Core values come first, Ribeau says

1998-99 priorities cross campus community

President Sidney Ribeau used what he called “my first high-tech opening-day address” to reinforce the importance of the basic values he said are “essential to all we do” at the University.

Incorporation of the core values—respect for one another, cooperation, intellectual and spiritual growth, creative imaginations and pride in a job well done—necessary if the University is to achieve the six priorities set for this academic year. Ribeau said Monday (Aug. 24) in the Student Union’s Lenhart Grand Ballroom.

Established after consultation with the Legions advisory group and the president’s cabinet, those priorities include recruitment, student success, faculty and staff compensation, graduate education and research, professional training and development, and assessment of academic and non-academic programs and the way in which they’re delivered.

Recruitment

The first priority, recruitment, will build upon last year’s successful efforts. This falls freshman class numbers about 3,528—19 percent more than a year ago.

That is “truly an amazing feat,” the president said, recalling that he had heard “a litany of reasons why it couldn’t happen.”

“Everybody in the University who did something for the University in this recruitment effort really needs to savor this victory,” he added, praising the Enrollment Network and academic colleges for their work.

He also singled out a custodian whom he said helped attract a student or two to Bowling Green by talking about the University at a church.

The numbers of this fall’s first-year students are higher than their 1997 counterparts in more ways than one. They enter college with a better average ACT score (22.2) and high school grade point average (3.16) than last year’s freshmen, who were at 22.1 and 3.12, respectively.

Thus, the enrollment increase came without compromising academic standards, Ribeau said, drawing applause from the roughly 500 faculty and staff who attended the multimedia presentation.

“While it is important that we celebrate this year’s enrollment success, recruitment must continue to remain a top priority for all members of the University community,” the president said.

Student Success

Then there’s the more important matter, he said, of giving students an opportunity to be successful once they’re on campus.

“While recruitment efforts are vital to the future livelihood of the institution, it is our collective responsibility to provide an environment at BGSU that enables students to succeed” both in and out of the classroom, he said, citing student involvement as the key.

“Research has shown that by making a meaningful connection with at least one other person on campus, students are more likely to be successful in college, matriculate to graduation and become good citizens with a strong sense of civic responsibility,” Ribeau noted.

New faculty initiatives aimed at helping students succeed are “Leading and Learning Together” and “PLUS,” a Faculty Senate-division of Student Affairs program “designed to get faculty and students to come together in an informal setting where faculty can assist students in identifying their needs early in the postsecondary experience,” Ribeau said.

The new efforts should create an environment that encourages stronger mentor relationships, which “undoubtedly contribute to student success and are true treasures within the academic community,” he said.

Those initiatives join existing, student success-oriented programs and learning communities, including UNIV 100, Springboard, BG Effect, the President’s Leadership Academy and Chapman.

About 30 percent of these fall’s first-year students are in one of those programs, which is “well on the way” to his goal of 100 percent participation by freshmen in at least one such experience, the president said.

Compensation

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The immediate goal, he said, is to develop a plan for implementation over the next four or five years, with input from Faculty Senate, Administrative and Classified Staff councils and the Board of Trustees.

“Part of our plan will involve dedicating a minimum of $500,000 per year to addressing the need for market and equity salary adjustments and funds for targeting specific groups which are falling behind our peers/competitors. These funds will be in addition to the regular pool for annual salary increases,” he said.

Another example of an area where these funds would be applied is dealing with the issue of appropriately reflecting years of service in the placement of administrative staff within the salary ranges.”

“Key component of our compensation plan will be to carefully re-examine the composition of appropriate peer groups against which we benchmark BGSU compensation,” Ribeau continued.

“Other concerns, the most relevant comparison group is probably the local labor market where we are competing with other employers,” he said. For faculty, the most relevant groups are comparable institutions in Ohio and nationwide, and for administrative staff, “we will most likely need a mixture of local, state and/or national peer groups,” he added.

He also emphasized that the planned approach to the compensation issue relies on two major assumptions: continued progress in enrollment and state financial support that at least keeps pace with inflation. If those things happen, “we can do this” with compensation, he stressed.

Graduate Education

Addressing graduate education and research, Ribeau said it’s not enough to say the University’s doctoral programs are “OK” or...
CSC opposes remote access fee

The resolution, passed by the Committee on the University's plan to charge a computer network access fee to off-campus users, was made.

