Monitor Newsletter December 08, 1986

Bowling Green State University

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Council gives approval to cultural diversity proposal

Undergraduate Council gave approval Nov. 19 to the cultural diversity proposal as well as to a letter to accompany the resolution when it is sent to Kendall Baker, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The letter, from Eloise E. Clark, in her capacity as chair of Undergraduate Council, contains detailed "instructions" and concerns that had been raised during council meeting discussions of the report of the committee to study the feasibility of implementing a cultural diversity program.

The resolution, which endorses the creation of a program to deepen awareness and appreciation of the cultural diversity of the American population, requests Dr. Baker to appoint a coordinator, who, together with a University-wide advisory committee, will initiate the review and development of appropriate courses for the general education curriculum. In two years there will be a second evaluation to determine if there are sufficient faculty, resources and courses to implement a top quality program.

It appears that the University is not ready to launch a quality program, additional work will be done and Undergraduate Council will be informed of the implementation date.

Council members decided to endorse the program in principle in order that faculty members can develop new courses and outside funding can be sought. Until the program is implemented, courses that are developed will be placed in one of the existing four education core categories. Although the College of Arts and Sciences will be charged with the major organizational responsibility, all colleges should try to develop courses in cultural diversity.

Students currently must take one course from each of the four general studies categories, plus an additional four courses. Under the resolution, when implemented, students will take a course from each of the five categories plus an additional three courses, therefore reducing the students' elective choices by one course.

Council members agreed that the cultural diversity coordinator should work closely with the cultural diversity advisory committee to evaluate courses that are modified or developed and take initiatives of their own to reach the goals of the program.

In addition, the committee will be charged with evaluating such questions as whether segments of several courses could be used to achieve the goals. The committee will also address concerns from students that have been raised that understanding of the assimilation of immigrant cultures should be included in the goals of the program.

Resolution calls for coordinator, cooperation

Whereas, the Role and Mission Statement of the University affirms the importance of recognizing "the multicultural dimensions and ethnic pluralism within and adjacent to our national boundaries" and affirms that a mission of the University is "to create an environment which will uphold, promote and instill multicultural values in students, faculty and staff; and the University's Board of Trustees have designated its goal as "to give students an understanding of the multiple realities of a complex and culturally diverse world";

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Undergraduate Council accepts the resolution of the University Council on Cultural Diversity in the American Experience and endorses, in principle, the creation of a program that will deepen awareness and appreciation of the cultural diversity of the American population.

As one step toward this end, be it further resolved, that the dean of Arts and Sciences, in consultation with a University-wide advisory committee, will initiate the review and development of appropriate courses for the general education curriculum; and the council accepts the recommendation that the general education core to be implemented as a University-wide requirement.

Further, that the dean during the academic year 1968-89, will report progress toward the development of this program as a fifth category of the general education core to be implemented as a University-wide requirement.

The letter to Dr. Baker states that while there are disagreements with specific parts of the report on the cultural diversity program, the council agreed with the primary recommendation that all University students should take courses reflecting this area. The program is to act as one way to meet Bowling Green's goal of creating an environment which will uphold, promote and instill multicultural values in students, faculty and staff. The letter goes on to say, "While there is general agreement that the goal is laudable in that it will enhance the educational experience of our students, the reservations concerning its feasibility must not be underestimated."

A major problem cited centers on available resources. Strong faculty participation in the cultural diversity program has been emphasized since many faculty members told the council that the curriculum must not be dependent on graduate students for its primary implementation. However, the letter states that it is not clear how much of our current faculty members are trained in these areas of discourse. Although many may be willing to alter their courses to meet the criteria delineated in the resolution, it is clear that significant time and effort will be required to accomplish the program.

A knowledgeable coordinator, an active advisory group and funding are requested to accompany the program.

Janis Pallister, University Professor emeritus, romance languages, and Michael Stranahan, a Colorado businessman, were named co-recipients of the annual Friends of the Libraries and Center for Archival Collections Award, presented Nov. 18 at the Friends of the Libraries/CAC annual reception.

Dr. Pallister was honored for the time and energy she devotes to the library. Dr. Pallister is an author in her own right, and is nationally known for her poetry and translations. Stranahan was recognized for his long-time support of the area libraries. In particular, the science library and his interest in and love of books. A former area school teacher, Stranahan resides in Woody Creek, Colo., and is a businessman involved in several entrepreneurial projects.

As director of the Needmore Fund, Stranahan has had a long-time involvement in private fundraising and citizen involvement in public education and grassroots organizations that attempt to solve environmental problems, and a wide variety of activities in the area of civic and public affairs. Unable to attend the November reception, he will be honored March 6 at the Friends of the Libraries/CAC spring banquet.

The reception recognized 36 faculty members who have written or edited texts or major music compositions during the past year. Faculty members who were honored include: Tsuneto Akahai, political science; Robert Blackwell, special education; Doug Blandy, School of Art; Marilyn Braatz, education; M. Neil Brown, economics; Ray Browne, popular culture; Alice Calderonelli, English; Kristin Congdon, School of Art; David Drury, public relations and WBBG-TV; Bruce L. Edwards Jr., English; Frank Giann, humanities, Firelands College; Ronald Hartley, accounting and management information systems; and Gary Hett, history.

