Monitor Newsletter April 15, 1996

Bowling Green State University

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Volunteers thanked for aid to Building Community project

The more than 100 faculty, staff and students from areas all over campus who volunteered to assist in the activities of the Building Community Project were integral to its success, according to President Sidney Ribeau.

He congratulated and thanked these volunteers during a debriefing session and reception held April 4.

"It’s really gratifying to be here after something as successful as the Building Community Project," he said, almost a year to the day that he stood in the same room at Ollscamp Hall and formally accepted his position as president of the University.

"Each of you...have built the foundation," he said. "I can’t take any credit for it – the credit rests with you."

He spoke about a "culture of leadership" which is based on the idea that the "untapped potential" of faculty, staff and students can be used to help develop the University. Those who volunteered to work on the Building Community project displayed that leadership, he said.

"People who aren’t in leadership roles but have the talents and abilities are not necessarily given an opportunity to express those," Ribeau said. But tapping into that potential is "critically important."

"If we’re not about using knowledge to empower people, what are we about? Part of what an educational institution must do is release that potential."

Ribeau said the next step in the Building Community process involves putting the empowerment provided to members of the University community to use in sifting through issues expressed on the tapes of Focus on February discussions.

He said he plans to create some structural opportunities for leadership, including a "cross-functional leadership team" that will work with the Office of Human Resources to develop an agenda for training faculty and staff. John Moore, assistant vice president for human resources, said his office is in the process of selecting a candidate to fill a new training position and that he or she will work closely with the team.

The final report of the Building Community Project, including a synthesis of the comments expressed during the Focus on February discussions, is scheduled for release on April 30. Copies of the report will be given to each of the constituent groups on campus as well as the president.

University plan not currently affected by Blue Cross buy-out

There are no imminent changes in the University’s health-care plan as a result of the Blue Cross/Blue Shield buy-out by Columbia/HCA. Administrative Staff Council heard from Donna Wittwer at its last meeting.

Wittwer, the University’s new manager of benefits, attended the meeting to answer questions and get to know the council members better.

ASC members were eager to learn what the impact of the recently announced buy-out will be. So far, Wittwer said, there has been none. In fact, the transaction is not complete yet, as the stockholders must ratify the deal. If it does receive final approval, "We’ll have to wait nine months to a year to see what will happen, but there are no changes in the foreseeable future," Wittwer said.

Bowling Green has been with Blue Cross/Blue Shield since September 1994. The University’s plan is self-funded and administered by Blue Cross, which allows for more exceptions to be made on an individual basis. The two-year contract expires in August, and while the University could opt not to renew, Wittwer cautioned that when adapting to any new plan, it takes about two years to “work out the kinks.”

She has spent almost all her time since arriving in Bowling Green last September on clarifying the company’s interpretation of the plan and analyzing where problems are occurring. Wittwer said there are two areas she is already sure need to be improved: the explanation of benefits statements, which she said are very hard to understand, and the customer service of Blue Cross itself.

Wittwer and ASC members praised the work of other benefits staff Judy Ackerman, Diana Champ and Terri Schaller. "They have done an incredible job of getting this thing up and running. We have the best customer service in the Northwest Ohio area," Wittwer said.

Wittwer has been visiting different areas of the campus to explain the three health-insurance programs available to University employees. She encouraged members to invite her into their areas for employee meetings, both now and again in July and August during open enrollment for the plans.

A Health, Welfare and Insurance Committee has been formed. Its members are Barry Piersol, technology; Jeanne Wright, wellness and prevention coordinator; and Pat Green, administrative director, photochemical sciences. Steve Horowitz, HPER, will lead the committee’s next meeting to discuss setting up wellness programs on campus. It was also announced that the St. Vincent Medical Center cardiovascular-testing team will return to campus this month to follow up on those who were tested during its previous visit.

Also at the meeting, ASC chair Bryan Benner reported there has been no response from the administration yet on the council’s request for a 6.05 percent salary increase for 1996-97.

Tom Glick, assistant director of athletics, who has been overseeing the ASC appeals committee for the Mercer report individual standings, said the first round of 136 appeals have been completed and sent to the appellants, after which they will go to Human Resources. Results should be in the appellants’ hands this week.

Glick urged appellants to contact Human Resources if they have not received their results by the end of that week. Results should include a cover letter and a copy of the form the committee turns in to Human Resources with the committee’s recommendations and rationale.

The ASC appeals committee will remain intact until July.

— Bonnie Blankinship
Financial woes caused grounding of University's aerotechnology program

"It is a complex issue with a number of factors that needed to be considered, but in the end, the one problem we couldn't solve was economic," Thomas Erekson, dean of the College of Technology, said in explaining his decision to phase out the college's aerotechnology program.

