

8-25-2003

## Monitor Newsletter August 25, 2003

Bowling Green State University

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### Recommended Citation

Bowling Green State University, "Monitor Newsletter August 25, 2003" (2003). *Monitor*. 1465.  
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## Stay focused, President Ribeau tells campus in upbeat Opening Day address

In his ninth Opening Day address, President Ribeau told the campus community that despite a bleak budget picture in which higher education is not faring well and global instability that weighs daily on our consciousness, he is "more confident about the future of this institution that ever before."

His confidence is due to his assurance that BGSU is a "distinctive university with a niche to fill," and a "compelling story to tell," he said. And while it is one thing to be successful in one's own community, it is even more significant "when you develop paradigms and models for others to emulate," he said, adding that the "advantages and qualities that are unique to us can be shared with others."

Quoting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. from his 1948 address at Morehouse College, Ribeau said, "Intelligence and character is the true goal of education."

BGSU's focus on raising awareness of individual values—creating students who can think critically and intensively about issues and not be swayed by propaganda—is a key element of what is distinctive about the University, Ribeau told the audience of about 900. "We want to assure that our students are both well prepared academically and that they use that ability to contribute to the lives of their communities and the nation."

Ribeau added that BGSU is a paradigm because in many other places—in the business community and other entities—people have lost their focus on "what's right." But on campus, "faculty help students make sense of the world and situations that are unintelligible to many," he said.

Ribeau showed a video presentation prepared by Marketing and Communications that can be used to tell the University's story widely. Featuring interchangeable components highlighting many of BGSU's attributes as well as accomplished faculty and graduates, it demonstrates the unique character of the institution.

While the information included is not new to those on campus, the president said, seeing it on film serves as a reminder of Bowling Green's quality. "I think we tend to ignore that which is closest to us. It's just human nature," Ribeau said. "I wonder if we really realize just how special this place is."

He cited the recently concluded Family Campaign as a good example of the investment the campus feels in its own institution. More than 51 percent of employees donated and pledged to the campaign in 2003, Ribeau said, for a total of over \$800,000. "That's our own people giving back to something they believe in. That's rare."

Telling Bowling Green's story has become more and more important in a time when the atmosphere surrounding higher education is "extremely volatile," and the Higher Education Reauthorization Act is being debated in Congress, Ribeau said. Discussions are taking place about such possibilities as the imposition of price controls, in an effort toward standardizing costs nationwide, and national college graduation exams comparable to the state proficiency tests in Ohio. "Never before has the Higher Education Reauthorization Act been used in this way," Ribeau said.

"It is critically important for us to tell our own story in this debate—locally, to alumni, to the legislature, to businesses and to Congress," Ribeau said. "Otherwise, other people will define our future for us."

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The president said he deeply believes that everyone has the potential to develop skills and talents, and that one of the highest goals of education is to provide the training to release those skills and to nurture them. Making this possibility available to everyone is a priority, he said. BGSU is "working to keep costs within reach. Sixty-five percent of our students receive some financial aid, and more than 1,000 academic scholarships are given to freshmen each year," he said.

Helping people to realize their human potential is not just for students, he added, but for employees as well. Bowling Green has maintained the fee waiver for employees and their children so that all may have the opportunity to continue their education.

The current budget situation poses a challenge to the University as it seeks to continue providing a high level of programs and services. Over the last three years, BGSU has lost about \$1,000 per pupil in state support. "We need to be diligent and focused in managing our funds," Ribeau said. The hiring freeze continues, with no new positions being filled. Even in his office, he said, the position of secretary to the board of trustees has been eliminated and the duties shifted to the executive vice president, and another position is being shared between two offices.

In the midst of such challenges, "we need to maintain our focus and our direction," Ribeau said.

Despite everything, "I couldn't be more optimistic about BGSU than I am today," he said. He counseled the campus not to worry about things they can't control, such as the budget, "just do a heck of a job on what you can control," he said. Because of Bowling Green's unique character, it has within its power the ability to be great if it sets its mind to it, he concluded.

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### **New director sets fresh frontiers for Falcon Marching Band**

With only a few days before its first performance of the season, BGSU's new Falcon Marching Band Director Carol M. Hayward has begun rehearsals for the 2003 band performances.

Hayward describes this as a "frontiers" season for the Falcon Marching Band to build on tradition with exciting new ventures in pageantry and musical innovation. "We want to develop an identity of our own, one that includes traditions as well as new directions. We want to develop a sound that's readily recognizable (as the Falcon Marching Band)," the new director explained.

When the band takes the field at Doyt L. Perry Stadium for the half-time show on Thursday (Aug. 28), fans will be treated to the music of Paul McCartney. Other shows include "Latin Heat" and a special Homecoming show saluting former BGSU music arranger Lou Marini, who is expected to be on campus for the performance. The season also will offer what Hayward describes as a humorous "Movin' Right Along" show, another devoted to "Classic Jazz" and a show on Nov. 15 which will feature the world premiere of "Frontiers," a new work commissioned specifically for the Falcon Marching Band.

