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## Monitor Newsletter May 07, 1990

Bowling Green State University

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# Monitor

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Bowling Green State University

May 7, 1990

## Survey finds faculty pleased with their jobs

Reporting on the findings of a survey conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California at Los Angeles, James Litwin, director of institutional studies told Faculty Senate at its May 1 meeting that Bowling Green faculty members are generally satisfied with their jobs and working conditions.

The survey figures show that 81.7 percent of the full-time faculty are satisfied with their autonomy and independence; and that 66.5 percent are happy with working conditions. Half the faculty (compared with 44.3 percent at other universities) reported they were satisfied with fringe benefits and salaries.

Also, 47.6 percent (similar to the 48.4 percent at other universities) were satisfied with the relationship between administration and faculty.

"The early findings are quite consistent with the norms found at other universities," Litwin said.

The study, undertaken late last year and earlier this year, was part of a national survey of college and university faculty to determine a wide range of attitudes, including institutional priorities, campus climate, job satisfaction, undergraduate education and professional goals.

Litwin said the survey is still being analyzed and a full report will be issued in the fall.

He said 61.8 percent of the faculty responded to the study, a significantly higher number than the average 49.5 percent of faculty at other public universities in the study.

The project, which is the most complete study of faculty attitudes ever done at Bowling Green, was sponsored by the Faculty Senate, the Office of the President and the Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs. A five-member Faculty Review Panel is helping interpret the survey findings.

For comparative purposes Bowling Green was included in a group of 38 public universities representing research and doctoral-granting institutions. Other Ohio universities included in the study were Ohio State University, the University of Toledo and the University of Akron.

Ten questions developed by Faculty Senate and the institutional studies office were added to supplement questions not fully addressed in the survey.

"While the final analysis is not complete, we can announce some of the statistical results of the questions comparing Bowling Green to the other public universities," Litwin said.

Some of the findings that Litwin reported included:

—63.2 percent of the full-time faculty said their primary interest was either very heavily or leaning toward teaching; 36.7 percent indicated research was their main interest.

—79.9 percent said BGSU's highest priority is perceived as increasing or maintaining institutional prestige.

—75.5 percent said efforts to enhance the University's national image is a high priority.

—55.3 percent of the faculty (compared to 52.3 percent at other universities) said increasing minority faculty and administrator numbers was "highly important."

—57.9 percent (compared to 50.7 percent at other universities) saw minority student recruiting as an institutional priority.

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Recipients of the student affairs' Outstanding Service Awards were named last week during recognition ceremonies. Winners are chosen from among monthly finalists during the academic year who exemplify a "We Care" attitude toward their jobs and in helping students. Receiving awards this year are (from left) Tom Gorman, assistant director of placement services, administrative staff; Bob Arrowsmith, assistant vice president for student affairs, administrative staff; and Vicki Blasius, employment specialist, financial aid and student employment, classified staff. Also receiving an award was Tommy Richards, a graduate assistant in placement services.

## Faculty tapped into Phi Kappa Phi

Philip O'Connor, Distinguished Research Professor and director of the creative writing program, and Dr. Peterann Siehl, education, have been tapped for membership into the Phi Kappa Phi national honor society.

Also at the society's April 29 ceremonies, Dr. JaFran Jones, music, and Siehl, each received Faculty Scholar Awards, and O'Connor was given the 1990 Faculty Artist Award.

Fifty-two students also were initiated into the national honor society.

O'Connor, who has taught at Bowling Green since 1967 and is co-founder of the creative writing program, was named a Distinguished Research Professor earlier this year in recognition of the wide acclaim he has received.

His publications include several volumes of poetry, book chapters, short stories, a novella, two collections of short stories and two novels. His 1979 novel, *Stealing Home*, was nominated as Best First Novel by the American Book Awards and was an alternate Book of the Month Club selection. His 1988 novel, *Defending Civilization*, won the McNaughton Award and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in Literature.

Siehl joined Bowling Green's faculty as a part-

time instructor in 1980 and was named an assistant professor in 1985. Her research interests include family dynamics, crisis counseling strategies and lowering anxiety at transitional stages in life.

She is a licensed counselor and has been involved in research projects dealing with suicide prevention and postvention programs in schools and the study of suicidal indicators in the early life of those who have committed suicide. She has published a number of reports in professional journals and frequently presents papers at workshops and conferences.

Jones has traveled around the world conducting research on ethnic music. Last summer she taught and conducted research in China as part of an educational exchange program between Bowling Green and the Xi'an Conservatory in the People's Republic of China. Particularly interested in the music of Middle Eastern and Mediterranean countries, she had a Fulbright-Hayes doctoral dissertation grant in 1974-76 to study in Tunisia.