Erekson announced last week that the University had stopped accepting admissions to the program with the intent to phase it out over the next two years.

Aerotechnology had run a budget deficit for the past several years, Erekson said, adding that he estimated the cumulative shortfall will exceed $75,000 by the end of this academic year.

The deficit was projected to be as high as $120,000 by the end of the 1996-97 academic year, he noted. "We saw no way that we could turn that around. We can't ask the University to continually cover the shortfall and we could not ask the students to pay higher fees."

Once the decision was made, Erekson said his attention turned to the students and employees. "We are committed to making sure that students in the program are able to graduate."

English professor appointed to direct activities of newly created institute

Vivian Patraka, professor of English, has been appointed director of the newly formed Institute for the Study of Culture and Society. She will begin her duties in June.

Patraka is widely published in the areas of contemporary theatre, performance and cultural studies. Her articles have appeared in numerous journals and her essays have been published in such books as Making a Spectacle: Feminist Essays on Contemporary Women's Theatre.


In addition to her writing, Patraka has also been the recipient of several external grants. She has served as president of the Women and Theatre Program, vice president of research and publications for the Association for Theatre in Higher Education with concurrent service on its board of governors and currently serves on the 1996 conference program committee of the American Society for Theatre Research.

The Institute for the Study of Culture and Society was established to support scholarly and creative projects of high quality in the arts and humanities as well as related areas of humanitarian inquiry in the social sciences and education.

Each year, the institute will award tenured faculty members release from teaching to pursue scholarly and creative projects. The selected faculty, called Artists and Scholars in Residence, will also be required to present some form of outreach service, such as a public lecture on their topic of study.

Retired faculty, staff feted at annual tea

The Spring Retired Faculty and Staff Tea will be held from 3-5 p.m. Wednesday (April 17) in Mardi Alumni Center.

The event will recognize all administrative staff, classified staff and faculty who are retiring or have retired between January and July 1996.

In addition to the recognition program, a light buffet and drinks will be served. Faculty and staff who plan to attend should call Kathy DeBouwer at 2-2424.

Libraries host tours, classes

Libraries and Learning Resources will showcase its facilities and specialized equipment during National Library Week this week.

Scheduled events include tours of the Jerome and Ogg Science libraries from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday. Refreshments will be served after each tour.

Call 2-3262 for reservations for the Jerome Library tour and 2-2593 for reservations for the math/science library.

Also to commemorate the week, special training sessions will be offered to faculty and staff who wish to use the Lexis-Nexis information system. Sessions are scheduled from 8:30-10 a.m. on Tuesday (April 16), 1-2:30 p.m. on Wednesday (April 17) and 10-11:30 a.m. on Thursday (April 18).

Contact Kelly Moore, 2-7899 or kmooore@bgnet for reservations.

Memos

The year-long borrowing period applies to general collection materials only. OneLink books and some special collections materials will not be eligible.

Faculty may request an exchange of checked-out items to either the Jerome Library or the science library circulation desks.

Miami staffer to give lecture

Dennis C. Roberts, assistant vice president for student affairs at Miami University, will speak on "Defining Community and Nurturing Leadership to Support It" at 3 p.m. Thursday (April 18) in Founders Courtyard.

Roberts' address is the sixth annual Fayetta Paulsen Lecture, named in honor of the former assistant vice president for student affairs and residential services for Bowling Green who retired in 1990.

All students, faculty and staff are welcome to attend the free lecture.

Earth Day programs set

A world-renowned researcher who has studied the behavior of wolves will present a guest lecture at the University in honor of Earth Day.

David L. Mech will speak on "Ten Years Living With Arctic Wolves" at 7:30 p.m. April 23 in 1007 Business Administration Building. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Mech is a wildlife research biologist with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota. He has written several books on his studies.

Mech's books, posters and T-shirts will be sold after the lecture and can be charged to bursar's accounts.

Other events scheduled for Earth Day include activities from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on the Unconv Oval, including a plant sale, recycling exhibit and live animal display.

Student athletes to be honored

The 1996 Student-Athlete Honors Luncheon is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, May 1 in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom.

A reception will begin at 11:30 a.m. with lunch and the honor presentations commencing at noon. The cost for the luncheon is $5 per person.

A total of 61 student-athletes who hold a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above will be honored. In addition to these honors, the following awards will be presented: Outstanding Academic Team Award, Most Improved Team Award, Falcon Club Junior Athlete Awards and Scholar-Athlete of the Year awards.

All University faculty and staff are welcome to attend. Reservations are due by April 24 by calling 2-7096.

