Monitor Newsletter August 24, 1998

Bowling Green State University

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New team involving faculty in student success initiative

Roughly 3,500 freshmen are expected to be in University classrooms Wednesday for the start of fall semester. That would make this year's freshman class more than 500 students larger than its 1997 counterpart.

Now the challenge is how to provide the environment that will keep those students at Bowling Green through graduation.

In an effort to actively involve faculty in enhancing incoming students' academic success, the Leading and Learning Together Team (LLTT) was convened with Lee Meserve, biological sciences, as its leader.

Joining him on the team are Lisa Gueldenzoph, a doctoral fellow in higher education and student affairs; Dan Klein, finance; Robert Midden, photo-chemical sciences; Donna Nelson-Beene, English, and Carolyn Palmer, higher education and student affairs. Steven Richardson, vice provost for undergraduate affairs, is an ad hoc member.

Team members have done "considerable brainstorming about how the academic success of students can be enhanced, and how the number of students who decide to leave BGSU can be minimized," according to Meserve.

"From the outset, the team has discussed ways to help students succeed with out sacrificing academic standards; indeed, the idea is to maintain or elevate academic standards, but simultaneously to provide students with the direction and the environment to succeed in meeting those standards," he said.

"To provide a manageable focus, the team concentrated on efforts directed to the first-year students, but the hope is that efforts will continue to spread to students through their entire degree program," he added.

Input was sought from staff in the residence life and First-Year Experience programs and the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology. Their thoughts led the team to divide potential areas of difficulty which entering students might encounter into two categories: problems outside the classroom and problems inside the classroom. And the LLTT has collected documentation showing how faculty can help students resolve problems that occur in either place, Meserve said.

"Faculty can assist in resolution of such a problem through meeting with students individually or in small groups, through directing them to departmental or organizational student groups, or through interaction (by both faculty and students) with programs provided by residence life. "Faculty assistance with resolution of problems in the classroom can come through clear statements of expectations at the beginning of the term, through periodic progress evaluations to students (in a form other than returning a graded exam), through incorporation of group learning and small group activities into large class settings, and through faculty enhancement as implemented by the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology," he said.

Long-time faculty undoubtedly have specific methods or tasks that have enhanced the learning setting for their students, he added. They are invited to share those methods with the broader community by sending them to Meserve at lmcesve@bgnet.bgsu.edu, for inclusion in future LLTT offerings in Monitor.

Residence life efforts pay off with more on-campus students

The University's residence halls will be full this year, and the Office of Residence Life is excited about it.

"Our staff has been extremely creative and resourceful in our efforts to increase the number of students in the residences," said Bud Beauty, residence life director.

"Our group has done an extraordinary job of trying to meet parent and student needs, and they've put an extraordinary effort into getting the halls in shape for the students. And all that work has paid off," he said.

With two weeks to go before the start of classes, 6,700 students had signed up to live in the residence halls during the fall semester, he said. Last fall, 6,100 students lived on campus.

Beauty cautioned that this numbers figure is unofficial until the school year actually begins. "It changes every day," he said, adding that a sizeable number of the students who will be living on campus are juniors and seniors.

What has the University done to attract students to campus life? The list is long, he said.

"We've made the residence halls more attractive in a variety of ways," he said, citing renovations and improved maintenance.

"Founders has been totally renovated, with all rooms repainted, and Harshman and Kreischer also have been renovated," he said. "Harshman was just reopened last year after a multimillion-dollar renovation, which included new carpeting, painting, new furniture upgrades and a lot of work on areas that parents and students don't see, like electrical and heating systems, wiring and all that."

Also at Harshman, both the Chapman Learning Community and the Sciences Residential Community have been extensively renovated.

All campus picnic set for Tuesday

Faculty, staff and students are invited to come together Tuesday to celebrate the start of the new school year.

The All Campus Picnic will be held on the lawn of University Hall from 11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. During this time, all Student Union and residence hall dining operations will be shut down in an effort to encourage community participation in the festivities.

Shuttle service will be available to and from the picnic, where entertainment will include an appearance by the BGSU Marching Band and cheerleaders. Vocalist/guitarist Tom Gorman will also perform, from noon-2 p.m. on the stage in front of University Hall.

Volunteers were needed as of last week for setting up, serving and tearing down at various times in the University Hall and McFall Center areas. Anyone interested in helping should contact Sheri Quiroga, dining services, at 2-2891.