A faculty member in the College of Musical Arts since 1984, Jones directs the University's Lila Muni Gamelan Ensemble. In addition to being a member of Phi Kappa Phi, she was tapped earlier this year for membership in Omicron Delta Kappa national leadership society.

Phi Kappa Phi, founded in 1897, recognizes and encourages students who have excelled in all academic disciplines. Initiates are juniors who have maintained a 3.9 grade point average and seniors who have a 3.5 average on a 4.0 scale.



Philip O'Connor



Peterann Siehl



JaFran Jones

# Datebook

## Wednesday May 9

**Softball**, vs. Wright State, 3 p.m., softball field.  
**Baseball**, vs. University of Dayton, 3 p.m., Steller Field.

## Friday, May 11

**Project RAISE Rural Institute Conference**, a weekend conference to be held Friday and Saturday (May 12). For more information, call 372-7358. Registration fee: \$5.

**Board of Trustees Meeting**, 10 a.m., Assembly Room, McFall Center.

**National Live Video Conference**, "Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Update," 11 a.m.-5 p.m., East Building Lounge, Firelands College. For more information, or to register contact the Office for Personal and Professional Development at 433-5560.

**Softball**, vs. Eastern Michigan, 2 p.m., softball fields.

## Saturday, May 12

**Softball**, vs. Eastern Michigan, 1 p.m., softball fields.

## Monday, May 14

**Computer Seminar**, "Getting Started on the Mac," 1:30-3:30 p.m., Technology Lab. Call 372-2102 to register.

## Buy Cedar Point tickets

As summer approaches, personnel services has again arranged to offer University employees Cedar Point good-any-day and junior ticket sales. The tickets will be available through August 31 at the University Union Information Desk.

Cedar Point's operating season began May 5 and continues every day through Labor Day, Sept. 3, plus an additional four bonus weekends thereafter, ending Sept. 30. Tickets to the park for the weekends following Labor Day cost less than the good-any-day tickets.

Children age three and under will be admitted free. Junior tickets are available for persons who are under 48 inches in height at the time the ticket is used. (If a child holding a junior ticket is measured at the entrance gate and found to be 48 inches tall or more, a charge for the difference between the price of the junior ticket and the good-any-day ticket will be assessed.) Persons who are 48 inches in height or taller through the age of 59 will be admitted with a good-any-day ticket. Tickets for persons age 60 or older will be sold for \$12.75 at the gate only and not sold at the Union.

Ticket prices at the Union are \$10.95 for juniors and \$16.25 for good-any-day (\$19.95 at the gate). Ticket sales are final. Refunds will not be given and employees must present their BGSU ID card and pay for tickets in cash only.

## Services to be open

In order to provide expanded coverage, personnel services will remain open during the lunch hour and on Friday afternoons during the summer months.

## Faculty/Staff positions

The following faculty positions are available:

**Radio-TV-Film:** Assistant professor. Contact Bruce Klopfenstein (2-8690). Deadline: May 10.

The following administrative positions are available:

**Center for Archival Collections:** Reference archivist. Contact Ann Bowers (2-2411). Deadline: May 30.

**Center for Governmental Research and Public Service:** Project manager. Contact Annmarie Heldt (2-2558). Deadline: May 13.

**Intercollegiate Athletics:** Head women's tennis coach. Contact chair of search committee (2-2401). Deadline: May 7.

**Office of Multicultural Affairs:** Director of special programs. Contact Annmarie Heldt (2-2558). Deadline: June 9.

**Physical Plant:** Assistant director. Contact Annmarie Heldt (2-2558). Deadline: May 25.

**Student Health Services:** Health educator. Contact Annmarie Heldt (2-2558). Deadline: May 23.

## Senate holds final meeting of the year

# Report made on part-time staffing

In its last meeting of the academic year, Faculty Senate heard several reports and wrapped up loose ends before adjourning for the summer.

During the meeting the senate reconvened as a Committee of the Whole in order to discuss the results of a survey on part-time staffing and operating budgets. Senator Ernest Ezell, who presented the report, said the survey had a 54 percent response rate from the 62 chairs and directors of departments asked to participate. The purpose of the study was to get an idea of the amount of part-time staffing at the University and perceptions about it.

Participants were polled according to college and Ezell said trends were not consistent among the colleges. "Each college has different needs, but our findings showed that part-time staff are used primarily at the 100 and 200 levels," he said.

When asked if the use of part-time staffing is greater now than three to five years ago, half of the respondents said yes and half said no. Those saying yes said some of the reasons for increased part-time staffing were retiring tenured faculty, lack of funding and the offering of additional courses.