**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 before publication.

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**Did You Know?**

[You can read each Monitor on your computer screen. The publication for BGSU faculty and staff is on the World Wide Web at http://www.bgsu.edu/office/prmonitor/. Just like the paper version, the website is updated weekly and now includes campus job listings. An archive of back issues, dating from May 1995, is also available online.]
University staff are recognized for many years of service

Dedication is the word that describes a group of administrative and clerical staff who were honored at the University. Twenty staff members are celebrating their 30- and 40-year anniversaries, and there are 12 more who have completed 5 years or more. The staff have been invited to the University’s annual Recognition Dinner at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 17 in the Lenthart Grand Ballroom. Awards and presentations will be given during the program.

Staff celebrating five- and ten-year anniversaries at the University will be honored by their area vice presidents.

30 years

Those being honored for 30 years of service are Mary C. Chambers, mathematics and statistics; James L.2. Swope, physics; and Charles C. Stocker, Firelands College

25 years

Those being honored for 25 years of service are Sally K. Blair, NWOT Foundation; Carol M. Bowser, physical plant; Elaine S. Bretts, family and consumer sciences; Alice M. Browne, Popular Press; Roberta S. Cookson, University Union; Donald D. Coppel, transportation services; Ross E. Donald, telephone plant; Rebecca E. Eninger, physical plant; Bertha R. Estrada, physical plant; Karol L. Heckman (retired) human resources; Lois J. Howe, physical plant; James P. Hoy, computer services; Nadine Johnson, registration and records; Cindy L. Lanham, food operations; Jeanine K. Malcolm, student housing and residential programs; Danny L. Malone, intercollegiate athletics; Loretta J. Ongw, physical plant; Edward J. O’Donnell, food operations; Mary L. Baty, bursar’s office; Kathleen M. Ninke, food operations; Edward J. O’Donnell, food operations; Roberta S. Cookson, University Union; Judy L. Goetz, human resources; and Joy E. Deenick, student health services; Carol M. Dodd, University union; Kathryn A. Ellis, student health services; Dan L. Hart, intercollegiate athletics; Michael J. Fairall, computer services; Paul E. Ferraro, intercollegiate athletics; Julie L. Joeritz, food operations; Gail J. Hanson, alumni and development; Susan M. Hughes, archival coordinates; Carrie A. Johnson, career development services; Ray Q. Jones, intercollegiate athletics; Vicki Krauseher, family and consumer sciences; Mark D. Kunzmann, intercollegiate athletics; Lorna M. Leck, ice arena; Robert A. Lisgashesy, intercollegiate athletics; Monica L. Mann, archival collections; Kenneth L. Marable, college access programs; Amanda Martinez, physical plant; Douglas R. McClattin, WBGU-TV; Peggy J. Miller, registration and records; Shawn E. Miller, public safety; John C. Moore, human resources; Mark A. Noll, intercollegiate athletics; Paul J. Obriger, unthoughts, Jose B. Ortega, student health services; Linda M. Pandur, public health services; Mary H. Russell, education and allied professions; James M. Sanders, ice arena; Frank A. Scheinmayer, physical plant; Daniel J. Schmitz, intercollegiate athletics; Michele Schmitz, financial aid and student employment; Cheryl I. Reynolds, bursar’s office; Donna J. Roberts, food operations; Paul J. Russel, education and allied professions; Mark S. Sanders, ice arena; James D. Schenk, intercollegiate athletics; George C. Serrato, physical plant; Violet S. Sheller, student health services; Mary C. Shaffmull, medical technology; Anthony E. Short, WBGU-TV; Treffsman, WBGU-TV; Lori D. Stewart, food operations; Suzanne Thierry, musical arts; Joseph M. Tuttle, four-year college; Debrah V. Vetter, four-year college; Michael K. Vetter, student housing and residential programs; Denise K. Valler, intercollegiate athletics; Robert M. Waddle, capital planning; Karen L. Woods, human resources; and Jeanine M. Wright, student health services.

Faculty/Staff notes needed by April 23

Faculty and staff have until 5 p.m. April 23 to submit their notes for inclusion in Monitor’s Faculty/Staff Notes for the 1995-96 academic year. Notes will be compiled in a special insert in the May 6 edition of Monitor. The insert will also contain any notes that have been submitted for the semester but have not yet been published.

Faculty/Staff Notes highlight significant accomplishments of faculty as well as administrative and central staff. All staff or faculty members who have made a presentation at a professional conference or seminar, or helped organize an event that has been published in a professional journal, received a grant for a University project or have received an award for a well-received accomplishment, are encouraged to submit the information for publication in Monitor. Please only submit activities that have been taken place within the last six months.

