, the student union, Reprographics, purchasing, inventory management and the postal service. She will have a more direct role in the area of food operations until a search for a new director of that area is completed.

Some of the issues Schimpf hopes to address in her new role involve how some services offered could be meshed to better assist other areas and customers. For example, marketing and computer support is available in food operations and Schimpf hopes that she could also make such services available for other auxiliary areas.

Schimpf joined the University food operations area in 1970 after two years of teaching home economics and dietary aide programs in Ohio schools. In 1992 she received one of the industry’s highest awards — the Silver Plate, sponsored by the International Food Manufacturer’s Association. She also received the 1990 Ferrari Award for excellence in administrative staff.

Schimpf received a bachelor of science degree in home economics from Ohio State University in 1967 and vocational certification from Miami University in 1968.

Wittwer, a Wapakoneta native, earned her registered nursing diploma from the Toledo Hospital School of Nursing in 1976. She returned to school and earned a bachelor of science in nursing degree in 1985 from the University of Toledo and the Medical College of Ohio.

She worked as a staff nurse and nursing manager at Toledo Hospital and the Medical College of Ohio before making the move to benefits in 1986. Her job experience also includes serving as nurse clinician for Toledo Edison health center and in the area of utilization review of insurance programs.

Wittwer said that her expertise in the area of insurance vendor management will help her understand how to best work with the University’s insurance carriers.

“I like benefits and I like talking to people about benefits,” Wittwer said. She encouraged any staff with questions regarding their benefits to contact her directly at 2-2113.

Campus-wide participation expected for event

Faculty, staff and students interested in preparing for the future of the University are encouraged to make plans to attend at least one or more of the Focus on February discussion groups scheduled for Feb. 5-9 in 101 Olscamp Hall.

Focus groups on a wide range of topics have been scheduled throughout the week at various times. Supervisors are being asked to make it possible so that employees can attend at least three sessions of their choice.

The topics and meeting dates of the focus groups were distributed as inserts in last week’s on-campus delivery of Monitor and are also available for viewing on the World Wide Web at http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/pb/monitor.

Volunteers are still needed to give at least three hours to serve as facilitators for the focus group week. Training will be provided at either a morning or an afternoon session on Friday (Jan. 25).

To volunteer or to nominate an associate as a facilitator, contact Sandra MacNevin by Jan. 23 at the president’s office (2-0467) or send e-mail to community@mailserver.bgsu.edu.
Classified Staff Council considers key issues facing the University

Budgetary constraints, enrollment concerns and a need to focus on internal and external customers at the institution are among some of the key issues facing the University, according to members of Classified Staff Council. At the request of chair Nancy Lee, council members spent a portion of their meeting last Tuesday brainstorming issues they believe need to be addressed. These issues will be presented to President Sidney Ribeau during his next meeting of the Legions, a regular gathering of leaders from departments, areas and constituent groups on campus.

Discussion centered around the concept of serving the customer and how it should be consistently applied when dealing with students who attend as well as faculty and staff who are employed at the University. A representative from Firelands College said staff have expressed a desire for more support for technology at the campus. This touched off a discussion of budgetary constraints and how staff are affected.

Classified staff also discussed the upcoming Focus on February event of the Building Community Project. CSC agreed to donate $100 for refreshments and several members said they would be willing to help facilitate discussion groups during the week.

Among the action items during the meeting, council passed a resolution asking the administration to pay staff who were unable to come to work on Jan. 3 because of snow emergencies in their area or who had heard erroneous reports on a local television station that the University was closed. Those staff members who did make it to work that day should be compensated with a paid day off to be used in the future, the resolution states.

In addition, council members asked that the University revise its severe weather policy to automatically close campus when a “level three” weather emergency is declared in Wood County. Donna Wittwer, new benefits administrator for the University, was a guest at the meeting. She described her background and plans for her new position and answered questions regarding the University’s insurance program.

Acclaimed German director returns to campus

At the end of this month, the University will be treated to a two-day visit from Heinz-Uwe Haus, prominent German theatre director and scholar. Haus will give a public lecture on “Theatre as a Transcultural Event” at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 30 in 219 Olscamp Hall. The lecture is a joint presentation of the theatre and German, Russian and East Asian Languages departments.

