Today (Feb. 14) marks the opening of the Family Cam­pa­aign, an annual opportunity for all members of the BGSU fam­ily—classified and adminis­trative staff, faculty and retirees—to give something back to the University. This year’s theme is “Rooted in Success,” a continua­tion of last year’s “Planting the Seed,” the first campus fund­raising drive in more than a decade.

The seed that was planted has indeed borne fruit, accord­ing to Ken Frisch, development. More than $350,000 was com­mitted by the University family last year to support many impor­tant endeavors. Donors have directed their gifts toward schol­arships, the Family Room of the soon-to-be renovated Student Union, departments, programs and a variety of other causes, all of which will ultimately move the University closer to its goal of becoming the premier learn­ing community in Ohio.

Leading the campaign are co­chairs Ramona Corrier, trustee professor emeritus of philoso­phy, representing BGSU retirees; Mitt Hakel, Ohio Scholar in psychology, represent­ing faculty; Mary Krueger, direc­tor of the Women’s Center, represent­ing administrative staff; and Jay Samelak, Student Union, representing classified staff. Their goal is to encourage all members of the campus family, both on the main campus and at Firelands College, to contribute.

Last year’s campaign saw a 35 percent participation rate, con­sidered excellent for first­time efforts. With that early success at its root, this year’s endeavor promises to be even more suc­cessful, says campaign coordina­tor Kevin Koncency, develop­ment.

All employee contributions made to BGSU between July 1, 1999, and June 30 of this year will count toward the Family Campaign and will help the University achieve its goal of 100 percent participation. Em­ployees who have already dono­ted this fiscal year are encour­aged to consider an additional area they might wish to support as part of the formal campaign.

This year’s campaign will reach employees in their indi­vidual buildings, according to the committee. Building repre­sentatives will distribute and collect pledge cards and may choose, along with their col­leagues, to plan additional edu­cational activities around the campaign.

Because they are the most inti­mately involved in the day­to­day life of the campus, faculty and staff are also most keenly aware of the University’s needs. Their contribution is a concrete way to express their belief in the value of the institution. Early support of the campaign by the campus community will create the momentum for its overall success, the committee says.

Employee giving can also yield another benefit: a positive influence on the gift deci­sions of corporations, foundations, alu­umni and friends. As Marcia Latta, development director, told Faculty Senate recently, external donors are increasingly looking at levels of “leadership giving” by employees in deciding to which institutions they give.

The actual dollar amount con­tributed is less important in their eyes than the percentage of employees who participate, she said.

Just as University students need the support of their fam­i­lies to succeed and flourish, so does the University, according to the committee. The Family Campaign will actively continue through the month of March, but all contributions from em­ployees through June 30 will count toward giving totals.

BGSU gears up for monumental Presidents’ Day

They’re all over the state: “Presidents’ Day Rocks” bill­boards inviting high school students and their parents to visit BGSU next Monday for one of the University’s biggest recruit­ment days of the year. The event, which has grown in attend­ance every year, is expected to draw more than 6,000 people to campus.

This year’s campaign motif is Mount Rushmore. Advertise­ments show the monumental pres­i­dents’ bathing caps and mortarboards, expressing the campaign’s theme that higher education is a peak experience and reaches its summit at Bowling Green. Creating an atmos­phere of excitement about life and learning at BGSU that stu­dents relate to is the goal of the campaign, according to Fred Connor, marketing and commun­ications.

More than 21,000 red, white and blue registration forms have been sent out, and on­line regis­trations have been coming in steadily. In addition, more than 1,300 radio ads and advertise­ments in dozens of newspapers statewide are part of the cam­paign. An important addition this year is the special toll­free number for the Cleveland area: 1-877-VISITBGU. That number will be retained by the Univer­sity for future events, Connor said.

Efforts to reach out to pro­spective students are matched on campus. As of last week, 155 faculty and staff mem­bers and nearly 50 student tour guides had volunteered to help. The women’s softball team will serve as “people movers,” directing visitors around campus, accord­ing to David Rice, assistant director of admissions and coordi­nator of the day’s events. The real highlight of the day will be the open houses hosted by each academic department.

Many have planned special tours and have made arrangements to have visiting students sit in on classes. At the chemistry department, a variety of interactive sessions are planned. Faculty will man a drop­in reception center, while throughout the day presenta­tions will be offered in three laboratories, one staffed entirely by upper­level undergraduates. A separate presentation is planned for students interested in studying medicine.

Visitors can also get a taste of BGSU at a special buffet in 101 Olscamp Hall, or receive a 10 percent discount coupon good for lunch at any of the campus dining facilities.

For the first time, Kobacker Hall will be used for presenta­tions by the admission office to high school juniors and seniors and for financial aid sessions.

With the Student Union closed for renovation, Anderson Arena will be the site of college exhibits and more than 35 stu­dent services areas. The Univer­sity Honors Program and the Office of Residence Life will offer informational programs in Olscamp Hall.

“We have had exceptional cooperation from faculty, staff and students. This type of an event could not be possible without everyone’s help and enthusiasm, and this promises to be the best Presidents’ Day Open House yet,” Rice said, adding that more help is always wel­come and needed.

Anyone interested in partici­pating in Presidents’ Day events should call Kay Nickel Gudehus at 2-7857 or Susan Macias at 2-7808, both in admissions.
FACULTY
Chemistry Department. Assistant professor, tenure track. Call 2-2031. Deadline: March 15.
Contact between resources at 372-8421 for information regarding the following:
CLASSIFIED
Deadline for employees to apply is 1 p.m., Feb. 18.
Cashier 1 (C-28-Va)—Bursar's office. Pay grade 3.
Listed on and off campus simultaneously.
Food Service Worker (C-26-Va)—University Dining Services. Pay grade 1. Nine-month, full-time.
Housekeeping Manager 3 (C-29-Va)—Facilities Services. Pay grade 9.
ADDITIONAL
Residence Hall Director (M-014)—Office of Residence Life. Administrative grade level 13. Review of applications will continue until position is filled.
Director (M-110)—Sponsored Programs and Research. Graduate College. (Change in qualifications) Review of applications will begin Feb. 11 and continue until position is filled. Manager of Employee Resources (M-013)—Office of Human Resources. Administrative grade level 16. Deadline: Feb. 18.
Head Women's Soccer Coach (M-008)—Intercollegiate Athletics. Deadline: Feb. 10.
Grants Specialist (V-098)—(Re-advertised) Division of Intervention Services. Administrative grade level 12. Review of applications will begin Feb. 18 and continue until position is filled.
Director of Major Gifts (M-097)—Development (re-advertised). Administrative grade level 18. Review of applications will begin March 3 and continue until position is filled.

For news briefs, additional stories and expanded calendar listings, click on "Monitor" on the faculty/staff home page at the BG SU Web site.