

12-3-2001

Monitor Newsletter December 03, 2001

Bowling Green State University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/monitor>

Recommended Citation

Bowling Green State University, "Monitor Newsletter December 03, 2001" (2001). *Monitor*. 655.
<https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/monitor/655>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the University Publications at ScholarWorks@BGSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Monitor by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@BGSU.

MONITOR

VOL. 26 NO. 17 ◆ DECEMBER 3, 2001

Carlo Celli explores the work of 'The Divine Comic'

To most Americans, Roberto Benigni is most well known for his ground-breaking film "Life Is Beautiful (La vita è bella)," which won three Academy Awards in 1999. A new book by Carlo Celli, *romance languages*, introduces readers to the multifaceted artist's other roles.

"Life Is Beautiful" deals with the Holocaust as a fable about the love of a father for his son and wife, and about survival in the face of overwhelming evil. Unlike other films on the topic, it shows humor in the midst of horror and does not dwell on graphic images of the concentration camp. It is perhaps not surprising that this very unconventional director/performer has chosen an unconventional approach to such a formidable topic, explains Celli in his book, *The Divine Comic: The Cinema of Roberto Benigni*, published this summer by Scarecrow Press. The title reflects the influence of the poet Dante on Benigni.

Not only was Celli able to obtain exclusive interviews with the elusive Benigni to write the book, he was also invited to visit the set of the director's new movie, "Pinocchio," which, like all his productions, has been kept under tight wraps. Benigni, voluble though he can be, carefully measures his exposure in the media, so Celli's access to him was quite unusual.

"Benigni is remarkable in his ability to communicate at all levels without affectation. He adapts his style to what is needed for the particular occasion, from buffoonery to the high culture of verbal performance," Celli said.

The basic humanity and inclusive nature of the controversial director were evident on the set of "Pinocchio," according

to Celli. "He is the antithesis of the stereotypical director," Celli said. He treated everyone on the set, from prop people to extras to the stars, equally and was "totally approachable. There was a very collective spirit to the entire production."

Benigni's *Pinocchio* is not the story made popular by Walt Disney, but the original old fable, which is much darker, Celli said. In the book, Benigni discusses his plans to film the story, which he sees as the



Carlo Celli

natural predecessor to Kafka's *Metamorphosis*. The film is expected to be released in 2002.

In *The Divine Comic*, Celli explores the family background and oeuvre of Benigni, whose upbringing in post-war Italy seems now to

belong to another, more distant time. Raised first in a small farming village in Tuscany, he lived with his parents and numerous relatives in the family home, without benefit of modern

conveniences. But, he says, "I recall the poverty of those years as richness, because the whole world was waiting to be discovered. The wealth of poverty is the ability to recognize the fantastic side to everything in life." This proved to be a formative experience, as his work has borne out.

Celli also discusses the director's films, tracing the development of Benigni's directing style and his constant pushing against the boundaries of art. He does this both in the films and in his comedy shows, in which he delivers biting political and social satire, at times earning the wrath of listeners for his flouting of religion and society.

Strategic plan guides BGSU into the new year

As the University prepares to begin a new year, now is a good time to take a look at where campus strategic planning efforts stand.

This has been a challenging year for BGSU and other state colleges and universities, according to William Knight, director of planning and institutional research. With the budget cutbacks ordered by the governor, higher education institutions have had to reorganize their finances and make some hard choices.

Having a strategic plan and institutional priorities in place serves as a valuable guide when making decisions, at every level of administration. The president recently asked all deans and vice presidents to update their unit plans and to decide resource allocation as it relates to those plans. Units should submit planning updates for

this year to their deans, vice provosts, and vice presidents by Feb. 11, and these administrators, in turn, are to submit their updated division goals to President Ribeau by March 4, Knight said.

Another factor facing BGSU this year is the upcoming North Central Association re-accreditation self-study. A key component of the self-study is evidence that the University is making progress toward the goals set out in the last review, in 1993, and evidence that it has the wherewithal to continue making progress. The strategic plan and the planning success and planning support indicators maintained by the Office of Institutional Research will help in the process, Knight said.

Bowling Green's strategic planning is carried out by the University Planning Council, with input from campus constituents. The UPC comprises 15 people who hold a University-wide perspective and who represent a broad cross-section of the University community.