Hayward comes to BGSU this fall from Ohio State University, where she was a doctoral student in conducting and her responsibilities included conducting the University Band and teaching undergraduate courses in conducting. She also assisted with the Wind Symphony, the Symphonic Band and the Horn Ensemble. She earned a bachelor's degree from the Capital University Conservatory of Music and a master's degree in music education from Ohio State.

Before returning to Ohio State for her doctorate, she was a successful high school band director for more than 20 years, including serving as director of bands and orchestra and music department chair at Westland High School in the Southwestern City Schools from

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1989-2001. She also has been a guest conductor for various honor bands and festivals, and been a marching band adjudicator and clinician. Bands under her direction have performed at state conferences of the Ohio Music Education Association and the American School Band Directors Association as well as at the national convention of that association. She received the National Band Association Citation of Excellence in 2000 and an Outstanding Graduate Teaching Associate Award last year at Ohio State.

On Sept. 20 when the Falcon football teams meets the Ohio State Buckeyes, she and the BGSU band will head to Columbus. There they will do a pre-game show at St. John Arena, a half-time show at the game, and then a post-game performance with the OSU band. The prior evening the Falcon Marching Band will appear Gahanna Lincoln High School.

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**Campus welcomes new faculty**

Forty-five new faculty members were introduced and welcomed at the New Faculty Luncheon Aug. 18. Chosen for their specific areas of expertise, they will enable the University to move in new directions. The new faculty range from seasoned professionals to those fresh from completing their Ph.D.'s, and come from all corners of the globe.

Both making introductions and being introduced himself was Robert Edmister, new dean of the College of Business Administration, who is back in Ohio after several years in Mississippi. Christopher Dunn, newly appointed associate dean of the College of Health and Human Services, has returned to campus after 10 years away.

Provost John Folkins encouraged the new faculty, whether assistant, associate or full professors, to wear their professorial status proudly, and to assume the title "professor" socially, no matter their rank. He also advised them to tell their students explicitly how they wish to be addressed, whether "Doctor," "Professor," or by their first names, to eliminate uncertainty.

Also addressing the new faculty was Neocles Leontis, chemistry, who is the chair of Faculty Senate. He identified three key projects the senate will be working on this year: revision of the Academic Honesty Policy; exploration of a flexible tenure policy, and exploration of the possibility of the University's providing benefits to domestic partners.

Leontis encouraged faculty to participate in shared governance at BGSU, and invited them to contact Faculty Senate.

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**Sesame Street's Bob McGrath visits BGSU Sept. 3-5**

The College of Musical Arts will host a three-day mini-residency by Bob McGrath of "Sesame Street" fame on Sept. 3-5.

Now entering his 34th year on "Sesame Street," McGrath is one of the original hosts of the groundbreaking children's show. He was recently inducted into the Silver Circle of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, and is the recipient of the American Eagle Award by the National Music Council, as well as the Fame Award, presented by the National Association of Music Educators for furthering the cause of music education.

McGrath will attend an invitation-only dinner co-sponsored by the College of Musical Arts and WBGU-PBS; meet with students from the Arts Village, a new University residential learning community; do an interactive presentation for approximately 400 first- and second-grade students from the Bowling Green City Schools; preside over storytelling at the Wood County Public Library, and speak at the College of Musical Arts' Fall Convoca-

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tion. The convocation at 2:30 p.m. Sept. 5 in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center is free and open to the public. All other events are invitation only.

McGrath's residency at BGSU is supported by Dorothy and DuWayne Hansen, alumni and friends of the College of Musical Arts and the University. Dorothy Hansen is an alumna of the College of Musical Arts, while DuWayne Hansen is a former chair of the Department of Music Education. The Dorothy E. and DuWayne H. Hansen Musical Arts Series Fund was established in 1996 to bring to the campus and the Bowling Green community significant representatives of the musical arts to share their talents with undergraduate and graduate students in the College of Musical Arts and with residents of the community. This residency represents the inaugural event supported by the fund.

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### 'Mars nights' planned at BGSU Planetarium and Observatory

The BGSU Planetarium and Observatory are sponsoring two "Mars Nights," the first on Friday (Aug. 29) and the second, Saturday (Aug. 30).

On each night, visitors will be able to view the red planet Mars through the observatory's telescopes and see the multimedia show MarsQuest in the planetarium.

Mars comes closer to the Earth this month than at any other time in the past 59,000 years, so it appears especially large and bright. Telescopes will reveal more surface features than usual, including the polar ice caps and dark areas in Mars' planet-wide deserts.

If the sky is clear, the observatory will be open each night beginning at 11:30 p.m., when Mars first becomes clearly visible, and will remain open until about 1 a.m.

A recorded message telling if the observatory is open or has been closed due to cloudy weather will be available at 2-8831. Visitors should come to the lobby of the planetarium and will be guided to the observatory from there.

The planetarium show "MarsQuest" will be run at 10 p.m. and again at 11:30 p.m. both nights, even if skies are cloudy. A \$1 donation is suggested for the planetarium show.

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### Firelands Writing center launches new regional magazine

The Firelands Writing Center at BGSU Firelands has announced plans to publish a new magazine focused on northwest Ohio and the Midwest. Heartlands will appear twice a year in large-page format with feature articles and photos from the Firelands area.

