Monitor Newsletter February 09, 1998

Bowling Green State University

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Proposed University Center will benefit north coast Ohio

Firelands College is planning a major new construction project designed to meet the growing educational and training needs of the north coast Ohio community.

The proposed Firelands University Center would be the first significant addition to the Huron campus in 25 years. The estimated $4.8 million project is expected to be funded with both public (state capital allocation) funds and private money.

From 7 to 9 p.m., Feb. 11 in McBride Auditorium, the college will join with area chambers of commerce to host a public forum to discuss building plans. The public is invited to share opinions and ideas for the project.

Hosted by George Mayer, college development associates will have an opportunity to pose questions, ideas and areas of concern.

As proposed, the center will provide state-of-the-art instruction classrooms, conference and meeting facilities and fully integrated multimedia and distance learning capabilities. Plans also call for building a central mall to connect the James H. McBride Arboretum to the center of campus.

The two-story center will be designed to serve three purposes:
- **Instruction**: The main facility for BGSU upper-division and graduate course offerings, including state-of-the-art classrooms; (Proposals are underway to house expanded tourism-related programs at the center, taking advantage of the college's central location in one of the nation's most popular summer tourist destinations. This could include culinary arts, hospitality management and travel and tourism programs, said Darby Williams, dean of Firelands College.
- **Technology**: The center-piece for use of information technologies in distance education, allowing for expanded integrated multimedia and interactive video conferencing. (Stronger telecommunication linkages, instructional classrooms, and conferencing facilities will enable the college to deliver additional courses, programs and services in the north coast region.)
- **Conferences/Training**: The campus hub for community outreach activities, including conference and meeting facilities for area businesses/organizations and customized workforce training. (The conference center could also house the Lake Erie Regional Studies Program and continuing education programs.)

Firelands College is working to build mutually beneficial community/college linkages to insure full use of the new facility. For example, the college is working closely with hotel, motel and resort owners on collaborative, strategic alliances to combine use of the local housing accommodations with the college's programs, resources and facilities. Sawmill Creek Lodge's president, Greg Hill, is a member of the college's Business Management Technology Advisory Board.

In addition, the City of Huron is developing a high-technology industrial research park adjacent to the Firelands campus, and the college has been providing credit and non-credit training programs for existing and potential new businesses.

For more information, contact Ruszkowski at 800-322-4787 or lesleyr@bgsu.edu.

Younger high-schoolers may enroll in college classes

They may be looking younger every year, but next fall, some students taking classes at BGSU may in fact be young as 13.

Since 1991, gilded 11th and 12th-graders have been earning both college and high-school credit simultaneously through the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Program (PSEOP). A recent change in state law (through Am. Sub. H.B. 215) now expands PSEOP to ninth- and 10th-graders.

All public institutions of higher education in Ohio must participate, although they are allowed to set their own standards for admission, said Joan Morgan, director of academic enhancement.

"The criteria will be much more individualized for the younger students," said Morgan, noting that the decision to admit would be evaluated by the admissions office, academic enhancement and faculty. Also, all participants are considered guest students, explained. They are not formally admitted to the University, but to the program.

The potential for more interested students attending college presents new challenges and concerns for Ohio's public post-secondary institutions, Morgan said. These issues were discussed during a Jan. 30 conference hosted by academic enhancement. The conference attracted 124 participants, including junior and senior high school guidance counselors and gilded program coordinators from throughout Ohio, as well as University personnel and state education representatives.

Concerns range from how the younger students will fare socially to whether the subject matter of each class will be appropriate for young teens. Other concerns involve inconsistencies in how the program is implemented in different institutions and the inflation of middle-school grades which, in some cases, will be used to evaluate admission.

Some stipulations do apply for all PSEOP students, Morgan noted: They can take classes on a space-available basis, they have no priority scheduling and they cannot live on campus. About 100 students now enrolled in the program tend to take the general education 100- to 200-level courses, said Morgan and do very well.