Respondents said some of the benefits of part-time staffing include cheap labor; staffing a section that otherwise could not be offered; allowing for research release time; and being able to attract some outstanding part-time faculty members.

Disadvantages included hiring people who are not as qualified or who don't have a service commitment to the University; lack of continuity; poor salaries; and limited interaction with the rest of the department.

Ezell said the general attitude of the faculty is that it is pleased with part-time staff members, but do not feel the pay is adequate. General recommendations were to increase pay and add benefits.

The survey also examined operating budgets. Respondents overwhelmingly said they were not able to meet all of their basic operating needs with existing budgets. The majority also said they have been able to supplement their budgets with

## Desktop course offered

A course on desktop publishing is being offered this summer for persons interested in an introductory level. The three-hour credit course is listed as Tech 480, section 5539. It will run from 1-5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays from June 18 through July 20.

Primary instruction will be on the Macintosh computer using PageMaker software. Additional instruction for using PageMaker on the IBM PC also will be available. Faculty and staff are welcome to take the course and should call Edward Schwerkolt at 372-2643 for more information.

## For sale

Student affairs has for sale an Apple Image Writer LQ printer, like new. For more information, call 372-2147.

The Center for Academic Options has for sale a Canon AP350 electronic typewriter for \$250. If interested, call 372-8202.

project monies.

In response to what are some of their greatest unmet budgeting needs, the survey participants said they typically are unable to purchase computers and software for faculty members; travel expense funding is limited and there usually is no money left over for department maintenance.

"Just about everyone said they would like to see an increase in their budgets," Ezell said.

The Faculty Welfare Committee also has discussed the survey's findings and plans to make a recommendation at a future meeting.

In other business:

—The senate elected Dr. Bartley Brennan, Dr. M. Neil Browne, Dr. Gary Hess, Dr. Theresa Milne, Dr. Elmer Spreitzer, Dr. Genevieve Stang and Dr. Peter Wood to serve on the Committee to Evaluate the President.

—Two resolutions, one from the People for Racial Justice Committee and the other from Graduate Student Senate, were distributed for information only and will be discussed at a senate meeting in the fall.

—A resolution was read in appreciation of the services of Dr. Ann-Marie Lancaster and Dr. Blaine Ritts, who had served as chair and vice chair, respectively, until January; Dr. Benjamin Muego, senate secretary; and Dr. David Newman, who served as chair from March through May.

Newman also transferred the gavel to Dr. Harold Lunde, who will chair the senate next year.

## Tapes available for use

Faculty and staff are invited to take advantage of the availability of videotapes from the Faculty Development Symposiums held in 1988 and 1989.

The following videotapes and their call numbers are available in the reserve room of Jerome Library: "Information Literacy: The Library's Role in Instructional Improvement," by Dr. Sharon Rogers, VC 533; "Integrating Professional and Liberal Education," by Dr. Joan Stark, VC 534; "Grab Them With Graphics," by Dr. Keith Bernhard and Ronald Coleman, VC 535; "Video Improved Performance," by Dr. Gene Poor, VC 536; "C.A.D. Can!," by Bonnie Woods and Dr. Ernest Ezell, VC 537; and "Making the Grade," VC 538.

Also, "It's Only Make Believe, But It Works," by Dr. Mark Bennion, VC 539; "TV: Your Time Machine," by Dr. Donald Scherer, Dr. Robert Boughton, Dr. Cynthia Stong and Dr. Robert Reed, VC 540; "What's the Right Technology," by Dr. John Hirschbuhl, VC 541; "The Leading Edge of Teaching," by Dr. John Hirschbuhl, two parts, VC 542; and "Computer Heaven," by Dale Schroeder, VC 543.

## Survey from the front

—43.4 percent (compared to 53 percent at other universities) thought it was an important institutional priority to maintain a campus climate where differences of opinion can be aired openly.

—26.1 percent (compared to 25.5 percent at other universities) thought "developing a sense of community among students and faculty" was a high priority.

—50.9 percent (compared to 45.9 percent at other universities) agreed that administrators consider faculty concerns when making policies.

—19.8 percent (compared with 19 percent at other universities) agreed with the statement that "faculty are typically at odds with the campus administration."

—23.5 percent (compared to 33 percent at other universities) thought that intercollegiate sports are overemphasized.

—35.8 percent of the BGSU faculty respondents thought teaching students the classic works of western civilization was essential.

—19.6 percent (compared to 28 percent at other universities) said unionization enhances teaching.

—41.7 percent of the faculty respondents said they were liberal; 41.1 percent said they were moderates and 13 percent described themselves as conservatives. These are similar to the national norms of 42.1, 37.9 and 13.1 percent, respectively.