Monitor Newsletter July 08, 2002

Bowling Green State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/monitor

Recommended Citation
https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/monitor/1413

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the University Publications at ScholarWorks@BGSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Monitor by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@BGSU.
Academic Planning Team to set direction for BGSU

Over the last several years, the University has devoted much effort to academic assessment and planning. Recently, President Ribeau created a team to bring together the results of these numerous initiatives in the academic arena and chart a direction for BGSU's future. The Academic Planning Team seeks to provide an "overall picture of what we are trying to do collectively as a learning community," said Ohio Eminent Scholar Millon Hakel, psychologist, who is chairing the team. "Our charge is to determine what directions we want to go and how to get there."

To do this, the team is eager to have input from and dialogue with the campus community, Hakel said. "The results should give a much clearer, sharper focus to what we want the students' experience to be at BGSU," he added instead of starting from scratch to assess the status of all of Bowling Green's academic programs. The team will "build on all the work of the various task forces, strategic planning committees and academic review processes already done," according to John Folkins, provost and vice president for academic affairs, who is an ex officio member of the team. Part of its work is to conduct an "environmental scan" to determine what resources, programs and strengths the University possesses and to identify gaps or weaknesses that might be strengthened.

Focusing the spectrum of the University's academic resources on the vision of becoming a premier learning community will help guide decisions and choices along the way, the president has said. "The question we are looking at is how do we make connections between the premier learning community as the overarching goal and our existing programs on campus," Hakel said. "We want to connect academic programs to that theme."

In plotting goals for the University for the next 20-30 years, the team will examine benchmarks and indicators to measure progress, Folkins said. The team includes members from the social sciences, arts, physical sciences and humanities, many of whom are already involved in assessment and planning in other capacities.

Members include Tom Andrews, chair, technology systems; David Copp, chair, philosophy; Peggy Giordano, Distinguished Research Professor of Sociology; Paul Haas, Distinguished Teaching Professor of Economics; Patricia Kubow, educational foundations and inquiry; Noeedas Leontis, chemistry; Christopher Mruk, psychology; BGSU Firelands, and Marilyn Shrude, Distinguished Artist/Research Professor and chair of the Department of Musicology; Composition and Theory.

Working with the team as ex officio members, in addition to Folkins, are Carol Engler, executive assistant to the provost; Mark Gringle, vice provost for academic programs; Alberto Gonzalez, vice provost for academic services; Heinz Bulmahn, vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate College, and William Knight, director of planning and institutional research. Kay Carpenter, provost office secretary, will provide staff support.

The project is on a fast track. The president has asked for a preliminary outline of the team's findings in August, with further feedback in September and October once the campus has had the opportunity to respond, and a final report in December. Monitor will follow the progress of the initiative.

Student financial aid boosted by additional funding

Bowling Green has strengthened its commitment to making a college education accessible and to attracting top-level students. The University has recently announced the allocation of an additional $673,000 in financial aid for next fall's students, according to Gina Roberts, director of student financial aid.

"We tried to address need issues as well as merit," Roberts said, referring to the plan as a "positive first step" in meeting the needs of BGSU's students. The plan was developed in anticipation of higher tuition and fees due to increasing costs and declining state support for higher education, said Alberto Gonzalez, vice provost for academic services. A team has been studying the financial aid situation for some time and last November presented recommendations to University financial administrators. "A portion of the increases in tuition and fees will be coming back to students," Gonzalez added. The total includes $260,000 for need-based awards and $413,000 for merit-based awards, and will come from funds earmarked from next year's budget and from internal shifting of funds, he said. "We want to direct where the money is going to have the greatest impact," according to Gary Swegan, director of admissions. "These steps represent progress toward addressing our goals in the ongoing process."

"Our rationale from the standpoint of the scholarship side was that the purchasing power of our scholarships had eroded some over the years. Our strategy is to provide University Professors Scholarships, which are full instructional and general fee scholarships, to our very best students," Swegan said of the awards available for incoming freshmen. "We've been able to offer an additional 35 of these scholarships for next year to students who applied by Dec. 1. In conjunction with recruiting efforts, these scholarships have resulted in applications to the University Honors Program increasing dramatically," Swegan said.

Even though the number of students accepted into the honors program will not increase the larger pool of applicants will allow the program to be much more selective, he added.

For students who have much the same academic profile as the University Professors Scholarship winners but who applied later, the University will offer increased Board of Trustees scholarships. The value of these scholarships has risen $500, from $2,500 to $3,000.

Also, Faculty Achievement Scholarships, which had previously been two-year, departmental awards with contributions from the departments, have been converted into centralized, University-awarded scholarships renewable for four years. These $500 awards are available to students with a 3.5 grade point average and an ACT score between 25 and 26.

The second area addressed by the plan was need-based awards, the value of which had also eroded, Swegan said. Addi-
job postings

FACULTY
There are no postings this week.

NOTE: Due to the current hiring freeze, interviews may be conducted but no job offers may be extended at this time.

Contact Human Resources at 372-8621 for information regarding the following:

- CLASSIFIED (Employees wishing to apply for this position may request a "Request for Transfer" form.)

The following position is being listed on and off campus. The deadline to apply is 1 p.m. Friday (July 12).
- Administrative Assistant for Systems (02-072). University Dining Services (two positions). Administrative grade 12. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.
- Counseling Center. Administrative grade 14 for non-licensed and 17 for licensed psychologists. Deadline: July 22.

ADMIRATIVE

Major Gifts Officer (02-066). Office of Development. Administrative grade 16. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

- Manager (S-049). University Dining Services (two positions).

calendar

Station tours, games, PBS children's characters and more.

Tuesday, July 23
- Summer Luncheon Lecture Series. "Smashing Bad Money," by George Selig, professor of economics, University of Georgia. noon-2 p.m., 301 Shatell Hall. Presented by the Social Philosophy and Policy Center.

Saturday, July 12
- Musical Theater Camp Finale Concert, 1 p.m., Bivon Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

July 14-18
- Bowling Green Summer Musical Theater Production, "Cinderella." A Rodgers and Hammerstein classic. in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Richard Rodgers’ birth. See above for performance and ticket information.

Financial aid funds available (Continued from front)

- Financial aid funds will be provided to augment need-based grant programs and to address students' emergency and special circumstances.

- Though constrained by the financial challenges faced by state universities today, "We'll continue to look at the data and try to come up with creative ways to meet the needs of our students," Roberts concluded.