Established two years ago, the picnic is a collaborative effort among the union, dining services, facilities services, inventory management, and the president and student life offices.
Residence life
(Continued from page 1)

Residence life has implemented an improved maintenance program this year, Beatty said. "The reason we didn't have it before was money," he said. "It costs money to keep the buildings running at an acceptable level. The University has been very helpful in securing funding for us to do that. The most important thing was the Board of Trustees approved a 6 percent increase in room rates last December. We've also been able to implement a 15-20 year capital maintenance schedule in which we identify, over the long term, the projects that need to be done and schedule when that work will be done."

Beatty conceded that it is difficult to compete with the ever-increasing number of student apartment buildings in Bowling Green, which offer more privacy and independence for older students. "Of course, the freshmen and sophomores are required to live on campus, but the juniors and seniors often look elsewhere, so we've had to re-emphasize many of the things we offer to students to make on-campus life more attractive," he said.

Student feedback has told the Office of Residence Life several things about its program. "For one thing, students seem to want our residence halls as more traditional," Beatty said. "All are based on dormitory room, with dozens of people sharing common bathrooms, and students are telling us they want more options. There is more emphasis on suit and common bathrooms (and) kitchens. Also, many of our residence halls have no air conditioning and that makes a big difference to students, too. They also want the convenience of parking near their own buildings."

For upper-class students, Founders and Anderson Hall are available. Founders has suites, plus air conditioning; single rooms and optional meal plans are available in Anderson Hall. "We really discourage the younger students from living in Founders," Beatty said. "Students have a stronger sense of privacy with the suites, but it doesn't provide the lively community atmosphere like you have in other residences, and we do like for the younger students to experience that."

"We're exploring what types of services we can provide on campus to make residence life more attractive and convenient for students, but which wouldn't cost too much," he said, noting such possibilities as more ATM machines, laundry-cleaner service and video rentals. The Office of Residence Life is also examining rules and regulations that have historically governed student life and conduct at the University. Beatty said, "Maybe we've been too restrictive in different ways and may want to have standards for classes that have already earned their campus off campus, so we're looking toward eliminating many of the unnecessary rules and regulations," he said.

"We want to empower students to have more control over their lives," Beatty said. "These are the most important years of peoples' lives. If there is something you want to succeed in, it's your college experience and we do need to allow students the freedom to succeed or fail. We're here to assist them, but we shouldn't be their babysitters. Students are members of the community."

As far as student restrictions and available services, go, Bowling Green "is about average for state universities, but that doesn't mean we can't be better," he said. "My goal is to be the best residence life system in the country and to do that, we need to constantly examine what we're doing to see if we can do better."

University gets $500,000 grant for rehab counseling program

An initiative to diversify the work force in the field of rehabilitation counseling is creating new opportunities for University students with disabilities and diverse ethnic backgrounds.

The University has been awarded a five-year, $500,000 grant by the U.S. Department of Education for "Project DARE" (Diversity And Rehabilitation Counseling Education), a program designed to increase the number of rehabilitation counselors from underrepresented groups, particularly from racially and ethnically diverse populations and those who are disabled.

The project is under the leadership of Jay Stewart, special education and director of the rehabilitation counseling program.

"There are far too many individuals from these groups serving as rehabilitation professionals," Stewart said. "The need for change is evident, as studies have shown that clients work better and feel more comfortable with a counselor who has a similar background."

Yet to begin this fall, the program, which will lead to a master's degree, will train individuals in both rehabilitation counseling and rehabilitation counseling management.

Interested students must have a bachelor's degree and, after receiving their graduate degree, be willing to work in a public rehabilitation agency or a private agency that serves public rehabilitation clients.

Stewart's goal is to admit five students to the program each year. They will be placed by rehabilitation professionals.

Williams to resign as Firelands dean

Darby Williams, Firelands College dean for the past five years, will resign his post at the end of this academic year.

Announcing his decision to Firelands faculty and staff Thursday (Aug. 20), Williams said he has very much enjoyed his years of service as dean and I believe the college is well-positioned to meet the educational challenges of the 21st century.

Williams added that he is making the announcement almost a year in advance so the University is able to make a smooth transition in leadership.

The $5 million project calls for construction of a building on the southwest corner of the Firelands plaza. The high-tech facility will house state-of-the-art instructional classrooms and serve as a center for community outreach and distance-learning programs.