Part of its task is to identify strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats to BGSU's success. The Planning Support Indicators serve as a tool for tracking the status of key areas, such as full-time tenured faculty or membership in student support organizations. The Planning Success Indicators are received and updated annually by the UPC and the Office of Institutional Research; they provide evidence of the University's

progress toward its Strategic Future Directions and the year's 10 institutional priorities.

Some of the Planning Success Indicators include:

- Learning outcomes have been identified and disseminated.
- First-to-second-year retention of new full-time freshmen has risen from 75.5 percent in 1995-96 to 77.8 percent in 2000-01, but remains lower than its high point of 82.2 percent in 1986-87.
- The four-year graduation rate has risen from 26.8 percent in 1992-96 to a high of 33.3 percent in 1997-2001.
- Private giving for BGSU has increased from \$5.4 million in 1998-99 to \$8.0 million in 1999-2000 to 10.6 million in 2000-01, a 96 percent increase.
- The BGSU Family Campaign for faculty, staff, and retirees was initiated in 1998-99 and resulted in a 35 percent giving rate and \$454,985 raised. The 2000-01 campaign raised \$715,539 and the giving rate increased to 45 percent.

These examples show success and help identify areas to target for extra effort. To view the entire list of Strategic Future Directions, institutional priorities, planning success and planning support indicators, visit the "Planning at BGSU" Web site at www.bgsu.edu/offices/ir/planning_at_BGSU/coverpage.html.

The UPC welcomes suggestions for improving its service to the University community.

NSE information session is scheduled

The final information session this semester for students who wish to learn more about the National Student Exchange (NSE) program will be held at 8 p.m. Dec. 5 in 117 Business Administration Building.

NSE allows students to spend a semester or academic year at one of the 140 participating U.S. colleges and universities, while continuing progress toward their BGSU degree.

Faculty and staff are encouraged to introduce the program to their students.

Jack Taylor, special assistant to the vice president for student affairs/director for retention initiatives, is now heading the NSE program. For more information on the program or the final information session, contact Taylor at 2-9627 or by email at jtaylor@bgsu.net.

BGSU teams to walk for healthy hearts

On Saturday, Jan. 26, more than 40 University teams will participate in the Wood County Heart Walk. The 3.1 mile walk, for which the University is the Presenting Sponsor, will be held in the Perry Field House starting at 8:30 a.m. The purpose of the walk is to raise dollars for research and at the same time educate the public about America's number-one killer disease. Of the 40 teams on campus, 14 are associated with departments or offices. Student organizations make up the remaining teams.

There is still time to get a team together or to participate as an individual walker. If you are interested in walking to help save lives, contact Gregg DeCrane at 352-0716 or gdecrane@wcnnet.org. There will also be a meeting of existing teams and those who are interested in the walk at 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 4 in 215 Olscamp Hall.

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1
Bowling Green, Ohio

campus calendar.....

Monday, Dec. 3

Guest Artist: Dennis Nygren, clarinet, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Tuesday, Dec. 4

Men's Health Fair, health assessments and information, 4-7 p.m., Student Recreation Center.

Graduate String Quartet, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Wednesday, Dec. 5

Faculty Artist Series, Venti da Camera, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Open Forum, Code of Student Conduct, 9-10 p.m., 219 Olscamp Hall.

Thursday, Dec. 6

PCA Presentation Series, "Literacy Link," with Marc Adkins, Center for Evaluation Services, Priscilla Brehe Pixler and Janel Meszaros, Weston Elementary, and Thomas Southern, Division of Intervention Services, noon-1 p.m., The Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Dissertation Defense, "Brazil: The Military Regime's Economic Policy 1964-85," by Jack A. Bucco, history, 3 p.m., 106 Williams Hall.

Winter Retirees Reception, 3:30-5 p.m., Miletic Alumni Center.

Aids Awareness Program, featuring guest speaker Rae Lewis-Thorton, 6-9:30 p.m., 115 Olscamp Hall.

Poetry Reading, Denise Duhamel, author of *Girl Soldier*, and Kim Addonizio, author of *Tell Me*, 7:30 p.m., 111 Olscamp Hall.

World Percussion Night, 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Student Composers' Forum, noon, Bryan Recital Hall.

Dissertation Defense, "Territoriality: Analysis of the Territorial Authority of States,"

by Mario Pascalev, philosophy, 1-3:30 p.m., 317 Shatzel Hall.

