Monitor Newsletter April 22, 2002

Bowling Green State University

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Watch for environmental roadsigns, says Scherer

If a poem were to be chosen to capsule two new books by Don Scherer, philosophy, it could well be Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken."

Both of Scherer's books, published this month by the California Academic Press, deal with environmental issues and chronicle crucial turning points at which disaster was either averted, by taking the right road, or experienced, through inattention to all the road signs pointing toward it.

"Too many people think that environmentalists want us to freeze in the dark, but I say the clues are there. If we pay attention, we can get a lo smarter about finding our way to live lives we value in beautiful, sustainable surroundings that are, after all, our home," Scherer says.

In We Never Aimed for Blight: An Historical Approach to the American Environment, Scherer details the many unintended and unanticipated environmental problems historically faced by America. From the Dust Bowl of the 1930s to the tragic results of DDT use in New York's Love Canal debacle, he outlines case studies in which those involved failed to recognize the pattern events were following and the inevitable outcome. As a result, we have often degraded our environment, deprived our resources, poisoned our water and polluted our air. Though greed and negligence are sometimes at work, Scherer points out that in many other cases degradation resulted from lack of attention to the bigger picture. He shows that these results were in fact foreseeable and gives advice on how to recognize these disastrous patterns as they occur so that environmental degradation may be avoided and sometimes reversed.

The second book, Our Greener Ways: America's Emerging Environmental Ethics, with a preface by Jordan J. Lindberg, tells a happier story because over the last 30 years in which the correct environmental path has been recognized in time and disaster avoided. The accounts Scherer provides give a refreshing counterbalance to the negative news of environmental neglect and show that citizens, businesses and governments can effect positive outcomes.

Scherer recounts the moving stories of how strong-willed people have saved their homes, rebuilt their neighborhoods and protected their communities. Our Greener Ways offers examples of corporations acting out of convictions and finding the incentives that make them good environmental citizens. A decade of research reveals effective strategies environmentalists have used and can continue to use to overcome fear, misunderstanding and political opposition. Scherer illustrates how to make the connections and marshal community resources to tackle big issues.

Both books are designed not just for academics, but also for environmental activists and community organizers. Our Greener Ways contains a CD-ROM that invites participation in a virtual community of environmental concern.

Earth Day speaker Jensen equates human and environmental abuse

Silence speaks louder than words, as Derrick Jensen, author of A Language Older than Words, can readily attest.

As part of the annual Earth Week celebration at the University, Jensen will discuss "Speaking Silencings: Environmental Exploitation, Abuses, and Antiquities." His talk will begin at 7 p.m. April 24 in 228 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Jensen's childhood was plagued with abuse from his father. In sharing his life experiences, Jensen illustrates the patterns of silencing that allow abuse of humans, animals and the land to proceed. Using riveting examples to explore the vast number of environmental abuses and amnesties that have existed, he describes how we continue the silence and thus condone these activities.


The program is sponsored by the BGSU Center for Environmental Programs and the Environmental Action Group.

Peter Way wins 2001 Peterson Award

Peter Way, chair of the Department of History, has won the 2001 Harold L. Peterson Award for his article, "Rebellion of the Regulars: Working Soldiers and the Mutiny of 1763-1764."

This piece documented a general mutiny in the British army at the end of the Seven Years' War. Way makes the argument that soldiers should be considered workers, and their resistance to army discipline thought of in terms of class struggle, joining labor and military. Way has published numerous articles including "Common Laborer: Workers and the Digging of North American Canals, 1780-1860," for which he received the 1994 Frederick Jackson Turner Prize. Way's new book, titled "Arduous of War, Common Soldiers and the Making of the Seven Years' War in America," continues to explore ideas about treating soldiers as workers and the professional army as an industry.

The Harold L. Peterson Award is a prestigious prize honoring the former chief curator of the National Park Service and chairman of the board for Eastern National. It is awarded annually to the best article in American military history.

in brief

ASC scholarship raffle was a success

The Administrative Staff Council Scholarship Committee thanks the BGSU community for their continued support of the annual scholarship raffle. This year the committee sold 2,897 tickets and earned a total of $2,026. The raffle drawing was held on March 7. For a list of the winners, visit Monitor online.

Director of General Education sought

The University is searching for a Director of General Education. Previously an administrative staff position, it will now be a faculty position with half-time responsibility as director and full secretarial support. A complete job description may be found in Monitor online.

Candiates are asked to provide a written statement of their interest in and qualifications for the position, and a curriculum vitae. These should be sent to the search committee, in care of Tom Knox, history. The committee will accept applications through May 15.

ITS to extend its test scanning hours

ITS will extend the test scanning hours for final exams to include Saturday morning, May 11, from 8 a.m. to noon. Participants should bring their National Computer System answer sheets to 301 Hayes Hall.

The window at 301 Hayes is open during the noon hour every weekday. During finals week, the window will be open until 6 p.m. weekdays.

Student Union dedication is sold out

The Development Office is happy to report that all the tickets to the Bowen-Thompson Student Union dedication, on Saturday, April 27, have been sold. It promises to be a memorable evening, thanks to all who have shown their support.
Monday, April 22
Visiting Director. "Laba" (1992, Mexico). 7 p.m. Gish Film Theater. Award-winning Mexican director Francisco Athue will introduce his film and answer questions. Sponsored by the Department of Ethnic and World Cultures.