The resolution—drafted by a committee of the Contingent Groups Caucus—was contingent upon its approval by the full caucus.

Beginning next month, under an agreement with Sprint Corp., the university plans to charge students, faculty and staff $12.95 a month for off-campus network connections.

The resolution states that the university has, over the past four years, increasingly encouraged and supported the use of the campus network as a learning and communications tool, but that an additional cost to students, faculty and staff is needed.

The resolution notes that free off-campus Internet access is available at a number of Ohio universities and the University of Michigan.

According to the resolution, imposition of the fee "has the potential to limit the current use and expansion of technology for learning and communication" and "any fee for off-campus Internet access might marginalize those with limited ability to pay for this service.

The resolution notes that current undergraduate students are 'already assessed a fee for the use of technology and have also been assessed an increase in tuition and fees for the 1998-99 academic year,' and that the University's campus community via the five constituent groups opposed off-campus Internet access fees.

Because "remote access to the campus network is a common and daily part of the University's educational and business activities," the resolution asks that the access fee be eliminated and that the leadership of the constituent groups work with the central administration "to promptly identify ways to provide high quality, reliable, remote access at no additional cost to students, faculty and staff".

CSC Chair Jay Samelak, Student Senate, said "Every one has heard from has been opposed to this," to which CSC members voiced general agreement.

"It seems that another benefit of working here is disappearing," added CSC Treasurer Robin Euler, sponsored programs and regulations.

The council also registered its strong opposition to the planned creation of a faculty lounge in the union.

The lounge was located on the second floor of the union, where such a lounge was previously located before the disbandment several years ago.

Members said they understood the need for collegiality among faculty but that such a lounge would better located within a faculty-related area rather than in the Student Union. They also noted that locating the lounge in the union will eliminate space and potential revenue there.

Also questioned was how the lounge will be financed, with plans for daily refreshment services to be provided there for faculty.

Steve Lashaway, facilities services, said it seems like this will draw a division line that the University has been trying to tear down.

Nancy Frey, information technology services, agreed, noting that creation of such a lounge "is against what the President has been trying to do with creating a community here.

In other business, Samelak presented the ap-pointments to the group's standing committees and reported that the University's summer hours situation is still under negotiation. The provost's office had asked departments to keep track of incoming phone calls on Friday afternoons.

"There was no way it was done" in each office on campus, he said.

Latta named interim development director

Gloria J. Russell Caffey, retired professor of physical and health education, death College of Education and Human Development faculty and staff for the 100th birthday party they gave her at the college opening-day reception, Aug. 24.

Caffey, who taught at the University from 1948 until her retirement in 1969, holds a proclamation signed by Les Stemberg (rear), dean of the college. Caffey, who turns 100 on Tuesday (Sept. 1), was congratulated in the proclamation for "a long and fruitful life," a phrase backed by a cake and an oversized birthday card both decorated with apples.

"At the grassroots level, our institutional assessment should be grounded in responding to three basic questions: 1. What kind of citizens do we want our graduates to become? 2. What kind of society do we want them to live in? 3. How can we best shape our institution to nurture those kinds of people and that kind of society?

"We are in the process of creating a University that didn't exist" several years ago, Brieault said. That's not a "neat, easy, clean process," and it doesn't always work like it should, he added, but the people involved must keep trying.

"The mission," he said, "is a work in progress."

The full text of the president's remarks is available on the University's home page on the Web: http://web.bgsu.edu.
Focus on teaching commended at first New Faculty Conference

The joint efforts of town and gown to promote good relations among people of all races were recognized Wednesday (Aug. 26) in Columbus during the Governor's Challenge Conference "Communities 2000." The conference for mayors, minority leaders, police chiefs, business and community leaders, as well as university and school administrators, highlighted a handful of innovative programs from around the state as "best practices." In addition to showing a video clip about Bowling Green's programs, University and city administrators discussed highlights of community efforts in a session titled "Racial Legacies in Learning." Lorna Gonsalves-Pinto, director of BGSU diversity initiatives, said the relationship between the University and city to work together on projects that promote diversity is key to the community's success. "This is really an honor to be selected by the governor to give a presentation on what we're doing here," she added.