Friday, Dec. 7

CHHS Presentation Forum, "Assessment of the Lead Management Program in Toledo," presented by Hailu Kassa, public and allied health,

4-5 p.m., 222 Health Center.

Dissertation Defense, "Belonging and Becoming: Toward a Consensualist Conception of Citizenship," by Carrie-Ann Khan, philosophy, 1-3:30 p.m., 301 Shatzel Hall.

Kwanzaa Celebration, with African dance, music, singing, and a fashion show, 7-10 p.m., 101 Olscamp. Admission is \$6.

Guest Artist, Christine Rutledge, viola, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Saturday, Dec. 8

Festival Series, Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra with Kyoko Takezawa, violin soloist, 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Tickets are \$40, \$32 and \$25. Call 2-8171.

Sunday, Dec. 9

Verdi Spectacular, with the Bowling Green Philharmonia and the University Choral Society, 3 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for senior citizens and BGSU students with valid ID. Call 2-8171.

Spaghetti Fund-Raising Dinner to benefit Dining Services Manager Jewel Hanna and his family, 5:30-7:30 p.m., McDonald Countryside. Minimum donation \$5 adults, \$3 children 12 and under (cash only). Call 2-2891 for additional information.

Continuing Events

Through Dec. 17

Art in Space: Student Installations, Willard Wankelman Gallery.* Opening reception, 7-9 p.m., Dec. 7 in the gallery.

Through Jan. 25

52nd Annual Faculty/Staff Exhibition, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery.*

*Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays except during winter break and observance of Martin Luther King Day, Dec. 17-Jan. 16.

BGSU is an AA/EEO institution.

in brief

Office chairs for sale

The Graduate Student Senate Office has two office chairs for sale: a plum-color, Criterion 453 Series high-back task chair, for \$400; and a navy blue, Springboard Steelcase chair for \$300. Both are less than a year old. Call 2-2426.

Free copier offered

NWOET has a Konica 7050 copier to give away. Recipient must arrange for pick-up. For more information, call 2-7033.

Pat Miller wins 'Spirit of BG' Award

Pat Miller, facilities services, has been selected as this month's classified staff Spirit of BG Award winner. Miller received \$75 in appreciation of her willingness to help others in need.

job postings.....

FACULTY

Firelands/Industrial Technology. Instructor. Call the dean's office, 2-0623. Deadline: March 1, 2002.

Ethnic Studies. Instructor/Lecturer (two positions). Call the department, 2-2796. Deadline: March 15, 2002.

Contact Human Resources at 372-8421 for information regarding the following:

CLASSIFIED

(Employees wishing to apply for these positions may request a "Request for Transfer" form.)

Deadline for employees to apply is 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7.

Mover 2 (C-166-Vb)—Inventory Management. Pay grade 5.

The following positions are being advertised on and off campus.

Account Clerk 2 (C-167-Vb)—BGSU Foundation, Pay grade 6. Deadline: 1 p.m., Friday, Dec. 7.

Police Officer 1 (C-168-Mb)—BGSU Firelands. Pay grade 8. Twelve-month, part time. Deadline: 1 p.m., Friday, Dec. 14.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Bookstore Director (M-096)—University Bookstore. Administrative grade 18. Review of applications will continue

until the position is filled.

Assistant Director of Residence Life (residential neighborhoods) (S-093)—Office of Residence Life. Administrative grade 14. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Program Coordinator (S-01/069)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union (re-advertised). Administrative grade 14. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Manager of Media, Instructional Television and Editor (M-107)—Northwest Ohio Education Television. Administrative grade 13. Deadline: Dec. 14.

Associate Director (M-105)—Center for Applied Technology; Large Format Digital Imaging Division of NISDM. Administrative grade 15. Deadline: Dec. 18.

Laboratory Manager (M-106)—Center for Applied Technology; Large Format Digital Imaging Division of NISDM. Administrative grade 13. Deadline: Dec. 18.

Manager (S-079)—University Dining Services. Administrative grade 12. Review of applications will begin Dec. 21 and continue until the position is filled.

in memory

Ronald L. Lehr, 53, died Nov. 20 in Vermilion. Since 1985, he was a lecturer in computer sciences and management information systems and director of the Computer Programming Technology Program, Department of Applied Sciences, at BGSU Firelands.

www.bgsu.edu/faculty_staff/

Monitor
online