Haus will also be visiting theatre and German classes Jan. 29-30. Haus is an expert on Brecht, Shakespeare and the theatre of antiquity. He is also artistic co-director of the Théâtre des Nations Ancient Theatre Festival in Greece and artistic director of the Internat­ional Classical Theatre.

In 1986 Haus visited Bowling Green and directed parallel productions in English and German of Brecht’s The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui in conjunction with the theatre and GEAL depart­­ments. He also helped organize an acclaimed symposium of renowned Brecht scholars at the University.

Digest

Reference help available online

Students writing papers may not have to leave their computers to seek obscure facts thanks to a new service offered by the Jerome Library reference unit.

Librarians are now providing assistance via e-mail to those who send queries to libhelp@listproc.bgsu.edu.

Using the new system patrons can receive help with such needs as checking a citation, locating a telephone number, finding where to start research and scheduling appointments for in-person reference assistance.

The librarians plan to respond to each question within two days or less.

Expert on gold to visit campus

One of the world’s experts on the origin of gold deposits has been named the Department of Geology’s 18th annual Mayfield Lecturer.

Samuel Romberger, dean of graduate studies at the Colorado School of Mines, will visit campus Thursday and Friday and give two presentations.

He will speak on “Similarities and Dissimilarities among Precious Metal Deposits of the Great Basin of the Western United States: Arguments for a Common Beginning” at 7:30 p.m. Thursday (Jan. 25) in 65 Overman Hall.

The second lecture, “The Solution Chemistry of Precious Metals” will be given at 10:30 a.m. Friday (Jan. 26) in 65 Overman Hall.

Romberger specializes in the geochemistry of hydrothermal fluids which form ore bodies. The Mayfield lecture series is named for the original faculty member of the geology department and is financially supported by alumni.

Ghost story collection donated to University

Horror lovers will find more reasons to haunt the Popular Culture Library.

Former Bowling Green student Chris Woodyard, author of the “Haunted Ohio” book series, recently donated more than 700 horror books and periodicals to the library.

“The Invisible Ink Collection,” as the donation is being called, includes a 1917 edition of The Sorry Tale, a story of the time of Jesus by Patience Worth, a Puritan spirit who allegedly spoke through a child and wrote books. "The Company of Avalon" written by Frederic Bligh-Bond, who believed in the existence of mermaids, was also in the collection.

In addition to the books, which filled 19 crates, Woodyard donated $1,000 which will be used to add to the collection as well as provide for repair and fund exhibitions.

“We were delighted by her donation,” said Alison Scott, curator of the Popular Culture Library. “We were always interested in works on parapsychology, the occult, folklore and fables. But this collection also addresses popular religion in the sense of a quest for the beyond and life after death.”

The Invisible Ink Collection, housed in the Popular Culture Library on the fourth floor of Jerome Library, will be fully available to students and other interested parties beginning in February.

Record amounts collected in telefund

Alumni and parents of current students helped set two private giving records this fall through the University’s telefund.

During 54 nights of calling, student volunteers secured a record $451,230 in pledges, including $48,345 earmarked by parents for the Parents’ Club.

The fall telefund totals exceeded 1994-95 levels by nearly $40,000. Giving by parents was up more than $10,000 over the previous year.

Pledges were made by 1,570 parents and 8,361 alumni during the telephone campaign.

In addition to the proponent of annual giving for the Office of Development, said the increases in fall giving can be attributed to a number of factors, including sincere commitment on the part of alumni to ensuring the future of their alma mater. Most alumni contributions, she added, came from donors who have made a regular and continuing effort to support the University. However, she added, “We are also very pleased with the increased dollar values from those who have not given for three years or more.”

Sopa said parent enthusiasm was particularly high this year because of the nature of the projects they were asked to support, including a helpline which enables parents of current students to call the University toll-free to receive answers to their questions.

The helpline has received an average of 80 calls per month since it went into operation last August. Parent contributions also support publication of a newsletter and other activities for parents.

