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Monitor Newsletter August 04, 2003

Bowling Green State University

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BGSU Monitor

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HOW ARE KIDS OF COHABITATION DOING? BGSU DEMOGRAPHER TO FIND OUT

By age 16, according to one national estimate, 40 percent of American children have spent time in a cohabiting family. But no one quite knows how those youngsters are faring socially, emotionally, educationally, physically or economically.

Susan Brown, sociology, will spend the next five years immersed in research to find out, backed by a prestigious Mentored Research Scientist Development Award from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

The award, which amounts to nearly \$540,000 through June 2008, will enable the demographer to become an interdisciplinary investigator by learning more about child and adolescent development and expanding on her prior study of cohabitation.

It's a prestigious award because junior faculty don't commonly receive such extensive research funding, according to Lynne Casper, health scientist administrator and demographer at NICHD. "It's very unusual to have five years of research support for someone at her (career) stage," Casper says.

Brown's previous study of cohabitation has focused on adult well-being, but she argues that its effects on children should be addressed as well. While similar studies have been done on children of divorce and stepfamilies, "we know very little about the well-being of children in cohabiting unions," she notes.

Some children have complex living arrangements that "we're only beginning to try to disentangle," says Brown, who has taught at BGSU since 1998.

While one kind of cohabiting family may simply include children and their unmarried biological parents, another is a cohabiting stepfamily—a biological parent and child living with the parent's partner. Many of the growing number of single-parent families include an unmarried partner, adds Brown, who holds a Ph.D. in sociology and demography from Pennsylvania State University.

"There's cause to be concerned" about the children, she says, based on the limited research that has been done, some of it by Wendy Manning, sociology. Manning and Ann Crouter, a developmental psychologist from Penn State, are Brown's mentors on the project.

Earlier research has turned up well-documented risk factors, including indications that cohabiting families tend to be less stable than married-couple families and the children are more economically disadvantaged, Brown says.

Her own previous study, funded with a \$20,000 grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, found that children in cohabiting families—particularly adolescents—don't do as well as peers in married-couple families. That study looked at behavioral and emotional problems, as well as school engagement.

Sometimes, people don't see much difference in the well-being of children in married vs. cohabiting unions, but existing research hasn't found children of cohabitation doing better than their counterparts, according to Brown. That's not to say, however, that children are "doomed" if they're not living in a married-couple household, she adds.

In the new study, Brown will draw from two large sources of national data—the 1992-2002 Survey of Program Dynamics and the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health. Several hundred of the children in the data sets are in cohabiting families. Brown will

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attempt to identify mechanisms that underlie the differences among children, such as parenting differences, family instability and economic factors.

Seventy-five percent of her time will be spent on the project, which includes taking coursework and giving conference presentations. The national institute stipulates the time commitment so that award recipients can immerse themselves in the training and research and propel their careers forward.

The award is a credit to Brown's potential "to make a mark in the field" and to BGSU for providing a setting where she can grow, according to Manning, who directs the Center for Family and Demographic Research at the University. Brown is among faculty affiliated with the center, which analyzes social and demographic information on child, adolescent and family issues.

FAMILY CAMPAIGN HITS NEW HIGHS

The University's Family Campaign reached record highs this year in both participation and the total amount of gifts and pledges. The focus of the campaign was support for student scholarships, although donors could earmark their funds for any University area.

According to Amy Davis, director of annual giving, employee participation was 51 percent, up from 49 percent in 2002. Employee gifts and pledges totaled \$817,000—a significant jump from the \$699,000 raised in 2002, she said.

Not only do these gifts help the University accomplish a number of important things, but the strong show of employee support reflects well on BGSU with potential donors, President Sidney Ribeau has said.

The 2003 effort was led by an 18-member cabinet, backed by a team of 65 department representatives.

Upon learning the results of the campaign, Lee Meserve, biological sciences, said, "Having been part of the Family Campaign since its inception, it is truly gratifying to see the annual figures not only top 50 percent of the faculty and staff supporting the institution in this way, but also the dollar amount surpassing three-quarters of a million dollars! Since the focus over the past few years has been on student scholarship funds, this has undoubtedly made a difference for a number of our students at a time when tuition continues to rise."

SUMMER GRADUATES TO RECEIVE DEGREES SATURDAY

The University will award degrees to nearly 1,150 students during summer commencement exercises on Saturday (Aug. 9). In addition, one University graduate will receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award and another will be presented an honorary doctor of public service degree.

President Sidney Ribeau will preside at the ceremonies, which begin at 9:30 a.m. on the University Hall lawn. In the event of rain, graduation will be held in Anderson Arena.

Dr. Thomas L. Greene of Tampa, Fla., a 1972 BGSU graduate, will receive the 2003 Distinguished Alumnus Award. George Mylander of Sandusky, who earned a bachelor's degree in business in 1958 and a master's degree in education in 1970, will be presented an honorary doctor of public service degree.

