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Monitor Newsletter February 11, 2002

Bowling Green State University

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Jan Pallister book is a tribute to Canadian author Anne Hébert

A new book of essays edited by Jan Pallister, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of romance languages, is an admiring tribute to renowned Quebecois author Anne Hébert. Pallister, who died in 2000, had a prolific, 50-year career as a novelist, short story writer, poet, playwright and essayist. Her works have been translated into 13 languages, and films have been made of her two most famous novels, Kamouraska and Les joues de Bassan (English title: In the Shadow of the Wind). Her influence on other writers cannot be underestimated, Pallister says.

The Art and Genius of Anne Hébert: Night and the Day Are One, published in 2001 by Rosemont Press and Publishing, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, contains essays on Hébert's work by some of the world's leading academics and literary critics, writing in French and English. Some deal with individual works and others the themes that permeate the author's writing. Still others offer comparisons between Hébert and other writers, Janet Patterson of the University of Toronto, one of the greatest scholars of Anne Hébert and French Canadian literature, contributed the foreword.

As Pallister writes in the introduction, the essays "bear testimony not only to the greatness of Anne Hébert, whose works are plumbed and explored ... for their deepest meanings, their subtle art, and their application to lived realities of our own, but also to the wide range of her readership." Pallister also notes the sheer beauty of Hébert's language, which she describes as an example of the "French of Quebec in its purest and most classical form.

Both Kamouraska and Les joues de Bassan deal with the function of memory in the characters' lives and their perception of events that unfold. Both have the flavor of the mystery story and deal with melodrama, "but a controlled violence," Pallister says. "They are magnificent books. Anyone would find them riveting." Pallister met Hébert several times, corresponded with her over the years and translated some of Hébert's poetry. She contributed to the book essays on the author's poetry, on specific imagery used by Hébert, on Les joues de Bassan and an Hommage to Treatment in her play La Cage of the legendary Quebecois character La Courive, accused of murdering two husbands. Pallister's two other most recent books are French-speaking Women Film Directors: A Guide and The Cinema of Quebec: Masters in Their Own House, published by Fairleigh Dickinson University Press.

Beth Casey to turn over reins to general education

Spring enrollment figures show growth

Enrollment continues to climb at BGSU, the 15-day headcount for spring enrollment shows. The total headcount for the main and Firelands campuses is 19,245, or 3.1 percent higher than at the same time last year, according to figures from the Office of Institutional Research.

BGSU Firelands has posted its largest enrollment ever, with an undergraduate enrollment of 1,182 and a total enrollment of 1,548, a 2.9 percent increase over spring 2001.

"This is truly phenomenal growth," said James Smith, dean of BGSU Firelands. "Everyone on campus has worked exceptionally hard to achieve such increases."

There are 133 more freshman on the main campus and abroad (BGSU students studying outside the country) this spring than there were last spring, a 3.9 percent increase. "Higher spring enrollment is an additional benefit of bringing in a record fall 2001 freshman class," said Gary Swegian, director of admissions.

A 10 percent jump. The breakdown at Firelands was a bit different. Its sophomore and junior classes grew considerably, 14.3 and 49.6 percent, respectively.

Notable growth occurred in students enrolled in BGSU courses offered off-campus. Those showed an overall gain of 7.7 percent. "That is a significant increase," said Robert Zhang, associate director of institutional research.

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Beth Casey

After 23 years as director of BGSU's general education program, Beth Casey is stepping down. She will become an adjunct associate professor of English. Casey plans to retire in three years and desires to "spend the rest of my time in the classroom," she said.

In spite of a demanding schedule as director, she has kept her vow to teach every year, she said, and has taught Canadian and American literature as well as Great Ideas classes. In the next three years, she will devote more time to research and writing. She is working on a book comparing American and Canadian literature along particular cultural intersections.

When Casey came to Bowling Green in 1978 as associate director for curriculum development, there existed no general studies program as we know it today, nor an honors program. She convinced then Provost Mick Ferrari to create a true general studies program at BGSU. Faculty members were supportive and helped develop the curriculum.

"Faculty and chairs have been wonderful to work with," she said. "Academic enhancement grew and developed and became independent, and the honors program grew and developed and became independent. In general studies, we put in an international requirement, a multicultural requirement, and carefully defined the skills and learning outcomes for each knowledge domain."