Also representing Bowling Green at the conference was Charles Middleton, provost and vice president for academic affairs; John Moore, former interim vice president for University advancement; James Wiegand, director of public safety; Bowling Green Mayor Wesley Hoffman; city administrator John Fawcett, and city police Chief Thomas Voyata. Recent activities undertaken in the community have included discussion forums, arts presentations and promotion of the University's core values which emphasize respect for all people. About 350 people attended the conference, where other "best practices" presentations showcased corporate and civic activities in Columbus, Euclid and Cincinnati.

Gov. George Voinovich said he has always believed that "community leaders have a special responsibility to promote unity and positive race relations in our communities." He is committed as governor, he said, "to building an infrastructure of better human relations and racial understanding in our state— an infrastructure far more important than any roads or bridges we might build."

"Breakfast in BG" series set

This year's "Breakfast in BG" speaker series will begin Sept. 11 with William Gordon, executive director of the American Library Association, discussing "Libraries in the New Information Age." Subsequent speakers and their topics include:

- Jaak Panskepp, Distinguished Research Professor of Psychology, "Emotional Intelligence, Emotional Consciousness and Affective Neuroscience at BGSU," Oct. 9.
- Larry Davenport, partner-in-charge of entrepreneurial services in the Toledo office of Ernst & Young and director of the Northwest Ohio Entrepreneur of the Year program, "Entrepreneurs Extraordinary!" April 30.
- Kickoff to summer, May 28, speaker to be announced. The series will be held in 101 Oolcamp Hall, with the breakfast buffet opening at 7 a.m. and the program at 7:45 a.m.

Individual breakfasts cost $58, but all six are being offered for $40. Advance purchase is required. Checks should be made payable to the BGSU Foundation Inc. and sent to "Breakfast in BG" at Midlum Alumni Center. For more information, contact either Carol Sanner at 2-2708 or Deb Boyce at dboyce@bgnet.bgsu.edu. Anyone planning to attend the Sept. 11 program should make reservations by Sept. 7.

Governor's conference spotlights university-city diversity initiatives

The University received a commendation Aug. 20 for "bringing teaching to the forefront of your work here. The effort to improve teaching is unfortunately far too infrequent, so you are to be commended for that. Public universities need to do more with that type of thing."

Giving the compliment was Bill Arملine, education faculty member at the University of Toledo and keynote speaker at Bowling Green's first New Faculty Conference, sponsored by the provost's office and the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology. Introducing himself as a public school teacher instead of a faculty member, Armlin explained that "I've taught in higher education since 1981, but this is my 25th year in some form of teaching and I see the University of Toledo and Bowling Green as extensions of the public school systems. Conducting a discussion with new faculty—about 120 are full-time, including 65 on tenure track—Armeline asked them to identify and focus on such questions as what teaching is and where and how it occurs, and to organize their objectives in order to think systematically about their goals. He also noted it is important for teachers to focus on objectives they can control. "You need to investigate the notion of purpose, especially going into your first year at Bowling Green," he said. "You need to ask yourself: what you want to accomplish, what you stand for." Teaching, he said, involves multiple components, one of which is interest. "One element of that is what we are interested in and another is what is in our interest. Those two things may conflict, and it's the role of being a teacher that allows us to move from what everyone is interested in to what is to the common interest," Armlin said.

"We should be constantly going back and forth with that as a collective, multicultural community, and the classroom is the ideal place to do that," he said.

The three-day conference also included panel discussions on the issues of "Students as Spectators: Actors" and "Technology: What does it have to do with Teaching and Learning?" as well as daily workshops on assignment-centered coursework.

in brief

Mentors sought for BG Effect

The First Year Experience Program is still seeking a few administrative staff members to serve as mentors to first-year students in the BG Effect program.

The program matches students with faculty, staff and graduate student mentors to help them make social and academic transitions to campus life.

Typically, new students meet with mentors when they arrive on campus and work with them until they outgrow the relationship. The time commitment expected of the mentor is minimal, involving contacting the assigned student, either by letter or phone, to welcome him or her to campus; scheduling a face-to-face meeting early in the semester; maintaining regular communication with the student via email, telephone or personal meetings; maintaining availability with the student, and a positive attitude.

Persons interested should contact Jodi Webb, First Year Experience Program director, at jwebb@bgnet.bgsu.edu.

Child Development Center openings

Several openings remain for sessions beginning Wednesday (Sept. 2) in the Child Development Center, operated by the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences in Johnston Hall.

