New director has big plans for bookstore

Books are Jeff Nelson's business, and, with him on board, business is looking good at the Bowling Green State University bookstore.

Nelson began his duties as manager of the BGSU Bookstore on Feb. 11, and says he is excited about the possibilities offered by the bookstore’s upcoming move into the Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

“We need to take full advantage of the increased programming opportunities with the new location, in partnering not only with the union and its guests, but also with the wider academic and local community. I want to expand merchandise offerings with the new physical space, including updated visual merchandising and display standards,” he said.

Nelson has 21 years of experience in higher education in retail management and human resource development and has managed 52 different bookstores nationwide over the past 18 years.

He said his vision for the BGSU Bookstore is to develop and update the mission of the store so that it is directly linked to the vision and values of the university: to be the premier bookstore in Ohio and one of the best in the country.

“I want for us to be an industry leader—a showcase store that is highly competitive and takes full advantage of the latest technology. And I want to empower the bookstore staff to act on that vision to be the best,” he said.

“Some of my goals include reaching beyond outstanding customer service and relating to customers as people, and looking for ways to serve them and interact beyond the sale. I want to create a student-centered environment, yet consider also the individual needs of the faculty and staff, providing a full range of products and services expected of a modern university bookstore and necessary to support the institutional mission.”

Before coming to BGSU, Nelson served three years as senior training project manager for Barnes and Noble University, in Cambridge, Mass. As a senior manager with the Fortune 500 company, he was responsible for the coordination and development of training programs for more than 450 employees in chain store management and text management. His duties also entailed the design of company programming and policy for all aspects of store management, as well as the production and disposition of a training video to implement successful programming at stores nationwide.

Nelson is familiar with the Bowling Green area, having served as general manager of the University of Toledo bookstores from 1990-98. During his eight years at the university, he boosted bookstore sales from $6.2 million to $8.3 million, redesigned the mail order catalog and Web site sales programs, and organized several special events and author visits. The UT bookstores encompass four locations and serve 25,000 students.

In addition, Nelson has managed bookstore operations with Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology cooperative stores. In his work with the Ivy League schools, he strengthened general merchandise promotion with computerized tracking programs and restructured overall sales and promotion operations.

Nelson received his bachelor's degree in administrative science fromCentral Connecticut State University in 1984 and his master's degree in educational technology from the University of Toledo in 1998.

Welfare reform and families to be topic of symposium with William Julius Wilson

Some of the nation's leading scholars in the area of welfare reform will come together at the University on March 1 for a symposium on "Welfare Reform and the Well-being of Children." The event's organizers say they expect approximately 200 community members from Wood and Lucas counties to attend.

Toledo Mayor Jack Ford and President Rieber will introduce the day's topic. Dr. William Julius Wilson of Harvard University, who is the President's Visiting Scholar in Ethnic Studies this semester, will address welfare reform in a weak economy.

Participants are faculty members at Columbia and Rutgers universities and the University of Texas at Austin and from the Center for Law and Social Policy. They will speak on racial differences in family formation and Medicaid and health care.

The symposium will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 1 in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Attendance is free. For more information, contact Wendy Manning at 2-3850 or wmanning@bgnet.bgsu.edu, or Laura Sanchez at 2-7232, or lbanch@bgnet.bgsu.edu.

Conference on sexuality and migration set

A national conference at BG SU this week will focus on the effect that sexuality has had on migration in the United States.

The conference, "Sexuality, Migration, and the Contested Boundaries of U.S. Citizenship," will take place over two days. On Feb. 28 at 7 p.m., keynote speaker Martin F. Manalansan IV will discuss "Mobility and Modernity: Travelling Queer Diasporic Intimacies." Manalansan is on the anthropology faculty at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and also teaches classes in Asian-American studies and critical theory. His presentation is also part of the 2002 Provost's Lecture Series presented by Rieber.

"Disciplining Queer Migration: State Policies and Practice" will be the morning's topic on March 1, beginning at 10 a.m. After lunch, the discussion will shift to "Narratives of Nation and Sexual Identity."

All presentations will be held in 108 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Pre-registration is not necessary and the event is free of charge. See Monitor online for more on Manalansan and the conference participants.

in brief

CSC seats open

Classified Staff Council is accepting self-nominations for council seats that will become available July 1. The deadline to apply is March 1. See Monitor online for a listing of the open positions and how to apply.

For more information, contact Sue Frost at 2-2411 or sfrost10@bgsu.edu.

Development training offered

The BG SU Foundation Inc., along with the Office of Development, invites fund administrators to a seminar on "Understanding Foundation Accounts and Development 101 for Faculty and Staff."

Two sessions will be offered—Tuesday (Feb. 26) from 10-11:30 a.m. and Wednesday, March 6, from 3:30-5 p.m. on the first floor of Rieber Alumni Center. See Monitor online for details.

For reservations, call 2-2424. For more information, call 2-2351.

Hudson shows true 'Spirit of BG'

The winner of last month's classified staff's Spirit of BG award has contributed to a project that significantly aids University employees. Tracy Hudson of human resources served on the committee to update the Classified Staff Handbook and volunteered to retype, reorganize and design the new version.

