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Monitor Newsletter August 21, 1989

Bowling Green State University

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Monitor

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Bowling Green State University

Aug. 21, 1989

CSC discusses proper steps in discipline cases

Members of Classified Staff Council discussed at their Aug. 15 meeting proper procedures for handling discipline cases.

Chair Joyce Hyslop said she has talked with Robert Martin, vice president for operations, and Annmarie Heldt, interim personnel director, about some recent cases where council thought the proper procedures had not been followed. Hyslop said disciplinary panels are supposed to be chaired by a University employee unanimously agreed upon by personnel support services and CSC. However, recently some hearings have been chaired by administrative staff or faculty not approved by CSC.

Previously a neutral list of names had been approved by CSC for use in the hearings, but Hyslop said it was discovered there was a second list of names being used to select chairs that was never reviewed by the council.

In addition, council member Bob Kreienkamp said in some recent discipline cases the proper order of steps has not been followed. He said the Classified Staff Handbook specifically notes that a disciplinary hearing is to be the third step of the policy, following a verbal warning and a written warning. If the violation is serious enough it could warrant bypassing the first two steps.

However in a recent case involving a classified employee, Kreienkamp said a supervisor skipped the first two steps and immediately commenced a disciplinary hearing on what Kreienkamp did not consider serious violations.

Kreienkamp said he was worried about the incident setting a precedent. "In this case a supervisor bypassed an employee's rights. The policies and procedures have been approved by the Board of Trustees and should be followed," he said.

Judy Hagemann, chair of the Personnel Welfare Committee, said the committee has been discussing the grievance procedure and plans to rewrite it in order to clarify certain sections.

Hyslop said she is waiting to hear from Martin and Heldt on their reactions about the specific cases.

In other business:

—Hyslop, who is a member of the search and screening committee for the position of personnel director, said 116 applications have been received for the post. It is hoped that the job will be filled by January.

—Arrangements have been made to present a \$400 cash award to the recipient of the Outstanding Classified Staff Service Award that will be given at the annual Classified Staff Convocation Sept. 29.

—Nancy Lee, chair of the Scholarship Committee, said three recipients have been chosen to receive \$100 scholarships from the classified staff scholarship fund. They will be awarded at the convocation.

—Council approved several changes to the bylaws. The changes include:

If there are two vacancies in Classified Staff Council in the same area and one of the vacancies holds a longer term than the other

Continued on back



Win Stone addressed graduates at summer commencement ceremonies held Aug. 12 on the lawn in front of University Hall. Approximately 1,025 students received their degrees.

Stone dubs grads 'edunauts'

Speaking to a commencement crowd of 1,025 students and their parents and friends, Dr. Win Stone challenged the graduates to aspire to greatness.

"Greatness," he said, "is not found in possessions, power, position or prestige. It is discovered in giving, humility, character and service."

Stone, associate dean and director of graduate admissions and an associate professor of ethnic studies, told the graduates he was confident that their "excellent education at Bowling Green will permit you to ably demonstrate the required personal qualities to aspire to greatness in any hamlet, in any village, in any city, in any state, in any nation, on any continent in this interdependent world, as we enter the 21st century, the age of ethnicity with the promise of world peace, the promise of full employment, the promise of a clean environment,

adequate housing and the elimination of hunger, poverty, racism and sexism in America, apartheid in South Africa and oppression in China and South America."

He announced a special designation for the graduates; one that describes the qualities they will need to make a difference in their lives. "I bestow upon each of you the title 'Edunaut,'" he said. The term was one he was inspired to create 20 years ago while watching the liftoff of Apollo VIII.

Edunaut symbolizes the dynamic and intelligent students attending our universities, Stone said. "As edunauts, you possess the ability to facilitate the development of full human potential, in order that we, as passengers on this spaceship called earth, will 'experience more fully, live more broadly, perceive more keenly and find happiness and self-fulfillment and gain the wisdom to see that our future is inextricably tied to the welfare of others.'"

Students get a taste of research

It's not too often high school students can say they conducted research in psychology, chemistry, gerontology or biology during their summer vacation. But seven area students were in University labs this summer as assistants to scientists involved in health-related research.

The students, all from Lucas and Ottawa counties, worked 40 hours a week with University professors. Designed to stimulate minority students' interest in science, the Minority High School Student Research Apprenticeship Program provides opportunities to actually work in biomedical research laboratories at the University, said Dr. Christopher Dunn, director of research services.

