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Bowling Green State University

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Arts & Sciences dean finalists coming to campus in January

Campus visits have been scheduled in late January for four finalists for the position of dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Two and a half days of interviews are scheduled for each candidate, beginning Jan. 19-21 with Donald Nieman, chair of the University's history department. Following Nieman will be Nancy Gutierrez, chair of the English department at Arizona State University, Jan. 23-25; Arthur Greenberg, chair of the chemistry department at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Jan. 26-28, and William Frawley, chair of the linguistics department at the University of Delaware, Jan. 31-Feb. 2.

The finalists will meet with numerous individuals and groups, including the college's administrative and classified staff and the University community. More than 60 applications have been received for the position, which C.J. Cranney will vacate with his retirement next year. A 12-member search committee, chaired by Les Sternberg, dean of the College of Education and Human Development, has narrowed the field to four this fall. Following the on-campus interviews, the committee will make a recommendation (an unranked list with finalists' strengths and weaknesses) to the president/provost.

Almost human

"The Keeper" is among the lifelike animated characters made by the Bowling Green firm Lifeformations Inc., whose president is Gene Poor, visual communication technology and education. Shown are Pamela Keim, a former Bowling Green student, and Travis Gilliam, an alumni of the VCT program and now a graduate student.

Faculty receive $1.25-million grant for abstinence program in schools

"Our goal with the grant is to provide the best known abstinence curriculum, see how well it works, and find ways to make it better," said Laffin. Schools participating in the project as intervention schools will receive free curriculum and audio-visual materials, teacher training, three hours of graduate credit for teachers, paid substitute teachers while teachers attend the training, and data collection incentives. Comparison schools also will receive data collection incentives.

The curriculum has two editions, one for fifth and sixth graders and one for students in grades seven and eight. BGSU's research team hopes to study 70 intervention schools, which will implement the curriculum, and 70 comparison schools, which will continue to use their current curricula. The team will measure changes in students' knowledge, attitudes, self-esteem, intent to remain abstinent and sexual behavior over a five-year period.

Dates of first fall break set on new perpetual calendar

The University's first fall break will be on a Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 16-17, next year. The dates for the break appear on a new perpetual calendar whose change was necessitated by the introduction of the break. The calendar, which shows beginning and ending dates for academic terms and breaks through 2028, was approved by Faculty Senate on Dec. 7.

On the calendar, the fall break comes on the Thursday and Friday of the semester's seventh week if Veterans Day falls on a Monday or Tuesday. If the holiday falls on either Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the fall break will be on Monday and Tuesday of the eighth week. The reasoning behind that scheduling is to attempt to equalize the number of class meeting times so no one's class is disadvantaged, said Faculty Senate Chair Henry Garriott, romance languages.

The break won't be consistent with nearby institutions next year, but it may be in the future, Garriott said. Next year's University of Toledo break will be in late November, he said.

A resolution adopted by the senate last March with the approval of the provost's office indicated that the University's break would come either during the seventh or eighth week of the semester. Also at the meeting, President Sidney Ribeau said he hopes to have the next provost chosen by early January so that person can meet the finalists for the arts and sciences' dean position when they visit campus later.

STEELJACKS from the W.R. Meyers Co., Napoleon, begin the high-wire act of taking down the smokestack at the old heating plant. The first 100 feet of the 50-year-old, 250-foot landmark are to be removed by hand before a wrecking ball knocks down the remainder. Most of parking Lot E was closed last week—and could be again—because of concerns that a southerly wind might blow sparks and other hot debris from the demolition onto vehicles.
Cooksons' careers closing with Union

When Kathleen and Bobbi Cookson retire from work at the Student Union later this month, they will have nearly 73 combined years of service to the University, an unusual achievement in these transient times.

The mother-daughter pair, who officially retire Dec. 30, will be honored with a party Wednesday (Dec. 15) in the building they have come to call home. The retirement of the Cookscons coincides with the closing of the union for two years of expansion, a time of nostalgia for all those who work there.

"It's getting sad," Bobbi said. "We're counting down the days.

"We're losing two great people and we're losing our home," said Julie Weis, a dining services manager who has worked with the Cookscons for five years. "Kathleen opened the union and she's going to close it." Indeed, Kathleen, a dining services manager, began work at the University in 1998 a couple of weeks before the opening of the new Student Union. She has seen the building through good times and bad, including the days when you could buy a piece of the union's famous coconut cream pie for 25 cents and a little-remembered fire in the Falcon's Nest during the early years, according to Union Director Dave Crooks.