Hudson was honored with a $75 cash award.

BuildInG on tradition…Believing In opportunity

Come hear President Rieber discuss the State of the University, 10 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 28, in 101 Oldcamp Hall. Before the address, at 9:30 a.m., have coffee and visit with colleagues.

Jeff Nelson
Monday, Feb. 25
Pallister Quebec Lecture Series, Diane-Monique Daviau, author of My Mother and Gainsbourg. 4:30 p.m., 204A&B
BTsu. For reservations, call 2-2475.

Tuesday, Feb. 26
Sexual Harassment Prevention Workshop, 9:30-11 a.m., Pallister Conference Room, Jerome Library. Pre-registration is not necessary. Presented by the Office of Equity, Diversity and Affirmative Action. Board of Trustees, 11 a.m., Foundation Hall, BGSU.

Wednesday, Feb. 27
Brown Bag Luncheon, "Living with Pride: Ruth Ellis at 100," film viewing and discussion with Nancy Orel, gerontology; and Cheryl Carothers, HIED, 12-1:30 p.m., 107 Hanna Hall. In recognition of Black History Month and Women's History Month, Firelands Diversity Event, a discussion of hate crimes, with Rob Salem, University of Toledo, 12:30-4:30 p.m., the Pit, BGSU.

Cuen Brothers Film Series, "Hudsucker Proxy (1994)," 7:15 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.
Faculty Artist Series, featuring pianist Laura Melton, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, MAMAC.

Thursday, Feb. 28
State of the University Address, given by President Sidney Ribeau, 10 a.m., 101 Oceanside Hall. Refreshments begin at 9:30 a.m.
Reception, for William Julius Wilson of Harvard University, President's Visiting Scholar in Ethnic Studies, 4-5:30 p.m., Dorothy Ober Bryan Gallery, Fine Arts Center. For more information, call 3-2933.
Black History Month Presentation, "1001 Black Inventions," 7-9 p.m., Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theatre. Call the Black Student Union at 2-2692.

Fiction and Poetry Reading, featuring Dana Mackowski, poetry; and Michael Hiniken, fiction, 7:30 p.m., Prout Chapel International Film Series.
"Ron," 1985 film by Akira Kurosawa, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Friday, March 1
Jerome Library Reception for the naming of the Music Library Listening Center, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Third Floor Jerome Library. Call 2-2906.

Saturday, March 2

Sunday, March 3
Faculty Artist Series, featuring Rosemary Williams, horn, and Jane Solose, piano, 3 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Continuing Events
March 1-2
Bowling Green Opera Theater, "Cosi Fan Tutte," 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, MMAC. Tickets are $8, $10 and $12 for reserved seating; student tickets are $5 with valid ID. For tickets, call 2-8171.

Through March 21
Annual Undergraduate Art and Design Exhibitions, Dorothy Ober Bryan and Willard Wundland galleries, Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday 1-4 p.m.

Through March 8
Planetary Presentation, "Mars Quest." Showings at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays. $1 donation suggested.

Key: MMAC-Moore Musical Arts Center; Bsu-Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

www.bgsu.edu/faculty_staff/monitor

Look online for the 2002 winners of partnerships for Community Action support grants.

in memory
Melba Duncan, 62, died Feb. 14 in Bowling Green. She was a retired word processing specialist in the psychology department, and the wife of Center Duncan, physics and astronomy.

Frances Burnett, 81, professor emeritus of music performance studies, died Feb. 18 in Bowling Green. She was the College of Musical Arts faculty from 1964-91, and continued to teach in the Creative Arts Program until the time of her death.

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

FACULTY
School of Art. Instructor (two positions). Call Dena Eber, 2-8526. Deadline: March 15.

Contact Human Resources at 372-8421 for information regarding the following:
CLASSIFIED (Employees wishing to apply for this position may request a "Request for Transfer" form.) The deadline to apply is 1 p.m. Friday, March 1:
Library Assistant (C-11-Vc)-Pay grade 4. Library/Access Services. The following position is listed on and off campus:
Communications Technician 2 (C-9-Ve) —Libraries and Learning Resources. Pay grade 10.

ADMINISTRATIVE
Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs for Financial Administration (S-117)—Student Affairs. Administrative grade 17. Review of applications will begin April 12 and continue until the position is filled.

Residence Hall Director (S-010)—Office of Residence Life. Administrative grade 13. Review of applications will begin April 12 and continue until the position is filled.

Employees eligible for tax-free graduate tuition
Employees may now receive up to $5,250 in tax-free tuition benefits for graduate-level courses. Before Jan. 1, tuition for these courses counted as taxable income to the employee. It is important to note that the tax-free benefit applies only to the employee. There is no change in the law for spouses or dependents of employees—graduate tuition for their courses will continue to be counted as taxable income to the employee.
For further information, call Jim Stainbrook, business office director, at 2-8530, or Lori Schumacher, payroll accounting, at 2-2218.