Also, Kenneth Hibben, political science; Robert L. Hillerich, educational curriculum and instruction; John Hoag, economics; Harry Hoemann, psychology; Ronald E. Jones, visual communications and technology; Stuart Keeley, psychology; Bette J. Logsdon, health, physical education and recreation; Joanna Martin-Remolds, educational curriculum and instruction; and Frank McKenna Jr., political science.

Also, Fred Miller, social philosophy and policy; Robert Oana, educational curriculum and instruction; Philip O'Connor, English; Elen Paul, social philosophy and policy; Jeffrey Paul, social philosophy and policy; Francis Povis, Jerome Library; and Joel Rudinger, humanities, Firelands College.

The reception recognized 36 faculty authors and composers

Janis Pallister (right), University Professor emeritus, romance languages, and Michael Stranahan, after a plaque from Ramona Cormier, chair of the Friends of the University Libraries and Center for Archival Collections. Dr. Pallister and Michael Stranahan, who was absent, were named co-recipients of the organization's annual "Friends" award, recognizing outstanding contributions to the University libraries.

Also, Sally Sakola, health, physical education and recreation; Brownell Salmon, English; Ronald E. Seavoy, history; Larry Smith, humanities, Firelands College; Ivan Trusler, musical arts; Stephen Vesey, biological sciences, and Susan Willits, education.

continued on page 3
Senate accepts summer term

The University's summer calendar will remain unchanged as scheduled. Those changes that were planned for the summer term at its Dec. 2 meeting. The Senate met in a special meeting Oct. 21 to discuss its recommendations in sum-

University will feel minimal reform impact

The federal tax reform law which takes effect next year changes the way individuals, couples, gifts and tax deductible donations, and this will have an impact on the new fiscal year which begins July 1.

But Dwight Buringle, vice president for Development, said an effect on Bowling Green State University has been eliminated. "We're optimistic about future private giving, but the federal tax reform has a rather minimal impact on the University." said Buringle.

"Actually, we do not expect any drastic change in giving patterns." - Dwight Buringle

Committee named to search for a parking garage

President Olszewski and Faculty Senate have decided to hire a professional to help search for a parking garage as the area fills with students and faculty. "We Care" and "A Home to Our Children" have contributed to the local economy, according to Olszewski. "I think we'll have to look at the idea of expanding parking facilities," he said.

"We need to think about the idea of expanding parking facilities," - Robert R. Olszewski

Student Affairs honors employees

The Student Affairs honors employees will be recognized at the Fall Convocation, which will be held on campus. "We Care" and "A Home to Our Children" have contributed to the local economy, according to Olszewski. "I think we'll have to look at the idea of expanding parking facilities," he said.

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Senate accepts summer term

The University's summer calendar will return to a traditional July-August format this year, after being suspended last summer due to faculty strikes for two months when Faculty Senate voted otherwise on July 28, the last meeting of the summer weekend session at which the new term's time was finalized. The addition of the new term, coming one year after the end of the teaching term, will allow more flexibility in the school year for faculty and staff as well.

Dr. Burdine said.

University will feel minimal reform impact

The federal tax reform law which takes effect next year changes the way in which gifts and tax deductions, and thus the amount of gift given, would impact the school. But while the changes will make some gifts and gifts tax-deductible, the new law will have minimal impact on the University, Dr. Burdine said.

For example, persons who were not able to write off all of their gifts in income tax returns because they exceeded the ceiling on gifts in income tax returns for the year, will be able to write off all of their gifts in income tax returns because they exceed the ceiling on gifts in income tax returns for the year.

"Actually, we do not expect any drastic change in giving patterns," Dr. Burdine said.

Committee named to search for director

President Osborne and Faculty Senate have appointed a search committee to find the new director of the University's Committee named to search for director.

"We have appointed three candidates, one of whom will be selected by the committee. The committee is scheduled to meet at the end of the month," Dr. Burdine said.

Program to provide 10 additional fellowships

About 80 of Ohio's public colleges and universities are soliciting gifts for the 1986-87 academic year, and plan to set aside a total of $60,000 for public or private degree-granting educational institutions in Ohio. In a letter to all of Ohio's public or private degree-granting educational institutions, Dr. Burdine said.

Provisions for the new fellowships will be made available at every public university in Ohio, and private colleges and universities will be required to set aside a proportionate amount for the 1986-87 academic year, academically outstanding, have a baccalaureate degree, and have an average of $2,000 or more in savings.

Retirees should observe new reform change

The Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) benefits under the new tax reform law which went into effect last year.

The new law provides that any employee who was required to choose between giving up the payment of a separate pension plan or receiving a lower tax deduction, may choose to receive the same pension plan or to receive a lower tax deduction, or to choose a combination of the two.

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Greeley, 860 students to receive fall degrees

Nearly 860 students will be granted degrees during fall commencement exercises, Saturday, Dec. 17 at Anderson Arena in Memorial Coliseum.

President O'Scopp will preside and Andrew M. Greeley, a noted sociologist and Catholic priest, will be the speaker. Greeley will also deliver the 1987 commencement exercises.

The university's dean of libraries and learning resources, nearly 90 percent of the alumni's total gift giving occurs in the fall and winter months.