“We were successful in raising our number of contributions to the Parents Club because we were able to tell parents that every dollar they give goes right back to funding services for them,” Sopa said. “They can see directly where their money is going.”

Barbara Y. Keller, associate dean of students, coordinates parent services in the new Office of Student Life.
Calendar

Monday, Jan. 22
Film, Colibri and Golem (two German films with English subtitles), 8 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.

Tuesday, Jan. 23
Seminar on estate planning, living wills and trusts, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Personnel Training/Conference Center, College Office Building. Call 2-9421 to register. Free.

Assessment Fair, 7-9 p.m., 101 Ovalcamp Hall.


Faculty Senate meeting, 2:30 p.m., Room 1211, Center Hall.

Performance, Bowing Green Bravos Quartet, 7:30 p.m., Manor House, Wildwood MetroPark, Toledo. Free.

Wednesday, Jan. 24
Performance, Silagh M.C. White, pianist and Stephen A. White, composer, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free.

Euchre and Spades tournament, 8:30 p.m., Community Suite, University Union. For more information call 2-7164.


Thursday, Jan. 25
Lecture, "Similitudes and Dissimilarities Among Precious Metal Deposits of the Great Basin of the Western United States: Arguments for a Common Beginning," presented by Samuel Romberger, 7:30 p.m., 95 Oberman Hall.

Performance, University Performing Dancers, 8 p.m., Eva Marie Saint Theatre. Tickets are on sale at the theater box office.

Film, Great Expectations, 8 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.

Friday, Jan. 26
Lecture, "The Solution Chemistry of Precious Metals," presented by Samuel Romberger, 10:30 a.m., 65 Oberman Hall.

Hockey hosts Miami, 7 p.m., ice arena.

Film, Slowboat, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.

UAO Film, Desperado, 8 p.m. and 11 p.m., 101 Ovalcamp. For more information call 2-7164. $2 admission.

Planetarium show, "Dinosaur Light," 7:30 p.m., BGSU Planetarium. $1 donation suggested.

Performance, BGSU Symphonic Band, 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free.

Film, Lullabies of Broadway, 9 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.

Saturday, Jan. 27
Performance, BGSU Concert Band, conducted by Thomas Rohrer, 11 a.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Men's basketball hosts Akron, 1:30 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Men's tennis hosts University of Illinois-Chicago, 1:30 p.m., Laurel Hill in Toledo.

University Performing Dancers, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Eva Marie Saint Theatre. Tickets can be purchased at the Eva Marie Saint Theatre box office in University Hall.

Hockey hosts Michigan State, 7 p.m., ice arena.

Film, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.

Film, Monkey Business, 8:45 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.

Monday, Jan. 29
Film, Johnny Steward, 8 p.m., Gish Film Theatre. Free.

At Firelands
Art exhibit student copper enameling Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., through Feb. 16, Little Gallery.

Exhibits feature conference speakers
Three art exhibits on display at the University are being held in conjunction with an international conference on feminist generations taking place on campus Feb. 2-4.

"Faith Ringgold: A 30-Year Sampler of Feminist Images" and "Prisoner #150376: Violet Allen," a video installation by Carol S. Jacobson of Ann Arbor, Mich., are both on display at galleries in the Fine Arts Center through Feb. 9. A third show, "Women of Coal," on display in the McFalls Center Gallery, features 72 photographs examining the evolution of women's roles in the central Appalachian coal fields.

Two of the women whose lives are chronicled in the exhibit, Toby Totten and Linda Lester are scheduled to speak at the Feminist Generation Conference.

Ringgold, an African-American artist and author whose story quilts, paintings, sculpture and dolls have achieved international recognition, will give a public lecture on her evolution as an artist, the role her mother played in that evolution and the stories of women from the past upon which much of her work is based at 8 p.m. Feb. 3 in 101 Ovalcamp Hall.

Employment

World premiere
Herbert Spencer, Jr., professor of music performance studies, will be joining the BGSU Symphonic Band on Friday for the world premiere of "Horn Rhapsody" by Jan Van der Roost. The selection will be one of several on a program which begins at 8 p.m. in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center.

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