Tuesday, April 23
Visiting Director. "Fibra Optica" (1967, Mexico). 7 p.m. Gish Film Theater. With director Francisco Athue (see above).

Student Composers’ Forum. noon, Bryan Recital Hall, MMC. Free and open to the public.

Jazz Guitar Ensemble. 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, MMC.

Wednesday, April 24

Corin Brokenshy Film Series, "The Big Lebowski." 7:15 p.m. Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.


Thursday, April 25

Phetsa Lecture Series. "Values, Citizenship, and the Purpose of Liberal Education," presented by Don Nieman, dean, College of Arts & Sciences. 3:30 p.m., 101A Olscamp Hall. Latin American Conference, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Lentz Hall Grand Ballroom, BTSU. Call the Center for Multicultural Academic Initiatives at 2-6242.

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Monday, April 25
World Percussion Night. Featuring the Afro-Caribbean Ensemble and the Kousuma Sari Gamelan. 8 p.m., kobacker Hall, MMC.

Friday, April 26
"Multicultural"/transgendered research/scholarship group. Open to those conducting or interested in research and scholarly endeavors for the purpose of sharing ideas, resources, and support across disciplines. 1:30-10 p.m., 107 Hanna Hall. Contact Ellen Brodick 2-3931 or ebrodick@bgsu.edu


Workshop. "Self-defense Workshop for Women." 10 a.m.-noon, Recreation Center Dance Room. Free and open to students and community members. Registration is required. Call 419-352-9504 ext. 3542. Presented by the SHARE Program of Behavioral Connections of Wood County:

Gospel Choir. Apollo Night, 7-11 p.m. Apr. 26. Call 319-402-6212. Discussion. "Gender and Citizen" (S) for Smart Growth. 7:30 p.m., 201 BTSU. Fee: $5. To include off-campus housing, parking, liner and other issues.

Guest Artist, Eldon Mallick. horn, 8 p.m. Bryan Recital Hall, MMC.

Saturday, April 27
Master Class. Dan Lippel, guitar, 1 p.m., 104B MMC.

Sunday, April 28

Planetarium Presentation, "Alphabet Universe: The Best of Space from A to Z." 7:30 p.m., 112 Physical Sciences Lab. Building. $1 donation suggested.

Continuing Events
April 23 and 26
Planetarium Presentation, "Dinosaur Light." 8 p.m., 112 Physical Sciences Lab. Building. $1 donation suggested.

April 25-26
Firelands Theater. "The La: unie Project." Shows at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Melinda Auditorium, BGSU Firelands. Presented by Firelands College Theater. Tickets are $7 for adults, $6 for senior citizens and Firelands faculty, $5 for students, $3 for Firelands students. Call 2-4747.

Theater. "Pictures at an Exhibition," dramatic and comic reconstructions presented through the art of puppetry. 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, matinees at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Joe E. Brown Theater. Tickets are $5. Call 2-2719.

April 26-28
Bowen-Thompson Student Union Dedication Weekend. Featuring Friday night student events and activities. Saturday night formal dedication events and celebration (sold out). Sunday Community Open House. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Union. Children’s activities (including the Berenstain Bears), music, dance and art, culminating in a 3 p.m. performance of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony ("Ode to Joy") by the Bowling Green Philharmonia, conducted by Emily Freeman Brown, and the University Choral Society, directed by William Skoog, Lentz Hall Grand Ballroom. See Monitor online for a complete schedule of events.

April 28-29
Auditions. "Cameo. " 6-8 p.m. Sunday, 7-10 p.m. Monday, Kobacker Hall, MMC. Presented by Bowling Green Summer Musical Theater. The production is scheduled for July 13, 19 and 20, and Sept. 6 and 7. Call Eugene Dybdahl at 3-8693.

Through May 3
BFAMA Thespius Exhibitions, Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Winstead galleries. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1-4 p.m. Sundays.

Key: MMC-Moore Musical Arts Center; BTSU-Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

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Monday, April 25

Audio-Visual Manager (V-057)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Administrative grade 13. Review of applications will begin May 10 and continue until the position is filled.

Associate Director (V-027)—Large Format Digital Imaging Division of NISDM. College of Technology. Deadline: May 20. Director (V-030)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Administrative grade 19. Review of applications will begin May 24 and continue until the position is filled.

Contact Human Resources at 372-8423 for information regarding the following:

CLASSIFIED

(Employees wishing to apply for these positions may request a "Request for Transfer" form.)

Deadline: the applicable deadline is 1 p.m. Friday, April 26.

Personnel Technician 2 (C-34-V)—Assistant to Human Resources. Pay grade 10.

ADDITIONAL

Health Promotions Coordinator (S-014)—Wellness Connection. Student Health Services. Administrative grade 15. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Staff Physician (S-015)—Student Health Services. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Program Coordinator (S-01/ 099)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union (re-advertised). Administrative grade 14. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Associate Director for Programs and Services (S-026) Bowen-Thompson Student Union (re-advertised). Administrative grade 16. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

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

"Invest in Yourself" All BGSU faculty, staff and students are invited to devote some time to themselves at a free professional development program next month. Participants may choose two out of six enlightening options to refine self-image, gain insight into stress or improve investment skills. "Invest in Yourself" will be held from 8:15 a.m. til noon Thursday, May 2, in 308 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

The program is sponsored by the Administrative Staff Council. For more information or to register, call Continuing Education, International & Summer Programs at 2-8181.