"If I ever doubt that we've accomplished anything, I have to walk out in the hall here in University Hall. I can see the Office of Academic Enhancement at one end and the University Honors Program at the other, and I remember all we've done," Casey said.

A leader in her field, Casey has been president of both the Association for General and Liberal Studies and the Association for Integrative Studies and is a Fellow of the Society for Values in Higher Education. She has organized three national conferences on liberal education and served as a consultant on general education at colleges and universities across the nation.

"Beth has been an imaginative and persistent force in leading the University to value general and liberal education. She's an excellent coordinator, and she's among the top four or five figures nationally who keep their finger on the pulse of liberal education in the U.S.,” said Tom Klein, director of the Chapman Learning Community.

"Though it is difficult to focus on general education in a large Doctoral 1 institution such as Bowling Green, BGSU has really tried to do this," Casey said.

"As one-third of a baccalaureate degree, general education is truly its foundation," she noted. "President Ribeau has taken the lead in focusing on general studies' role in creating principled citizens, which is traditionally exactly what general education is designed to do. We want students to understand events both in their own country and abroad, get them to recognize the global connection, and enable them to participate in the arts and in all aspects of community life."
**in brief**

Renowned ceramist and friends to visit

Beginning today (Feb. 11), through March 1, the School of Art will host "Peter Voulkos & Friends: A BGSU Interdisciplinary Art Symposium," an event featuring 10 distinguished ceramic artists. Five of these artists are internationally recognized as leaders in the field of ceramics: Peter Voulkos, Jun Kaneko, Rudy Autio, Paul Soldner and Don Reitz, while the other five are acknowledged as the leading artists in the nation: Dan Anderson, Chuck Hinds, Sadaschi Inoue, Eva Kwong and Kirk Mangus.

The format of the event is centered on Voulkos, acknowledged as the foremost ceramics artist of this century and the founder of the contemporary clay movement. During the three weeks, Voulkos will create several large-scale pieces of art in the ceramics lab at BGSU and provide a slide lecture that will be open to the public. Throughout the event, the other featured artists will provide demonstrations in ceramics, printmaking, drawing and glassblowing and will provide slide lectures of their work.

For a full schedule of events, see Monitor online, or call Susan Kocaz at 2-0107.

Training session set on employee issues

In an effort to help BGSU employees and departments understand illness and injury reporting, workers' compensation and job safety, Environmental Health and Safety and Human Resources will hold a training session from 10-11 a.m. on Feb. 21 in 1 College Park Office Building.

Registration is required to attend the session. To register, call Environmental Health and Safety at 2-1717, or register online at www.bgsu.edu/offices/ehs/illness/class.htm.

**Offices move to the student union**

The following offices have moved into the Bowen-Thompson Student Union:

- Office of Student Life, from Saddlemore Student Services Building to 301 BTSU.
- Office of Campus Involvement, from South Hall to 401 BTSU.
- First Year Experience Program, from Mosley Hall to 301 BTSU.

**Learn about the State of the University**

"Building on tradition...Believing in opportunity." The campus community is invited to attend President Rienen's State of the University Address.

The address begins at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, in 101 Oscamp Hall.

Come at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and fellowship.

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**job postings**

**FACULTY**

Environmental Programs

Instructor

Call the search committee, 2-8307. Deadline: March 29.

Cooperative Education, Associate/Instructor

Call Jon/an Konn, 2-2357. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Contact Human Resources at 372-8431 for information regarding the following:

CLASSIFIED

There are no new listings for the week of Feb. 11.

www.bgsu.edu/faculty_staff/

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**Administrative**

Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs for Financial Administration (S-117)—Student Affairs. Administrative grade 17. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.


Program Coordinator (S-016/09)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union (re-advertised). Administrative grade 14. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

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**Nonprofit Organization**

U.S. Navy Band, 8 p.m., Kocheller Hall, MMAC.

**Bowling Green, Ohio**

Permit No. 1

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Calling all Presidents' Day volunteers

Volunteers are still needed to help out with the annual Presidents' Day Open House on Monday, Feb. 18. Volunteers are asked to work in two-hour shifts on this important recruiting day. To find out more, visit the Web site at www.bgsu.edu/offices/admissions/volunteer, or contact Susan Macias at 2-7808 or simomiasbgsu.bgsu.edu.