"They're good students," said Morgan, and "faculty members have been very positive—they like having these students in their class." However, the reaction to having high school freshmen and sophomores enroll has been mixed. Some faculty have said, "I don't want those students in my classes." Morgan said.

The program is attractive because it offers considerable benefits in terms of enriching high school education and challenging students. Particularly in rural areas or small districts, the program allows students to learn about subjects they would not have the opportunity to study otherwise. For example, a student may want to study or advance in a foreign language that is not offered through the high school.

Major financial incentives exist, also. The student or parents pay no college tuition or book expenses. The universities receive a state subsidy and the school district picks up some costs.

Some students use the program to replace the last two years of high school with college coursework, said Morgan.

She could not predict how many additional students might enroll as a result of the program's expansion, but "I tend to think it's not going to be a lot," she said.

The program will be monitored carefully, Morgan added. "We want what's best for the students. We want them to have a good experience" and interest them in enrolling in BGSU to complete their college education.

State of the University

9 a.m. Refreshments
9:30 a.m. Address by President
Sidney Ribeau
Thursday Feb. 19
101 Olscamp Hall
BGSU joins development group

As a new member of the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments, BGSU will help create strategies and plans for building a strong community in northwest Ohio. The council brings together public and private agencies to focus on regional issues, such as transportation and the environment.

To date, council participants have worked together to achieve a sustainable intermodal transportation system. Environmental efforts have focused on the Maumee and Portage River ecosystems, as well as regional air and water quality issues.

New initiatives include a Growth Strategy program to facilitate a regional strategy and coordination of land use. Another new program is Ventures, which involves establishing market services to benefit the region.

TMACOG consists of a 23-member professional staff and 900 volunteers. BGSU joins the University of Toledo, Medical College of Ohio and Owens Community College as partners in the education community supporting the efforts of TMACOG.

President Sidney Ribeau has appointed Robert Wadde, capital planning, as principal representative to TMACOG and Roger Thibault, Center for Environmental Programs, as a second representative.

Research Award nominations sought

Nominations are now being sought for the 1998 Olscamp Research Award. This annual award, which carries a $1,500 prize, is presented to a faculty member to recognize outstanding scholarly or creative accomplishments during the previous three-year period.

For purposes of this award, accomplishments may be: referred presentations of scholarly papers or publications (books, monographs, articles, etc.); musical compositions/arrangements or concerts/lectures or visual art works presented at national or international meetings or exhibitions; significant patentable/licensable discoveries/creations.

Nominations will be screened by an advisory committee consisting of the associate vice president for research, who chairs the committee, and several outstanding faculty/scholars. The council's recommendations will be submitted to the vice presidents for academic affairs and University advancement, who select the award recipient.

Nominations are due in the office of the vice provost for research (120 McFall Center) by March 13.

Learn to manage stress

Dealing more effectively and positively with stress might mean learning relaxation or time management techniques.

The Psychological Services Center plans to offer free group programs on these and other stress management issues.

Specific topics, times and dates will be determined based on interest expressed. If interested in participating, call 2-7540 and leave your name, phone number and best time to be contacted. Center staff will get back to callers to provide more information and answer any questions.

Roomfix offers helpline service

If you're not sure, try the new Roomfix service recently developed by the Classroom Technology Working Group, involving instructional media services, WBGU-TV, computer services, the registrar's office and capital planning.

Brown-and-orange decals will soon be displayed in all classrooms on campus advertising this problem-solving reporting helpline. Anyone—faculty, staff or student—who experiences a problem with the classroom environment can simply call 372-9400 or e-mail roomfix@bgnet.bgsu.edu.

Once reported, the nature and location of the problem, and the name and phone number (or email address) of the person reporting the problem are logged. A Roomfix operator then contacts the proper campus area to address the problem.

Those reporting problems will receive follow-up calls or emails within a few days to confirm that the problems have been corrected or to alert them to the status of on-going repairs or maintenance.