CDC programs serve children ages 3-9 (not yet in kindergarten), including special-needs children, in two half-day sessions: one from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and one from 1-4 p.m. Sessions run Monday-Thursday and follow the University's academic year.

Cost is $595 for the semester. A limited number of partial fee scholarships are available, depending on family circumstance.

Anyone interested in enrolling a child should contact either Vicki Knaurhase, CDC head teacher (2-7934 or 2-8949), the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences office (2-2062); Barbara O'Donnell, CDC director (2-7853), or Thomas Chibucus, chair of the department (2-7823).

Email "Question Box" established

The provost's office has established an email "Question Box," at provost@bgnet.bgsu.edu, "to facilitate the sharing of information as well as to reduce the spread of misinformation on key issues."

Deans, directors, chairs and others have been asked to "let us know via the 'Question Box' when there is a particular problem or issue for which it would be helpful to the University community to have more information," according to the provost's office.

Academic Charter on the Web

The Academic Charter is now available on the Web at www.bgnet.bgsu.edu/offices/academic.charter.

Hard copies of the charter, with the most recent changes, are available from department secretaries and the Faculty Senate office. Faculty may maintain an updated version either by reviewing their department secretary's copy or by printing a copy of charter changes from the Web site.

Workshop for department chairs

Registration is underway for a March 15-16 workshop at Miami University for department chairs.

Gary Shulman will present "Leading a Quality Department," which will teach application of assessment and quality improvement principles to teaching-learning processes and administrative functions. The workshop will also be offered Feb. 22-23 in Las Vegas, Nev.

For more information, contact Miami's continuing education office at (513) 529-1508 or its web site at www.mwuh.io.edu/continuingeducation.

Addition

Veterans Day, Nov. 11, will be a University holiday this year. It was inadvertently omitted from the 1998-99 academic calendar printed in last week's Monitor.
Outlined to dining services staff

Customer service do's and don'ts

How customers evaluate a service provider's performance boils down to factors, University Dining Services staff were told Aug. 21.

And there's one unbreakable rule, applicable campuswide—to the customer, you are the college.

That was central to the message brought, often comically, by Chicago-based SST Communications to dining services staff and student employees at a year-opening orientation session in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the Student Union.

The two-man, two-woman troupe also covered the 10 "deadly sins" of customer service in their fast-paced presentation, "Managing the Moments of Truth."

Those moments are when a customer forms an opinion of the service provider, they said, stressing the five basic factors and frequently illustrating, in skits, how not to apply them.

First among the factors was reliability, and more specifically, keeping promises, or apologizing immediately if a promise is broken.

Offering help is providing responsiveness, while assurance involves knowledge as well as courtesy. While common courtesy is important, it should be backed with product and institutional knowledge; listening skills, and problem-solving ability, the speakers said.

Their fourth factor, empathy, entails sensitivity to the customer's needs but remaining sufficiently detached emotionally to be capable of solving problems.

Wrapping up the list are tangibles, as anything the customer can see or feel, including the provider's appearance and even body language and other non-verbal cues.

The "deadly sins" begin with the three words "I don't know," SST founder Jeffrey Mangrum said. He reminded the audience, with its verbal help, of the importance of adding "...but I'll find out.

Also demonstrated with comedic effect were "sins" summarized by: "I don't care"; "I can't be bothered"; "I don't like you"; "I know it all"; "You don't know anything." "Don't come back," and "I'm right and you're wrong."

On the latter point, Mangrum noted that the customer may not always be right but should be given the benefit of the doubt.

Prejudice and lack of respect for the customer's need, illustrated as a "burry-up-and-wait" scenario, were the other "deadly sins."

The speakers also offered steps for dealing with customer complaints, including hearing them out; apologizing, whether you're at fault or not, and taking action, then asking if it meets their needs. There's often a fine line between serving your customer well and stranding them with a poor wire," Mangrum said, if the service is good, everybody wins.

That kind of service should be celebrated, the speakers added, saying that "what gets rewarded, gets repeated."

Continuing education offers computer classes

The continuing education office is offering several free computer classes designed for University employees during September and October.