The Faculty/Staff Notes feature will not be published during the summer but will be rescheduled for September.
Monday, April 15  
Film, Wings of Desire, 8 p.m., Gish Film Theater. In German with English subtitles. Free. Film, Jeffrey, 8 p.m., 1007 Business Administration Building, Free.
Tuesday, April 16  
Classified Staff Council Meeting, 9 a.m., Tutt Room, University Union. Softball hosts Miami University, 2 p.m., softball field. Silent films, College and The Freshman, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free. Performance, vocal jazz ensemble, 7:30 p.m., Maier House, Wildwood Metropark in Toledo. Free. Performance, classical guitar, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free.
Wednesday, April 17  
Thursday, April 18  
Conversations at the Institute, "Raymond Williams’s Theory of Culture: Intersections of Class, Gender, and Ethnicity" by Epifanio San Juan, 9-11 a.m., 114 College Park Office Building. Baseball hosts University of Dayton, 2 p.m., Stoller Field. Lamb Peace Lecture, "New Dimensions of Security: Environment and Conflict" by Michael Renner, Worldwatch Institute, 7:30 p.m., 114 Oscamp Hall. Performance, Early Music Ensemble, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free. Film, Abbott and Costello in The Legion, 9 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.
Friday, April 19  
Breakfast in BG, featuring Gene Poor, founder and president of Life Formations, 7:45-8:45 a.m., 101 Oscamp Hall. For ticket information call 2-0424. Softball hosts Ohio University, 2 p.m., softball field. Women’s tennis hosts University of Akron, 3 p.m., Kelle Tennis Courts. Economics Colloquium, “An Empirical Investigation of Hungarian Foreign Exchange Policy: 1990-95” by Zsófia Arvai, economics, 3:30-5 p.m., 4000 Business Administration Building. Open forum for candidates for the director of environmental programs, 3:30 p.m., 114 College Park Office Building. Women’s Studies program, “The Future of Women’s Studies at BGSU,” 7-8:30 p.m., Ohio Suite, University Union. Film, Cabaret, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free. Children’s theatre production, The President’s New Clothes and The Ice Wolf, presented by The Treehouse Troupe, 7:30 p.m., Joe E. Brown Theatre. $3 admission. UAO Film, The American President, 8 and 11 p.m., 111 Oscamp Hall. $2 admission. Performance, Symphonic Band, 8 p.m., Koberbach Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free.
Saturday, April 20  
Softball hosts Ohio University, noon, softball field. Baseball hosts Eastern Michigan University, 1 p.m., Stoller Field. Film, The Apple Dumpling Gang, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free. Children’s theatre production, The President’s New Clothes and The Ice Wolf, presented by The Treehouse Troupe, 7:30 p.m., Joe E. Brown Theatre. $3 admission. UAO Film, The American President, 8 and 11 p.m., 111 Oscamp Hall. $2 admission. Performance, Stanley Cowell, jazz pianist, 8 p.m., Koberbach Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. He will be joined by music faculty members Chris Buzzelli on guitar, Jeff Hatley on bass and Roger Schupp on drums. For ticket information call 2-8171 or 1-800-589-2224.
Sunday, April 21  
Baseball hosts Eastern Michigan University, 1 p.m., Stoller Field. Performance, University Men’s Chorus and OSU Men’s Glee Club, 3 p.m., Koberbach Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. For ticket information call 2-8171 or 1-800-589-2224. Film, The Overcoat, 7 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free.
Monday, April 22  
Dissertation defense, “Unity School of Christianity and the Rise of Therapeutic Culture, 1889-1920” by Rick Gilman, history, noon. History Seminar room. Lecture, "The Opium Factory of Ghazipur" by Arjun Gupta, distinguished university professor, 3:30 p.m., 101 Oscamp Hall. Economics Colloquium, “Union Naval Superiorty and New Orleans’ Value to the Confederacy” by Dave Sundin, Loyola University, 3:30-5 p.m., 4000 Business Administration Building. Film, I Am Cuba, 8 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Free. Performance, Jazz Lab Band II, 8 p.m., Koberbach Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free.
Continuing Events  
Planetarium presentation, “Dinosaur Light,” 8 p.m. Tuesday and Friday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, through April 26. $1 donation suggested. Art Exhibitions, “Bureaucracy in Russian Art: Posters & Political Cartoons” through May 2 at McFall Center Gallery. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibitions, First-Year Graduate Student Exhibitions and Bachelor of Fine Arts Student Exhibitions,” group 1- through April 22, group 2 — April 26-May 7, Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays and 2-5 p.m. Sundays. Free; “Meaningful Concoction,” featuring the master’s thesis work of fine arts students Andrea Nowakowski (metalsmith) and Colleen Longstreet (glass sculptor), through April 19, Findlay Art League Gallery, 117 Crawford St., Findlay.
At Firelands  
Exhibit, student works, through May 11. Open all hours, 8 a.m.-9:15 p.m. Free.