Diversity issues highlight roundtable

Leaders of four northwest Ohio colleges and universities recently joined to discuss issues and challenges of diversity. The presidential roundtable discussion, "Diversity as a Value in Higher Education," aired Feb. 2 on WBGU-TV. Here are a few comments from their dialogue:

Sidney Ribeau, BGSU

"You want diversity of all kinds: cultures, values, attitudes, experiences. We want differences that lead to intellectual variety and discovery."

The BGSU multicultural population is "not acceptable." While 12.3 percent of Americans are African-American, 4 percent of BGSU undergraduates are.

Just as institutions work to attract and recruit a "small pool of blue chip athletes, you need to take more affirmative steps and be more aggressive" in recruiting outstanding students and faculty of color.

Frank Horton

University of Toledo

None of our institutions is sufficiently diverse, noting that 72 percent of UT students are white.

There's a danger that that pool (of high-quality students of color) will become smaller. We are at a crossroads nationally (with recent reverse discrimination legal cases). I think it's going to play out in the courts, particularly with professional programs (law schools).

McCallough

Medical College of Ohio

Medical schools are becoming less diverse. The number of applications to MCO from African-Americans students declined 11 percent from last year.

There are good reasons to provide diversity training for staff, faculty and students. Race, gender and socioeconomic background should have no bearing in caring for sick people.
Of course, faculty and staff commit their share of parking violations. "We try to enforce the rules equally," Rath said.

The University employs four parking officers: Rath, Meyers, Robert Peralez and Susan Rahl-Henderson. They divide the campus into four quarters and each week each officer is responsible for the same area for the entire week. After the week, they change areas.

"That way, you have a change," Rath said, "and you get to know the entire University. That's one of the things I really like about the job. One day is never the same as another."

The traffic officers realize that the public often is upset with the parking rules, but they agreed that the regulations are fair, although it may not always seem so to a newly ticketed driver.

"I think the process we have is nice," Peralez said. When vehicles have improper or no decals, "the first violation we see, we give them a warning and put the rules on their windshield. We don't just tow people away," he said. "There are several steps that happen before we would do that."

Faculty members often call the traffic personnel "and tell us to tow somebody's car that they see parked in a faculty spot, and then they get upset with us when we don't," Meyers said. After the initial warning, "the next time we see the same car without registration, we give them a ticket for $50," Rath said. "The third time, we give them another ticket and a tow notice. The fourth time, we tow it."

In other situations, cars can be towed without notice (see box).

"Why would a person risk a $50 fine and a maximum $75 fine to reclaim their towed car?" Some people like to take their chances, Rath said. "They think they won't get caught and they just keep taking chances."

Once the decision is made to tow a vehicle, he said, the officers first check all around the vehicle for any damage and note any on the tow notice so that drivers can say that the tow truck damaged their vehicles, he said.

On a recent morning, two tow requests were called in by traffic officers. First, a student without any parking sticker had parked in a spot reserved for state vehicles outside Hanna Hall. The student came out of Hanna in the nick of time: he explained he had been sent there by computer services to install equipment and had not been given a temporary sticker to display in his window. Rath let him go with a warning.

The second violator parked in a reserved spot in front of the campus police station and, after Rath checked to make sure the car did not belong to someone who was conducting business inside the building, the car was towed.

"The traffic officers don't just write traffic tickets," according to Stacie Enriquez, administrative assistant for parking and traffic, "they also assist in traffic details, such as directing traffic following accidents or for athletic events."

"We realize that people do get upset sometimes, but we don't make the rules," Enriquez said. "The officers are enforcing the rules that have been in place for many years. The parking committee is receptive to ideas or suggestions for improvement to make parking more conducive for everyone. People have to realize we can't please everyone all the time."

Persons who feel they were ticketed erroneously may appeal the ticket, Enriquez noted, "by just stopping in our office and picking up an appeal form."

Each type of violation carries with it specific assessments. A complete list of parking rules and penalties are available at the parking office. (See box.)

The traffic personnel carry portable computers in their vehicles, on which they can verify the owners of vehicles, whether they are driving with a valid license or plate, whether a campus parking decal or permit has been issued to them and for state vehicles.