Williams also said he will use the year to finalize his future plans, which could include remaining at Bowling Green as a professor or administrator.

Charles Middleton, provost and vice president for academic affairs, said, "Dr. Williams has done an excellent job as dean of the Firelands College and has provided outstanding leadership during his tenure."

He added that Williams' accomplishments at Firelands in the ground-work he has laid for the future should guarantee that the University will attract top-level candidates to fill the position. A nationwide search for a new dean will begin this semester.

Accomplishments during Williams' tenure include: technology advancements at Firelands, including creation of the IDEA Center (Interactive Distance Education and Conferencing Center) which allows for two-way instruction and videoconferencing; updating and networking of all campus computing resources.

Darby Williams

resources.

He earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Ohio State University.

He made headlines last summer when a walking tour of Puerto Rico's Caribbean National Forest went awry and he was lost in the rain forest for 12 days.

Monitor resumes weekly schedule

Monitor resumes weekly publication with this issue. Any campus office whose name or location has changed, or which would like a different number of copies of Monitor than it now receives, is asked to notify the public relation office either by phone (2-2716) or email (jkmille@bgnet.bgsu.edu).
**in brief**

**Festival Series set**

The 1998-99 University Festival Series has been set, with a variety of musical entertainment on tap for local audiences.

The season will open with an Oct. 9 appearance by the Bang on a Can All-Stars. Soprano Dawn Upshaw will perform on Nov. 9, violist Nokuthula Ngwenyama on Feb. 13, Lea Ballels Trockadero de Monte Carlo on March 18 and jazz pianist Gene Harris on April 17.

All Festival Series performances are at 8 p.m. in Kobacker Hall in the Moore Musical Arts Center. Season tickets may be ordered by calling the box office at 2-8171. The box office is open from noon-6 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Unchanged from last year, season ticket prices for adults are $110 for mezzanine seats, $80, main floor (Rows A-T), and $55, main floor (Rows U-Y) and balcony. Student prices are $90, mezzanine, $65, main floor (A-T), and $40, main floor (U-Y) and balcony. ♣

**McCabe hired at WBGU-TV**

Neil McCabe has been appointed development director at WBGU-TV.

McCabe joins the station after serving as a consultant to educational institutions and community-based organizations. From 1986-93, he was vice president for development at Tiffin University, where he led two successful capital campaigns.

His new position entails fundraising for WBGU including three major on-air membership campaigns annually. He will also direct the station's major donor program—The General Manager's Circle—and estate and planned giving programs.

To contact McCabe about such programs at WBGU, call 2-7094. ♣

**Fee waiver forms due for fall**

Staff members should complete and submit employee and dependent fee waiver forms for fall 1998 classes to the human resources office by Aug. 6.

Waiver forms are available in any departmental office. Once completed, forms must be signed by the departmental budget administrator. ♣

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**Heating plant project plus fall classes to equal parking at greater premium**

With the first day of the new academic year only two days away, faculty and staff who use Parking Lot E by the new central heating plant should start thinking of alternate places to park, if they haven't already.

Parking in Lot E will be limited until demolition of the smokestack and construction of the new central heating plant is completed during the summer of 1999.

The north half of Lot E has been closed since June, and although it has been inconvenient, overflows have been able to park in a nearby commuter student lot (Lot 4) since summer sessions are less busy. With the first day of fall semester fast approaching, however, Lot 4 will not be as available since it likewise will be full.

Rearranging the original schedule, workers were able to create a new parking space out of what was a grassy area on the south end of Lot E, producing an additional 24 parking spots. Creation of that parking area was not set to occur until the end of the project, but according to James McArthur, architect's office, "they decided to do it so we have more additional parking during this time period."

That was good news for Steve Enriquez, parking, a traffic, who described herself as "very glad" for the additional parking spaces. "We had expressed a need for additional parking to help people out while the construction is going on," she said.

The lot was striped two weeks ago. It will only last temporarily in the stone lot, "but that will be long enough for people to get in the habit of knowing how to park there. We would ask people to exercise caution with the lot—because it is stone, they should be careful as they walk across," Enriquez said.

McArthur said design requirements and restrictions prevented the addition of more parking spaces in the new area. "There's just no room to put another row," he said. Also noted that the area will be blacktopped next year.

"We totally understand that this is going to be inconvenient for people while the construction is going on, but we just hope that people focus on the fact that it's just temporary," Enriquez said. "It won't last forever, and once it's done it will be so much better than what we've dealt with the past 20 years."