The theme of the first issue will be "The Midwest: The Natural World," and will include articles about the Old Woman Creek estuary, the legends surrounding Gore Orphanage and photo essays of Ohio parks. It will also include professionally written short stories, poems, personal essays and book reviews.

The charter issue will be released in early October, followed by a spring issue in April. Larry Smith, professor emeritus of English and the managing editor, said, "We seek to connect our area with the world, and consequently the world with our area. We're creating a magazine that is both entertaining and revealing of life in this corner of the Midwest and the nation."

Previously, the Writing Center produced 12 volumes of an annual literary journal called The Heartlands Today. Support for the new venture has come from the Ohio Arts Council. Editors of the new magazine are members of the writing cooperative.

Heartlands is available through a two-issue subscription by sending \$10 to Heartlands,

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BGSU Firelands, One University Drive, Huron, OH 44839. For more information, contact Larry Smith at 419-433-5560, ext. 20663, or at [Lsmithdog@aol.com](mailto:Lsmithdog@aol.com).

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## IN BRIEF

### Changes announced in STRS eligibility

The State Teachers Retirement Board recently adopted new eligibility requirements and premiums for the 2004 State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) Ohio Health Care Program that will become effective Jan. 1, 2004. The most significant change concerns retiree access to health care coverage. This change may have direct and immediate impact on faculty's retirement plans.

Revisions to the health plan provided by STRS can be viewed at <http://www.strsoh.org/healthcare.htm>. If these changes are significant in your retirement planning process, contact the following representatives in the Office of Human Resources who will assist you in exploring questions you may wish to ask STRS:

- Donna Wittwer, associate director, at 2-2113, or
- Diana Shamp, employee benefits supervisor, at 2-2115.

Retirement plans for those individuals 60 and over with between five and 15 years of service credit must be finalized and effective no later than Dec. 1 in order to be covered under the existing eligibility requirements. As in all retirement cases, faculty members and administrators with faculty status who wish to retire should notify their immediate supervisors as soon as possible to assure a smooth transition.

### Faculty/Staff Night at Falcon football is Aug. 28

All faculty and staff are invited to help BGSU launch the 2003 football season by attending the opening game Thursday (Aug. 28) against Eastern Kentucky University. Game time is 7 p.m.

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 Anderson Arena. The office is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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## CALENDAR

### Monday, Aug. 25

Fall semester classes begin.

Language Learning Center Open House, 9 a.m.-noon, third floor, University Hall.

### Tuesday, Aug. 26

Movie, "The Matrix: Reloaded," 9:30 p.m. Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater. Sponsored by Bowen-Thompson Student Union Programs.

### Thursday, Aug. 28

Presentation, "English as a Second Language for Migrant Workers," by PCA grant project participants Sheri Wells-Jensen, director of MA-TESL, and Beatriz Maya, Farm Labor Organizing Committee, noon, 318 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Faculty/Staff Night, BGSU Football vs. Eastern Kentucky, 7 p.m., Doyt Perry Stadium.

Faculty and staff can receive four free game tickets each by presenting their University ID

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at Memorial Hall through Aug. 27.

**Saturday, Aug. 30**

**Movie, "The Matrix,"** 7 p.m., Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater. Sponsored by Bowen-Thompson Student Union Programs.

**Continuing Events**

**Through Sept. 9**

**Art Exhibit, "Expressions: Surface, Fibers, Thread,"** works by students in the Fiber Arts Program, School of Fine Arts. Student Art Gallery, Union. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily.

**Through Sept. 24**

**Art Exhibit, paintings by Steve Labadessa,** Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands

## JOB POSTINGS

### FACULTY

**Communication Disorders. Full/associate/chair.** Call Jeff Searl, 2-8089. Deadline: Nov. 1.

Please contact the Office of Human Resources at 419-372-8421 for information regarding classified and administrative positions. Position vacancy announcements may be viewed by visiting the HR Web site at [www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr](http://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 position is 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 29.

**Programmer/Analyst 2 (C-28-Vd)**—Admissions office. Pay grade 11.

The following position is being advertised on and off campus:

**Audio/Visual Service Supervisor 2** (recording services engineer) (C-26-Md)—Recording Services/College of Musical Arts. Pay grade 8. Deadline: 1 p.m. Sept. 8.

### ADMINISTRATIVE

**Director of Gift Planning (V-046)**—Office of Development/University Advancement. All applicants will receive full and fair consideration until the position is filled.

**Instructor/Assistant Women's Softball Coach (03-005)**—Intercollegiate Athletics. Part time, eight-month position beginning Sept. 1. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

**Academic Adviser and Coordinator for Recruitment and Retention (R-056)**—Office of Academic Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences. Administrative grade 14. Deadline: Sept. 6.

## OBITUARIES

Jan Adams, 60, died Aug. 17 in Oak Harbor. A member of the BGSU Firelands faculty since 1983, he was chair and director of the Electrical/Electronic Engineering Technology Program in the Department of Applied Sciences.

Donna Snow, 75, died Aug. 14 in Bowling Green. She retired in 1992 after 27 years in University Dining Services.