Kathleen has worked in practically every capacity, from grill cook to cashier to supervisor to manager. Some of the areas she worked in no longer exist, such as the Cardinal Room, once the Bowl-n-Greenery, which was more similar to today's Falcon's Nest. When it opened, the Falcon's Nest was a beautiful spot and what people meant when they referred to "the union," Kathleen said. "The Falcon's Nest was the union, and it was always packed. This was a little gem in here," she said, surveying the room where students sat eating, studying and chatting.

Kathleen left the University temporarily in the mid-1980s when early retirement was offered, but soon returned to work part time, eager to get back to the building she loved.

Bobbi, a food service coordinator, came to work at the union when she was only 15, one of several children of student employees who joined the staff. "I've grown up here," she said. "I was seven years old when mom started working here."

"It's given us a lot of things we wouldn't have had without it," said Kathleen about the union. "It's been good for me physically, mentally and emotionally as well as financially. In fact, I put financially last. If the union weren't closing, I'd keep working till I couldn't go anymore.

Both agreed it's the people they'll miss the most, in addition to the union itself. The feeling seems to be mutual. Weis said work days with the Cookscons has been a good experience. "You have to be a hard worker, but they're a lot of fun and they're very fair with everybody. I've come to think of Kathleen as my grandma and Bobbi as my aunt."

"We've enjoyed Kathleen and Bobbi's contributions over the years. They both have an emotional attachment to the Student Union. When they talk about it, it's in terms of 'our union.' They helped carry forward what they felt was the culture of the union through all these years as people have come and gone," Crooks commented.

He said both women were offered positions in other dining facilities around campus but refused, saying, "But it wouldn't be the union."

Neither Cookson has any specific plans for retirement, except for doing more traveling, but will take some time to think about what they'd like to do. Kathleen said Bobbi will not be idle for long. "She'll find something to do," she predicted.

Trustees approve big plan for capital improvements

The University's Board of Trustees launched the campus into the new century at its last meeting of the old one, approving an $86-million capital improvement plan on Dec. 6. The five projects to be completed include the $34.3-million renovation and expansion of the Student Union, the $56.6-million technology infrastructure project, $5.5 million in renovations to Conklin Hall, $7.5 million in renovations to Offenbauer and $2.4 million to install air conditioning in the Student Recreation Center.

The trustees had already approved the five projects, which will be funded from a number of sources, including private contributions, state capital improvement funds and bonds—with future debt service and interest payments coming from student fees and room and board charges—as well as from University auxiliary business operations.

But the Dec. 6 action gave the go-ahead to the administration to submit a request, as required by law, to the Ohio Board of Regents to review and approve the sale of up to $90 million in bonds, as well as to take other appropriate steps for the bonds' issuance.

In other action at the meeting, the board:

• Approved $33.3 million for auxiliary improvement projects, primarily in residence and dining halls, and a revised 2001-02 capital improvement plan for Firelands College. The plans for the board-funded capital improvements include $514,180 for the planned University Center and a $550,000 allocation to renovate the East, West and North buildings on the Firelands campus.

• Approved changes to the employee fee waiver policy that will make it consistent for faculty, classified and administrative staff.

Under the changes, full-time faculty and staff may take up to 13 credit hours per year (no more than eight hours per academic term if working). Credit hours will be prorated for part-time employees. Also, cohabitant spouses and their children of a retired full-time employee with 10 or more years of full-time service to the University are eligible for the fee waiver, provided that they were the employee's cohabitant spouse or dependents at the time of retirement and are eligible to be considered a personal exemption under Section 151 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Also at the meeting, the board heard a report from the Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives. Interim Director Bettina Shuford gave the board an overview of the center's objectives and activities while students DeAndre Jones and Jason Brewer told of their experiences with the center.

The center's three-pronged mission is to educate all students on issues of diversity and multiculturalism, to provide support and services to students of color and to work toward systemic change so that students of color will feel more comfortable at BGSU.

The center encompasses two divisions, Shuford told the board: Student Support Services and multicultural initiatives.

The multicultural initiatives side of the center aids students of color throughout their academic careers with programs as well as diversity training across campus. From freshman development to alumni mentoring of junior and seniors, the center is a sort of "home away from home" for minority students, Jones and Brewer said.

"One goal of the board when I came here four and a half years ago was to diversify the campus," President Sidney Ribeau noted. "We've met that goal and continue to grow in that direction."

The president also commented that he is pleased with the progress BGSU has made in enrollment and retention.