Alternatives for persons accustomed to parking in Lot E include use of the shuttle service, parking in other nearby faculty/staff lots or carpooling.

Persons who decide to shuttle to work may park in Lot 6 by the intramural fields, Enriquez said. Both daily routes begin at the visitor's center and make a stop at Founders Hall, "which, for people who work at the Administration Building, would be the closest stop," she said.

The main route, from 7 a.m.-7 p.m., operates on a 21-minute cycle, with the Founders stop being the sixth stop on the route. The day route, from 8 a.m.-6 p.m., is on a 15-minute loop, with Founders being the third stop.

"We don't plan to add a stop at the Administration Building or start the day route earlier than 7 a.m.," Enriquez said. "What we are suggesting is that people are going to have to change their current habits by allowing more time before they arrive at work."

The nearest faculty/staff spots are Lot J by McDonald and Lot F behind the Student Union, "or faculty and staff can overflow into commuter lots, but they should keep in mind that they are possibly taking students and commuter spots," she said.

"There are always empty spaces at the parking lots by the Ice Arena or the fieldhouse," she added. "I realize that is not convenient for people who work on the west end of campus, but they can still use the shuttle there, too."

Although the fieldhouse isn't part of the regular shuttle route, the bus will pick up passengers if the light is turned on there, she said.

"We're also encouraging people to carpool," Enriquez said. "That would mean less cars brought to campus. I know that's not easy to coordinate, but we think it's something people need to consider during this time period."

Carpooling, she said, "makes a lot of sense. I know people are oriented toward convenience, and when something like this happens, it's really irritating. But it's something they need to plan for. We encourage people to think about it now and start making arrangements."

The $10 million project began June 23, one week ahead of schedule, and currently involves clearing the site for the new building, according to McArthur. Work that must be completed includes removal of an underground oil tank, excavation of the foundation for the new building, and the brick-by-brick removal of the 250-foot smokestack.

The new plant will be located north of the present plant and will represent a change from the current coal-driven heating method to steam produced by natural gas. The new plant will be 12,000 square feet and will be constructed with three smaller smokestacks.

Use of the new plant will be cleaner for the environment and safer for nearby cars, McArthur said. "With coal, we had to get the emissions way up high and that's why the existing smokestack was necessary. The new way will be cleaner not only for the environment, but we had cars that used to get spewed with debris with the old method," he said.

After the site work is completed and the smokestack is removed (demolition is expected to take three months), walls for the new building will be erected and the steel construction for the roof will be installed, along with new boilers, McArthur said. "The building should be enclosed, with windows, doors, roof, so that we can start the internal work during the winter," he said.

Once the project is complete, the parking area available for faculty and staff should increase to 180 spots, he said. Half of Lot E will always be closed and there may be times that the lot is completely closed. "But there are too many variables at work here for us to be able to say whether they would occur," McArthur said.

"We'll let the public know about that ahead of time."

The portion of Thurstin Avenue that has been closed to allow work on a gas line extension from Mercer Road to the new plant was expected to reopen by last week. Wet weather caused a delay in the work. ♣
New remote access system to replace outdated service

Much of the attention given recently to the issue of remote access to the campus computer network has focused on the monthly charge which off-campus users are scheduled to begin paying this fall.

But Ann-Marie Lancaster, vice provost for technology, looked at it another way.

"One thing we do know is we are flooded with complaints," she said, noting that "people can't get in" because there are too few modems for the demand for access.

It's also a service with "significant costs" but no funding base, she added. When it started in the mid-80s, "nobody thought this was something a lot of people would want to use," she said, calling it "an understandable mistake" made by virtually every university.

"A service was offered without any funding source clearly identified," she said, and the Telecommunications Services budget has gone into deficit covering the costs.

The University, however, still wants to make remote access possible for faculty, staff and students, she said, and that's why proposals for service were sought in April.

The goal, Lancaster said, was to design a service that would meet the needs of constituents. Their active accounts probably number about 22,000, she said.

Among those needs is the unique one, she said, of Bowling Green's small local calling area. About 41 percent of the 2,094 full-time faculty and staff live outside the calling area, plus a number of computer science students come from the Toledo area and Firelands is 60 miles away, she said. Those people have never benefited from the current remote access system, she added.

The University also wanted cost effectiveness and good quality, she noted, saying she feels those goals have been met via the deal negotiated with Sprint Corp.