The summer graduating class includes 584 students who will receive graduate degrees, including 25 doctoral candidates, 549 master's degree candidates, two candidates for the doctor of education degree and eight candidates for the specialist degree in education. The remaining students will receive bachelor's degrees.

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Sixty-four students receiving bachelor's degrees are expected to graduate with honors. Seven students are expected to graduate summa cum laude, for maintaining a grade point average between 3.9-4.0 on a 4.0 scale. Fifteen degree candidates are expected to graduate magna cum laude, for maintaining averages between 3.76-3.9. There are 42 candidates for cum laude recognition, for 3.5-3.75 grade point averages.

In addition, three students enrolled at BGSU Firelands will receive associate degrees with distinction, for maintaining grade point averages between 3.5-3.89.

The BGSU graduating students represent 66 Ohio counties, 28 states and 27 nations.

GEORGE MYLANDER TAPPED FOR HONORARY DEGREE

A Sandusky civic leader will be recognized for his many contributions to his community and to northern Ohio at the University's summer commencement exercises. An honorary doctor of public service degree will be awarded to George L. Mylander during ceremonies on Saturday (Aug. 9).

A Bowling Green alumnus and U.S. Army veteran, Mylander earned a bachelor's degree in business in 1958 and a master's degree in education in 1970 from the University. He retired after 27 years as a teacher and administrator in the Sandusky City Schools. He was elected in 1979 to the Sandusky City Commission and served 16 years, six as mayor.

Mylander is a director of Sandusky's Citizens Banking Co. and a member of its parent board, First Citizens Banc Corp.

Active in the Grace Episcopal Church and chair of the Erie County Veterans Memorial Park Committee, Mylander established the Mylander Foundation in 1987 and contributed funds to the city of Sandusky to create a plaza as part of the city's downtown waterfront development.

For 40 years he has served on the board of what is now Firelands Regional Medical Center, where he holds the post of chair-emeritus. He heads the BGSU Foundation Inc. Board and has been honored by the BGSU Faculty Senate and as a recipient of the University's Alumni Community Service Award and Accomplished Graduate Award. He co-chaired the fund-raising efforts for the new Cedar Point Center at BGSU Firelands.

In 1999 he was chosen as the Outstanding Philanthropist of Northwest Ohio by the Toledo Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

SURGEON TO RECEIVE BGSU DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

Dr. Thomas L. Greene of Tampa, Fla., a prominent orthopedic surgeon who specializes in the hand and reconstructive surgery, will receive the 2003 Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University at summer graduation.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is the highest honor bestowed by the University's Alumni Association and recognizes Bowling Green graduates for professional achievements in their chosen fields. Only 43 individuals have been so honored in the University's history.

A native of Bryan, Ohio, Greene graduated from Bryan High School in 1968. He earned a bachelor's degree cum laude in pre-medicine from BGSU in 1972 and graduated from the Ohio State University College of Medicine in 1975 under the accelerated three-year program.

Since completing a residency in orthopedic surgery at the University of Michigan and a

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one-year fellowship in hand surgery at the Indiana Hand Center, Greene has spent more than 20 years teaching, researching, writing about and practicing hand surgery. He treats the complete spectrum of diseases, deformities and injuries that affect the hand and its function in both children and adults, including re-attaching arms and fingers which have been detached as the result of accidents.

Certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery in both orthopedic surgery and hand surgery, Greene has written or co-authored more than 50 medical publications. His peers selected him as one of 12 hand surgeons in Florida for inclusion in "The Best Doctors in America-Southwest Region."

Greene is a member of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand, the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and the American Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery.

Licensed to practice in Michigan, Indiana and Florida, he is an expert medical adviser to the Florida Department of Labor's Division of Workers' Compensation.

ALUMNA HOLDING KOREAN DANCE RESIDENCY

The BGSU Performing Dancers are hosting a Korean dance residency today (Aug. 4) through Friday (Aug. 8) with accomplished alumna Mary Jo Freshley. The residency will explore the movement and rhythms of Korean music in celebration of world dance and cultures.

All rehearsals will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. A free class and lecture demonstration on Korean dance and drum dances will be held at 4:30 p.m. Thursday (Aug. 7) in the Whitney Dance Studio in 222 Eppler North. A reception will follow.

A Korean dance instructor, performer and choreographer, Freshley studied in the former Women's Physical Education Department and received bachelor's and master's degrees in education in 1956 and 1959, respectively. Originally from Ohio, Freshley's interest in Korean dance began after a move to Hawaii in 1961 to teach physical education at the elementary level.