As of Dec. 7, 15,833 students were registered for spring classes, up by 846 from the same time a year ago.
in brief

ODK inducts Rose, Zachary, Thibault

Two administrators, a faculty member and four students have been tapped for membership into the University circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the most prestigious collegiate leadership honor society in the nation.

The administrators are Marshall Rose, director of affirmative action, and Mary Beth Zachary, head of access services for Libraries and Learning Resources. The faculty member is Roger Thibault, an associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences, director of the Environmental Studies Program and a biological sciences faculty member.

Marshall Rose

Before coming to Bowling Green, he was the affirmative action officer at Central Michigan University for four years. He earned a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma Christian College in 1972 and a master's degree in social work from Washington University in Missouri in 1976.

Zachary has been a member of the Library and Learning Resources staff since 1986. Active in University governance as a member of the Administrative Staff Council, she also has represented the University on committees which created and sustain OhioLINK, the statewide online library network. Currently, she is a member of OhioLINKS inter-campus services committee.

Mary Beth Zachary

Zachary earned her bachelor's degree in English at the University in 1971 and is working to complete a master's degree in library science. Earlier this year, she was named the first recipient of a $500 scholarship established by the Friends of University Libraries and Learning Resources to assist employees who are continuing their education by earning a master's degree in library science.

She is a member of the American Library Association and the Academic Library Association of Ohio.

Thibault joined the Bowling Green faculty in 1973 after teaching for one year at Iowa State University. He became director of the Center for Environmental Programs in 1996.

Roger Thibault

The recipient of a dozen research grants and five instructional grants, he has made presentations at more than 30 regional and national conferences. He is the author of nine journal articles and is a past grant reviewer for both the National Science Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency.

A six-time Master Teacher Award nominee, he was honored with a Faculty Excellence Award by the College of Arts and Sciences in 1997. He is a member of the Ecological Society of America, the Ohio Academy of Science, the Society for the Study of Evolution and the National Center for Science Education.

Third provost finalist discusses how BGSU might achieve vision

Fred Kitterle, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Northern Illinois University and a finalist for the provost's position, discussed possible ways that Bowling Green could achieve its primary goal when he met the University community.

"Getting people to be a learning community and (one of) the best in the nation. This means being recognizable. As Yogi Berra said, 'People recognize me by my face,'" the Queens, N.Y., native said.

"What about the Bowling Green when one talks about a learning community?"

An important aspect of a learning community is the synergies created and the symbiotic relationship between the academic and non-academic parts of the institution, Kitterle said.

At Northern Illinois, he said, retention of students is seen as the critical factor in being a premier learning community. It also fosters the generation of funds. "We want students' learning and extracurricular activities to be very, very meaningful. This creates an identification with the institution, which is a major factor in retention. The engagement of faculty and students takes a large institution and makes it feel smaller and more individualized," he said.

Kitterle is a strong believer in an integrated curriculum, and at Northern Illinois has overseen a cross-college initiative to thematically coordinate general education courses. Sensitive to the need to retain faculty jobs, he said that rather than change the array of courses offered, the university had changed their arrangement and the pedagogy behind them so students see the linkages between subject matter. The change has also generated excitement among faculty, he said.

Another thing Bowling Green could potentially do is "engage students in discovery; let them participate in research," he said. When students are considering the general education courses they will be required to take, it takes something special to convince them to choose one university over another. To offer the possibility of participating in meaningful research is a very powerful message when students are looking around for a university to go to," Kitterle said, adding that Northern Illinois has found funding to support undergraduate research.

An experimental psy.

(Continued on page 4)

Year-end gifts credited toward Family Campaign

Financial gifts to the University during the holiday season will be credited toward the 1999-2000 Family Campaign.

As with last year's campaign, gifts may be directed to any fund or department. Stock market gains are making it easier for many individuals to give gifts of appreciated stock or mutual funds.

For more information on giving a year-end contribution or a stock gift, call the development office at 2-2424.

Addendum
Compensation back on ASC agenda

Administrative Staff Council discussed the distribution of the compensation pool for this academic year at its Dec. 2 meeting. Chancellor Mary Beth Ziehm, who led the meeting in place of Paul Lopez's absence, brought the meeting up to date on several meetings with Linda Dobb, interim provost and vice president for academic affairs, and Rebecca Ferguson, assistant provost, human resources.