While the impact on individuals will vary, she said, the monthly charge of $12.95 per user will be a reduction for some faculty and staff who access the network now via an Internet service provider (ISP).

Of that $12.95 per month, $12.01 will go to Sprint, which will supply the access through modems maintained on campus. The remaining 94 cents will stay with the University, which will maintain authentication facilities and handle user registration and billing.

Sprint is also providing local call access with no additional usage charge from anywhere in the continental U.S. A local number will be available to users in the Bowling Green, Toledo and Huron calling areas; elsewhere, it will be a toll-free number.

She feels those goals have been met via the deal negotiated with Sprint Corp.

"This feature was a plus for Sprint, one of six vendors who responded to the request for proposals," Lancaster acknowledged "tradeoffs" in other areas but added that "we really feel this was clearly the best alternative."

A new server will offer a high-quality connection, and a more sophisticated authentication system will be able to detect users who remain logged on for days, she said.

"A responsible use agreement," including consequences of abuse, will be part of the sign-up procedure, she said.

More information on signing up, and paying, for the service should be out by month's end, she said, and the service will probably be available by late September.

The existing modem pool will be phased out, although roughly 100 modems will remain active for use during fall semester, she said.

If constituent groups are interested in having the new service as a benefit, they should talk up the matter with the appropriate budget committee, Lancaster said.

She said the Faculty Senate budget committee was told what was under consideration early in the spring.

The campus community is currently a residential life technology fee—$56 per semester this year—for such costs as their network connections and upkeep and staffing of computer labs.

And for the last four years, a portion of tuition increases has been set aside for technology infrastructure improvements, she said.

Dollars from that source have reached about $3.1 million annually, but "the needs (still) far exceed what we currently have," she said.

"There is no money that has been allocated for access," she reiterated.

Charging users for remote access "is definitely the trend. If you look at universities nationwide, they are all moving in this direction," Lancaster said.

She pointed out that Ohio State University is going to do so—under separate deals with IBM and Time-Warner Communications—and the University of Toledo is preparing to do likewise.

"Jerry Nogy, chief information officer at Toledo, said the university plans to improve its modem pool quality, but because of the investment made for technology that could quickly become obsolete, has found an ISP—Access Toledo. Users will be charged $10 per month, to a maximum of 160 hours of usage. Nogy said usage beyond that will entail an additional charge.

"Bowling Green's service will not have a limit on hours of connect time, although it is expected that users will connect only when actively using the system," Lancaster has said.

"I think Bowling Green is in good company," Nogy said, saying that "too many universities are taking a similar course with remote access."

"The bottom line is, we have no choice," Lancaster said. "We can't provide a service for which we have no funding base. It would be irresponsible for us to continue doing what we're doing."

Fall continuing education classes

A listing of continuing education classes for fall semester begins below. The remainder of the schedule will be printed in chronological order in subsequent issues of Monitor.

Sept. 2-Nov. 4
Survey of Wine. Meets Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., College Park Room 1, S120.
Real Estate Principles and Practices. Wednesdays, 6-9 p.m., College Park Room 2, S123, three CEUs.
Sept. 8-Oct. 22 or Jan. 12-Feb. 25
Basic Upholstering. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-9 p.m., Facilities Services, upholstery shop, S90.
Sept. 9-Oct. 21 or Oct. 26-Dec. 9
Beginning Karate. Mondays and Wednesdays, 7-30 p.m., St. Thomas More Parish, S45 (not including uniforms).
Sept. 9-Oct. 19 or Oct. 26-Dec. 7
Intermediate Karate. Mondays and Wednesdays, 7-30 p.m., St. Thomas More Parish, S40.
Advanced Karate. Mondays and Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., St. Thomas More Parish, S40.
Sept. 12-Oct. 31
GRE, GMAT, LSAT Preparation. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., location to be announced, $315.

All classes are offered through Continuing Education, International and Summer Programs. For catalogs, registration, questions, call 2-8181. Several free Career Education Assistance workshops are available and described in the catalog.

Changes in affirmative action office

Reorganization has brought changes to the affirmative action office.

Disability Services for Students, which had been in the affirmative action office, is now under the student affairs area and has moved to the ninth floor of the Administration Building.

Its phone (2-8495) and fax (2-8496) numbers are unchanged.

Affirmative action is still on the building's seventh floor but has a new phone number (2-8472) and new fax number (2-9533).

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