"After a summer in the program, we hope they will consider pursuing their interest in science in college," Dunn said.

The program, which started June 12 and ended Aug. 11, was funded by the

National Institutes of Health, Project SEED of the American Chemical Society and contributions from various University units, Dunn said.

The students included Joy Wilson, a freshman at Bowsher High School who worked with Dr. Ken Jones, psychology; Ayanna Barringer, a junior at Scott High School who worked with Dr. George Clemans, chemistry; and Robert Eng, a junior at St. John's High School who worked with Dr. Elliott Blinn, chemistry.

In addition, Nerissa Lorenzo, a junior at St. Ursula Academy, worked with Dr. Jennifer Kinney, gerontology, and Nick Swarup, a senior at Southview High School, worked with Dr. Carol Heckman, biological sciences.

Two Genoa High School students also participated in the program. Rosamaria

Continued on back

Ridge Street to close

Starting Wednesday (Aug. 23), Ridge Street will be closed to through traffic between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays while classes are in session.

Gates will close off the street east of the entrance of Lot F, just west of Prout Hall, to the parking lot entrance east of Hayes Hall. Signs will indicate alternate traffic routes.

Sandy Engle, a deputy clerk at the Bowling Green Municipal Court, explained that persons caught bypassing the gates for the first time within a year will be fined or assigned a court date. Persons caught a second time within a year will face a \$100-\$150 bond.

Both city and campus officials agreed to close the street last year for a one-year trial basis due to pedestrian safety reasons. The trial proved successful.

Barbara Waddell, public information officer, reported that when over 2,000 students and faculty and staff members were surveyed, the majority said they felt the Ridge Street crossing needed to be closed, despite its inconvenience to motorists.

Phone numbers change

The alumni and development offices have new telephone numbers in an effort to better service the University community. The new phone numbers are: for the alumni office, 372-2701; for the development office, 372-2424; and for the foundation office, 372-2551.

Research from the front

Sanchez, worked with Kinney, and Edward Garcia, a senior, worked with Dr. Ron Woodruff, biological sciences.

The Minority High School Student Research Apprentice Program is now in its ninth year on the Bowling Green campus.

Classified Employment Opportunities

New Positions: Posting expiration date for employees to apply: noon, Friday, Aug. 25. (* indicates that an internal candidate is bidding and being considered for the position.)

- 8-25-1 **Clerical Specialist**
Pay Range 25
Communication disorders
Permanent, part-time
- 8-25-2 **Custodial Worker**
Pay Range 2
Physical Plant
- 8-25-3 **Equipment Operator 1**
Pay Range 5
Ice Arena
- 8-25-4 ***Stationary Engineer 2**
Pay Range 10
Heating Plant
- 8-25-5 **Typist 1**
Pay Range 3
Educ. Foundations and Inquiry
Academic year, part-time

Faculty/Staff positions

The following faculty positions are available:

Jerome Library: Reference librarian, information services. Contact Kathryn Thiede (2-2856). Revised deadline: Sept. 1.

Marketing: Assistant/associate professor. Also, assistant professor. Deadlines: Sept. 30. Also, visiting professor (assistant/associate, temporary). Deadline: Oct. 1. For all positions, contact James S. West (2-2401).

Romance Languages: Chair. Contact Richard Hebein (2-2667). Deadline: Nov. 1.

The following administrative positions are available:

Ice Arena: Coordinator of ice skating. Contact Annmarie Heldt (2-2558). Deadline: Sept. 15.
Office of Planning and Budgeting: Project-90 User coordinator. Contact Annmarie Heldt (2-2558). Deadline: Aug. 30.

Physical Plant: Director. Contact Annmarie Heldt (2-2558). Deadline: Sept. 15.

Research Services Office: Proposal development coordinator. Contact Christopher S. Dunn (2-2481). Deadline: Sept. 1.

Commentary

Editor, the *Monitor*:

Most BGSU faculty have watched with only casual interest the debates over General Education that have erupted on university and college campuses across the nation over the past several years. On one extreme are the followers of former Education Secretary William Bennett and such conservative academic philosophers as E.D. Hirsch Jr., author of *Cultural Literacy* and Allan Bloom who wrote *The Closing of the American Mind*, who advocate a back to basics approach to general education emphasizing the Western classical tradition taught within conventional academic disciplines. Arrayed against these conservative forces are those academics who advocate a general education program which includes non-Western, non-mainstream and non-traditional works taught from a variety of perspectives. At Stanford, Columbia, North Carolina, and other institutions, this struggle between academic conservatives and liberals has split faculties, threatened administrations and unsettled students. So fundamental to higher education are the issues raised by this debate that the future of general education for decades to come rests upon its outcome at leading universities.