For new users, the following classes are offered:

- The Web, Sept. 14, 1-3 p.m. for Macintosh and 9-11 a.m. for PC/Windows 95.
- File Management, Sept. 24, 3-4 p.m. for Macintosh and 10-11:30 a.m. for PC/Windows.
- For instruction in the Internet, these classes will be offered:
  - The Web, Sept. 14, 1-3 p.m. for Macintosh and 9-11 a.m. for PC/Windows 95; and Oct. 15, 9-11 a.m. for Macintosh and 1-3 p.m. for PC/Windows 95.
  - Email/Endora, Sept. 28, 1-3 p.m. for Macintosh and 9-11 a.m. for PC/Windows 95; and Oct. 29, 9-11 a.m., Macintosh, and 1-3 p.m. for PC/Windows 95.

For more information, contact 269-8421.

job postings

Contact human resources at 372-8421 for information regarding the following.

* CLASSIFIED: Deadline for employees to apply is noon Friday (Sept. 4).

- Automotive Mechanic 3 (9-4-1) — Facilties Services/ Grounds. Pay grade 10.
- Secretary 1 (9-4-3) — Management. Twelve-month, part-time position. Pay grade 6.
- Secretary 2 (9-4-4) — Academic Enhancements/Writing Lab. Pay grade 7.

Administrative Director, Conferences and In-House Training


In filling these positions, the University seeks to identify enthusiastic team players committed to serving the institution's faculty, staff and students in a manner consistent with the vision and core values of Bowling Green State University.

campus calendar...

Tuesday, Sept. 1
Psychology Colloquium, 4-5 p.m., 111 Business Administration Building. Carla Smith and William O'Brien will speak about "Occupation Health Psychology: A Preliminary Model for Interdisciplinary Training at the Graduate Level." Also participating will be Chris Keil, Fleming Fallon and Gary Silverman, all from environmental health.

Volleyball hosts Toledo, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena. Doors open at 6 p.m.; meet-the-team activities scheduled.

Wednesday, Sept. 2
Faculty Artist Series: Velvet Brown, tuba, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Opening event of the 1998-99 Faculty Artist Series.

Thursday, Sept. 3
Administrative Staff Council, 1:30 p.m., Alumni Room, Student Union.

Saturday, Sept. 5
Women's Soccer hosts Western Illinois, 1 p.m., Cochrane Field. First day of a two-day tournament.

Sunday, Sept. 6
Women's Soccer hosts Robert Morris, 2 p.m., Cochrane Field.

Monday, Sept. 7
Labor Day Holiday.

Continuing Events

Aug. 31 and Sept. 1
Open Auditions for the BGSU Theatre Production of "Standing on My Knees," 7 p.m., 402 University Hall.

Sept. 7 and 8
Open Auditions for the BGSU Theatre Production of "Woca Albert!", 7 p.m., 405 University Hall.

Open Auditions for the BGSU Theatre Production of "A Christmas Carol" adapted by F. Scott Regan, 7 p.m., 400 University Hall.

Open Auditions for the production of "The Chairs" by Eugene Ionesco, 7 p.m., 402 University Hall.

For information on any of the auditions, call 2-2222.

Fall continuing education classes

Followings is a continuation of the listing of this semester's continuing education classes, which began in last week's Monitor. The remainder of the schedule will be printed in subsequent issues.

Sept. 14-Nov.16
Real Estate Appraisal. Mondays, 6-9 p.m., College Park Room 1, S123, 3 CEUs.

Sept. 14-Oct. 22
Deline and Align. Sculp your body with impact-free resistance exercises. Mondays and Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., 221 Eppler North, $50.

Sept. 15-Oct.20 or Oct. 27-Dec. 1
Basic Yoga. Tuesdays, 6-7:30 p.m., 1104 A and B.

Sept. 15-Oct.20 or Oct. 27-Dec. 1
Dance for Adults. Mondays and Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m., 1-3 p.m., 221 Eppler North, $50.

Sept. 15-Oct. 22
Introduction to Curling. All equipment will be provided; bring a clean pair of tennis shoes. Thursdays, 7-9 p.m., Ice Arena, $50.

Sept. 15-Oct. 22
Stealing from Life. Writing Short Stories. Thursdays, 6-8 p.m., 221 Eppler North, $50.

Sept. 17-Oct. 8
Musical Arts Center. Opening event of "Standing on My Knees," 7 p.m., 402 University Hall.

Sept. 17-Oct. 8

In filling these positions, the University seeks to identify enthusiastic team players committed to serving the institution's faculty, staff and students in a manner consistent with the vision and core values of Bowling Green State University.

For more information, contact continuing education, 2-8181.