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"Our biggest problem lot is probably the one by Jerome Library (Lot 14 and Lot N)," Rath said. It takes us 1-1/2, sometimes two hours, to run this lot, but we could spend even more hours than that just in this lot every day. ◆

Type of violations
- $50 tickets are assessed for failure to register or renew parking decals or permits, improper registration, displaying decals or permits that are false, altered, forged or belong to another person or vehicle, and for parking violations such as handicapped space violations and parking in the grass.
- $25 tickets are assessed for using a decal or permit that does not match the lot designation, for not parking in a marked designated space, remaining over the allotted time in a loading or unloading zone, leaving an unauthorized vehicle in a fire lane, parking in a posted reserved space or area, parking in a closed space or area, parking in a loading dock.
- $5 tickets are issued for persons who back their vehicles into a parking space.
- Vehicles can be towed without warning if they are parked in a manner that constitutes a hazard by impeding other traffic or emergency vehicles, if they are displaying an unauthorized or altered parking decal or permit, if the vehicles are repeatedly found on campus without a valid parking permit, if the vehicles pose a safety hazard, are abandoned or have multiple unpaid violations. ◆

Power outage planned for March
- Wednesday, March 11, 5:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.: Administration Building, Child Development Center, Cottages 1-4, Family and Consumer Sciences Building, Founders Quadrangle, Hanna Hall, Johnston Hall, McDonald Quadrangle, McFall Center, Morgan Chapel, Shatzel Hall, South Hall, University Hall, Student Union, West Hall and W Dorm 2-6. ◆

Research grants awarded for ’98
- The Faculty Research Committee is pleased to announce the following Annual Research Grant Award recipients:
  - Rachel Beane, geology; Todd Chiles, Sherry Sullivan, both management; Victoria Krane, William Skelly, both human movement, sport and leisure studies; Alan Lord, accounting and management information systems; Michael McKay, Lakshminidhi Pulakat, both biology; David Newman/Deanne Snavely, chemistry (joint project); Anne Nielsen, sociology; Laura Podalsky, romance languages; Arthur Samel, geography/ENVS; Kimberly Skurupski, gerontology; Jeffrey Stroo, Ryan Tweney, Michael Zickar, all psychology; J. Gordon Wade, mathematics and statistics.
  - This year, the committee received 42 applications and made 18 awards totaling $93,536. ◆
Monday, February 9
"Growing Through Grief—Part I," the first of four sessions geared to students dealing with the aftermath of a death and their support persons, with psychologists Craig Vickers and Claudia Clark. 6-7:30 p.m., Counseling Center, 320 Sallom Center, Student Services Building.
International Film Series, Gonza the Spaceman, a 1986 Japanese film, 8:15 p.m., Fisher Film Theater. Free.

Tuesday, February 10
Performance Appraisal Process Training, 8 a.m.-noon, 1 College Park. Sponsor: human resources. Contact: Marcia Buchenmyer, 2-2588 or mbuchen@bgnet.bgsu.edu.
"Night at the Rep.," 7 p.m., Toledo Repertoire Theatre—10th Street Stage. Sponsors: Greater Toledo, Findlay and Northwest Ohio alumni chapters, BGSU Presidents Club. Information: Sally Oberski, (419) 536-2923.
Black History Month Jeopardy, 7-9 p.m., Town Room, Student Union. Sign up by contacting the Office of Multicultural Affairs at 2-2642 or University Activities Organization at 2-2493.
Public forum, "Censorship and the Internet," 7 p.m., Central Lounge, Firelands College. Sponsor: Humanities Department and Student Activities. Free.

Wednesday, February 11
Focus group/information session, "How Purchasing Functions," 10-11:30 a.m., TBA. Contact: Jan Ruffner, purchasing, 2-6419 or jruffne@bgnet.bgsu.edu.
Computer seminar, "Intro to Microsoft Word (IBM)," 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 128 Hayes Hall. Sponsor: University Computer Services. Registration: 2-2911. Free.
Training programs, "Whites in Black History: A Choice of Legacies," examine the role of whites as participants in the historic struggles for equality and justice for African-Americans, 3-4:30 p.m., Faculty Lounge, Student Union. Sponsor: affirmative action.