Freshley has been recognized for her devotion to Korean dance as it relates to education, cultural preservation and dance by the Hawaii State Dance Council, Hawaii Heritage Center, State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (Hawaii), the Honolulu City Council and the Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Honolulu.

She continues to develop her Korean dance techniques as director of the Halla Huhm Dance Studio in Hawaii.

The medley Freshley will choreograph will be combined with the works of Ghanaian master drummer and dancer Habib Iddrisu and related studies of BGSU faculty as part of "Crossroads," a public dance concert Jan. 22-24, 2004, at the Eva Marie Saint Theatre.

The Korean dance residency is sponsored by the College of Education and Human Development; School of Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies; the Kinesiology Division; the Dance Program; the Department of Theatre and Film; the College of Musical Arts, and the Ethnic Cultural Arts Program. For more information, contact Tammy Starr at 2-8521.

IN BRIEF

Take the express lane to parking registration

Faculty and staff can speed up their University parking registration by using the Express Parking Registration on the Web.

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- Go to the "My Services" menu and click on "My Parking Registration."
- Enter your registration information.

Up until Aug. 12, Web registrations are being processed weekly; department representatives will distribute parking permits. After Aug. 12, Web registrations will be processed daily and employees can pick up their own permits the following day at the parking office in the Commons.

For more information, call 2-2776.

Falcon football kicks off with Faculty/Staff Night

All faculty and staff are invited to help BGSU launch the 2003 football season with free passes to the opening game Aug. 28 against Eastern Kentucky University. Game time is 7 p.m.

Beginning Aug. 18, any faculty or staff member with a University ID can pick up four free tickets to the game, courtesy of Linda Dobb, executive vice president. Tickets may be obtained until noon on game day at the BGSU ticket office in Memorial Hall. The office is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Verizon donates \$15,000 to President's Leadership Academy

Verizon Communications has donated \$15,000 to support the President's Leadership Academy at the University.

Representatives from Verizon presented a check to BGSU July 29.

Established by President Sidney Ribeau in 1997, the academy is dedicated to preparing students from diverse backgrounds for lives of leadership.

About half of its 100 current students are graduates of inner-city schools or are from ethnic and economic groups historically underrepresented in all levels of leadership.

"We are intentional about recruiting diverse students to the program because it enhances the learning environment for all students in the program," said Kevin Bailey, associate dean of students and director of the PLA.

Todd Colquitt, president of Verizon Ohio, said Verizon awarded the grant because the corporation values diversity.

"Verizon recognizes the power of diverse minds, experiences, cultures and perspectives," Colquitt said, "and when you combine that with a college education, you have a formula for success in life."

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CALENDAR

Tuesday, Aug. 5

Workshop, "Using STATA with ADD Health," 1 p.m., 318 Union. Provides an introduction to the statistical software package STATA. Hosted by the Center for Family and Demographic Research. Call 2-7279 for more information.

Wednesday, Aug. 6

Dissertation Defense, "Boorse and His Critics: Toward a Naturalistic Concept of Health," by Mahesh Ananth, philosophy, 10 a.m., 301 Shatzel Hall.

Thursday, Aug. 7

Administrative Staff Council, 1:30 p.m.,

Pallister Conference Room, Jerome Library.
Lecture-demonstration of Korean Dance, 4:30 p.m., Whitney Dance Studio, 222 Eppler North.

Friday, Aug. 8

Dissertation Defense, "Tracing Patterns in Expressive: Writing Pedagogy in American College Classrooms 1900-2000: Functions, Definitions and Influences," by Julie Kearney, English, 10 a.m., 206 East Hall.

Saturday, Aug. 9

Commencement, 9:30 a.m., University Hall lawn (rain site: Anderson Arena).

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

There were no new listings this week.

Contact the Office of Human Resources at 419-372-8421 for information regarding classified and administrative positions. Position vacancy announcements may be viewed at www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr.

Employees wishing to apply for these positions must sign a "Request for Transfer" form and attach an updated resume or data sheet. This information must be turned in to Human Resources by the job deadline.

CLASSIFIED

The deadline to apply for the following positions is 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 8.
Secretary 1 (C-25-Md)—Residence Life. Pay grade 6/\$12.62.

Administrative Assistant 1 (C-24-Rd)—Sociology. Pay grade 8/\$13.82.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Technology Support Specialist (R-054)—Instructional Media Services. Administrative grade 13. Deadline: Aug. 11.

Associate Director of Admissions (R-048)—Admissions Office. Administrative grade 16. Deadline: Aug. 11.

Director of Gift Planning (V-046)—Development Office/University Advancement. Administrative grade 18. Review of applications will begin Aug. 15. All applicants will receive full and fair consideration until the position is filled.

Women's Diving Coach (R-028)—Intercollegiate Athletics (Search extended). Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Part-time, eight-month position beginning Sept. 1. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

OBITUARIES

There were no obituaries this week.