Faculty members at BGSU, which has a long tradition of including interdisciplinary and non-traditional courses in the general education curriculum, have taken little more than casual interest in the debate that has raged elsewhere. To most of us, it seemed these issues were long ago resolved here. Along with conventional departmental offerings, courses in American studies, women's studies, ethnic studies, environmental studies, popular culture and other non-traditional areas have long been accepted throughout the University as viable options within a student's general education program. In approving these courses, the University community recognized the legitimate place within general education of methodological points-of-view not represented within disciplines, and of curricular materials which are likely to fall outside the great tradition of Western culture. Prominently featured in the non-traditional courses under discussion here are women, minorities, third-world and non-Western cultures, environmental issues, various forms of popular culture and integrative methodologies which transcend disciplinary boundaries.

Bowling Green enjoys a national and international reputation for its liberal approach to non-traditional curriculum. Indeed, it could be argued that BGSU would scarcely be the same institution without the commitment to academic innovation that has characterized its history. In many instances, faculty and students alike have been attracted to Bowling Green by our tolerance for academic innovation, experimentation and change. While not all faculty or students would agree that all non-traditional programs or courses are equally valuable, few would argue against the spirit of free intellectual inquiry within which they were conceived and institutionalized. As we watched other institutions break into warring factions over attempts to liberalize curriculum, we have perhaps felt a bit too smugly that it can't happen here. Little did we know that while we slept, the forces of academic conservatism were stealing a march that threatens the very foundations of general education at Bowling Green State University.

Late last spring semester, after by-passing all the University and College of Arts and Sciences committees and administrators who might have been expected to have an interest in a policy change that impacts heavily on resources as well as challenges an established general education philosophy, the College of Business Administration announced a curriculum reform which excised from their list of acceptable general education courses all non-traditional or interdisciplinary humanities and social science courses. This exclusion includes introductory courses in women's studies, ethnic studies, environmental studies, popular culture and American studies. Whatever its avowed purpose, allowing College of Business Administration students to take only traditional departmental courses imposes a conservative academic agenda on their general education programs that could be interpreted as a racist, sexist, elitist and anti-environmental policy. The clear effect, if not the intent, of this action is to limit exposure of students in business to ideas and issues pertaining to race, gender, class and the environment as well as to limit their opportunities for innovative, non-traditional and interdisciplinary coursework.

The College of Business Administration action sets a dangerous precedent. The right of any college within the University to unilaterally purge the general education curriculum of courses if finds objectionable is a principle that cries out for examination. Faculty and students should join in protest against this denial to students in the College of Business Administration the same intellectual freedom to pursue academic opportunities offered other undergraduates. Further, let us adopt a University-wide general education curriculum to assure that in the future no action by a single college or individual can restrict the freedom of intellectual inquiry that is the bedrock on which an institution of higher learning must be built.

William E. Grant
English and American studies

Computer account numbers need renewed

With the start of the academic year, it's time to renew IBM 4381, IBM 4341, VAX 11/785, VAX 11/780 and VAX 8530 computer accounts. Computer Services validates User-IDs and forces new passwords as security measures.

Anyone who had one or more mainframe academic computer accounts created prior to Aug. 14 and wishes to continue to use those accounts has one of two options:

—Go to 241 Math Science between 8 a.m.-noon or 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday;

present a current BGSU-ID; and complete a new application form. The secretary will then update your accounts for another year.

—Obtain a blank application from your department, complete the form, obtain your department's designated co-signer's signature and return both copies of the form to Computer Services at 241 Math Science. The accounts will be updated and one copy of the form will be mailed back to the applicant.

Deadlines for renewing computer accounts are Sept. 27 for all VAX and IBM systems.

CSC from the front

(a full term and an unexpired term), then the person with the most votes receives the longer term.

If a person leaves his or her office before the term expires, the council will have the authority to appoint a replacement to serve until the next election.

The Committee on Committees will become the responsibility of the vice-chair position. All committees will report their activities to the vice-chair to be recorded.

In elections for members of Classified Staff Council, in the case of a tie, the Election Committee will determine the winner by a lottery.