Thursday, February 12
Dance Marathon fundraiser, T-shirts, baked goods and other items will be sold to raise money for the Dance Marathon benefiting Children's Miracle Network. (The 32-hour marathon occurs March 29-30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Education Building steps.
Student Composers Forum, concert will feature works by BGGSU graduate and undergraduate student composers, 8 p.m., Student Union. Sponsor: University Computer Services. Free.

Friday, February 13
Brown-bag lunch book discussion, a lively discussion on the works of African-American authors, 11:30 a.m., Faculty Lounge, Student Union. Free.
Economics Colloquium Series, "Do Weaving Patterns in the Classroom Have an Effect on Achievement?" with Mary Ellen Benedict, economics, 3:30 p.m., 4000 Business Administration Building, Free.
Hockey v. Northern Michigan, 7 p.m., Ice Arena.

Saturday, February 14
Women's basketball hosts Kent, 1:30 p.m., Anderson Arena.
Women's gymnastics hosts Eastern Michigan, 4 p.m., Eppley Complex.
Hockey v. Miami, 7 p.m., Ice Arena.

Sunday, February 15
Bryan Chamber Series, 3 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Monday, February 16
President's Day, high school seniors and their parents will be visiting campus. Information: admissions, 2-2086.
Computer seminar, "Intro to PowerPoint - (Mac)," 3-5 p.m., 126 Hayes Hall. Sponsor: University Computer Services. Registration: 2-2911. Free.
International Film Series, Effi Briest, a 1996 German film, 8:15 p.m., Fisher Film Theater. Free.

Continuing Events
January 30-March 6
Planetarium show, "Alphabet University: The Best of Space from A to Z," 8 p.m., Tuesdays & Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. Saturdays, Feb. 21 & March 1. $1 donation.

February 9-13
Valentine's Day Carnation Sale, Carnations presently sold Monday through Thursday will be delivered on campus Friday. Flowers will also be sold cash-and-carry on Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., foyer, Student Union. Print sale, a portion of the proceeds will go to this year's Dance Marathon benefiting Children's Miracle Network, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., forum, Sallom Center Student Services Building.
Valentine's Day Candygram Sale for Mortarboard, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., foyer, Student Union. (Candy delivered Feb. 13).
Dance Marathon benefiting Children's Miracle Network. 9 a.m.-7 p.m., forum, Student Union Services. Free.

February 11-14 (8 p.m.)
February 14-15 (2 p.m.)

Shorts Festival, a variety of plays, from comedy to drama, in Elsewhere Theatre, 411 South Hall. Tickets: $3 at the door beginning one hour before show time. Seating limited. Information: 2-2719.

Ongoing
Public skating, 8-10 p.m. Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Sundays. Cost: $2 with student ID/$1 skate rental; not offered during varsity hockey team home games. Information/confirmation: 2-2264.

in brief

Luncheon to honor student-athletes
The annual Student-Athlete Honors Luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. March 18 in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the Student Union. More than 80 student-athletes will be recognized for their academic achievements and awards will be given to individual student-athletes and teams. The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics invites all faculty and staff to attend this celebration of academic excellence. The luncheon costs $8 and may be paid the day of the event. Call 2-7096 for reservations or information.

Donate sweaters to celebrate Mr. Rogers
Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood celebrates its 30th anniversary this month, and WBGU-TV is getting into the spirit with a sweater drive. If you have a new or gently worn sweater you'd like to donate to charity, drop-off bins will be available throughout February at the following Bowling Green locations: WBGU-TV Channel 27, 245 Troup St., Churchill's Super Markets, Henry Filters, Inc. First Federal, Key and Fifth Third banks, Green Manufacturing Inc. and Wood County Hospital.

Name change effective Feb. 20
The Office of Multicultural Affairs and Student Support Services has a new name: as of Feb. 20, the office will be known as the Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives, said Celeste Bland, director. She said the new name better reflects the mission and purpose of the programs and services offered.