The goal is to keep administrative staff informed of the decision-making process on bringing staff members whose salaries are still below market value up to par. As part of President Sidney Ribeau's plan for this year, each administrative staff member received a $626 "bump" market adjustment in addition to the merit raise. Also, the president allocated $160,000 specifically to address those employees falling below their market salary level. The challenge is to decide how best to divide the money, ASC Secretary Claudia Clark, Counseling Center, said after the meeting.

One plan calls for those who have worked at the University more than five years to be adjusted first, and another proposal is to increase salaries of staff with more than nine years' service but below the midpoint of their range, Zachary said. Council member Joe Luthman, information technology services, said there are three criteria that one could use to determine whose salaries to increase:

- Years of service, years on administrative staff or years in one position.
- "It's impossible to be fully equitable using any one of those parameters," he said.
- Administrative salaries were given position grade ratings. In 1995, the result of the Mercer study, which analyzed all positions. Maximum and minimum salary ranges were then determined. Now, from January through March, the Mercer group will revisit those ranges.

The Personnel Welfare Committee, which is most involved in the compensation issue, is also studying how to reward people who are at their salary cap. This will be affected by the Mercer report on salary ranges, Zachary said.

In other Dec. 2 business, council discussed the proposal for a University Common Time that would allow an uninterrupted period twice a week in which to hold meetings, host speakers and presentations and allow students to visit offices. Council members voiced a number of concerns about the idea, particularly its potential impact on staff work time, though they expressed general approval for the concept.

Also, Laura Emch, chair of ASC's Professional Development Committee, said the committee is setting up a professional development morning for March.

Hammond honored at symposium

An internationally known University photochemist was honored as the featured guest and speaker at the prestigious Osprey Symposium recently in Cincinnati.

George Hammond, a Visiting Distinguished Professor and McMaster Senior Fellow in the Center for Photochemical Sciences, was honored at the annual event, which recognizes a scientist who has distinguished the chemistry profession during his or her career. Of the 19 former winners, seven have been Nobel laureates.

In addition to presenting the keynote address during a day of presentations, Hammond was honored with a 5,100 cash prize donated to a charity or organization of his choice. He selected the United States Postal Service and Materials Sciences as recipients of the gift.

Cheeses from around the country attended the day-long symposium and seven scientists specifically influenced by Hammond during their careers made presentations in his honor. Among the seven were Douglas Neels, McMaster Distinguished Research Professor and founder and executive director of the Center for Photochemical Sciences, and Michael A.J. Rodgers, an Ohio Eminent Scholar and chemistry faculty member.

In addition to his affiliation with Bowling Green, Hammond is a visiting research professor at both Georgetown University and Portland State University. In 1994, he received a National Medal of Science Award in recognition of a lifetime of achievement in the sciences. He has also received the Priestly Medal, the American Chemical Society's highest award for service to the profession. Most recently, in 1998, he was honored by Bowling Green with the establishment of the George S. Hammond Fellowship to support graduate education in his area of chemistry at the University.

From 1987 until his retirement in 1987, Hammond was executive director of geoscience, metals and ceramics at Allied Signal, a company which specializes in aerospace and automotive products, chemical and advanced materials.

He joined Allied Signal in 1978 after four years as foreign secretary of the National Academy of Sciences.

Bowling Green mayor to get honorary degree

Bowling Green Mayor Wesley Hoffman will receive an honorary doctor of public service degree during Saturday's (Dec. 18) commencement exercises. A 1971 graduate of the University, Hoffman is being recognized for his 26 years of service to his country as an Air Force officer and 24 years of service to Bowling Green as a service director, municipal administrator and mayor.

Following his retirement from the military, and before embarking on his public service career, Hoffman earned a master's degree in public administration, with a concentration in management, at Bowling Green State University in 1978 after four years of service to his country as an Air Force officer and 24 years of service to Bowling Green as a service director, municipal administrator and mayor.

job postings

FACULTY

Contact human resources at 372-8421 for information regarding the following: CLASSIFIED Deadline for employees to apply is noon Friday (Dec. 17):


ADMINISTRATIVE
Assistant Coach, Men's and Women's Swimming (M-119)—Intercollegiate Athletics. Deadline: Jan. 7.

BCGS upcoming technol- ogy infrastructure project, Kitterle said he would speak to several faculty about bringing together faculty to determine the best practices for technology implementation both in and out of the classroom. He also recommends taking ideas from other institutions that have been especially successful.

Regarding faculty staffing, he said he believes some faculty should be brought in to fill the positions of professors in the public sector.

To a question about how he views the provost's role in BCGS, he said he believes that the provost's role is to be a leader and to create a culture of excellence.

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