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Monitor Newsletter February 02, 2004

Bowling Green State University

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Dyson talk highlights Black History Month

The University will mark Black History Month with an extensive series of events continuing through March. Films, lectures, discussion groups, concerts and theater will be featured.

Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, a widely recognized professor, ordained Baptist minister, writer, media figure and cultural critic, will be the keynote speaker for the fifth annual Black Issues Conference Saturday (Feb. 7). Titled "Definition Hip-Hop," the conference will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in 101 Olscamp Hall.

Dyson was named by Essence magazine as one of the nation's "50 most inspiring African-Americans." His books and articles have won several awards, and his writing has been published on the op-ed pages of leading newspapers, including the New York Times and the Washington Post. He has also appeared on talk shows, from "Charlie Rose" to "Politically Incorrect."

His groundbreaking book, *Making Malcolm: The Myth and Meaning of Malcolm X*, was selected as a Notable Book by both the New York Times and the Philadelphia Inquirer. His biography, *I May Not Get There With You: The True Martin Luther King, Jr.*, was a national bestseller and was nominated for the NAACP Image Award. Another of his books, *Holler If You Hear Me: Searching For Tupac Shakur*, also a national bestseller, was nominated as "One of the Best Books for Youth" by the American Library Association, named as "One of the Best Books of 2001" by Publisher's Weekly, and honored as "the Number One Best-Selling Book About Black Studies in 2001" by Amazon.com. His most recent book, *Why I Love Black Women*, documents the lives of African-American women, including gospel great Vanessa Bell Armstrong and Congresswoman Barbara Lee.

Dr. Dyson is a weekly newspaper columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times and a weekly radio commentator for Tavis Smiley's National Public Radio program. Hailing from the ghetto streets of Detroit, he was a teen father who lived on welfare and started college at 21, before going on to garner a Ph.D. from Princeton University and teaching at Brown University, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and Columbia University. He is currently the Avalon Professor in Humanities at the University of Pennsylvania.

The cost to attend the Black Issues Conference is \$7 for students and \$10 for the public. Contact the Center for Multicultural & Academic Initiatives at 2-2642 for more information.

On Feb. 28 and 29, the center will host its annual dinner theater. This year's theme is "80s Thriller," featuring University faculty, staff and students singing and dancing to music from that decade. Performances are 7-10 p.m. Feb. 28 and 3-6 p.m. Feb. 29 in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Tickets cost \$15 each and may be reserved by calling the center at 2-2642.

Next Monday (Feb. 9) "The Life and Music of William Grant Still: Dean of African-American Composers" will feature a slide show and lecture by Still's daughter, Judith Anne Still, at 6:30 p.m., followed by a concert of his music at 8 p.m. in Bryan Recital Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. In "A Voice High Sounding," Judith Anne Still will explore the career of her father (1895-1978), who was the first African-American to conduct a major orchestra, the first to have an opera performed by a major opera company, and the first to have an opera performed on national television. Performing in the free concert will be 15 members of the College of Musical Arts and several guest artists, including Greg Kostraba of WGTE-FM public radio. The event is sponsored by the College of Musical Arts and WGTE-FM.

"Dutchman," by Amiri Baraka, and "Sally's Rape," by Robbie McCauley, two one-act plays exploring the African-American experience, will be on stage Feb. 12-15 in the Joe. E. Brown Theatre, sponsored by the Department of Theatre and Film. For ticket information,

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call the box office at 2-2719.

Also included in February's events are two noontime brown bag lunches, "Mighty Times: The Legacy of Rosa Parks" on Wednesday (Feb. 4) and "African-American Women and Eating Disorders" on Feb. 25, at the Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Other highlights of Black History Month are two lectures:

• La Mesa Oblicua will present retired ethnic studies faculty member Jack A. Taylor in "A Tribute to Black History Month" at 12:30 p.m. Feb. 11 in 101 Olscamp Hall.

• Shannon Jackson, an English department faculty member at the University of California-Berkeley, will explore "Racial Performativity and Anti-Racist Performance" as part of the Provost's Lecture Series, hosted by the Institute for the Study of Culture and Society. Her talk will begin at 7:15 p.m. Feb. 24 in 202B Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Call 2-0585 for more details.

The BGSU Festival Series resumes on March 4 with Imani Winds, a five-member woodwind ensemble of African-American and Latino musicians who will give the Louise F. Rees Memorial Concert at 8 p.m. in Kobacker Hall, of the Moore Musical Arts Center. Tickets, at \$32, \$24 and \$16, are available by calling the box office at 2-8171. The quintet's March 2-4 visit to Bowling Green will also include a community mini-residency of educational programs.

Finally, on March 19, the African Studies Colloquium will feature *Endeavor* shuttle astronaut Mae Jemison as the keynote speaker. Tickets to attend the 12:30 p.m. luncheon in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom are \$8 and may be reserved by calling 2-7814.

See the February and March issues of Monitor for a full and updated listing of Black History Month events.

Campuses can model diverse communities, says University of Illinois Chancellor Nancy Cantor

In a world fraught with racial strife, universities offer a unique setting in which differences can be confronted, explored, discussed and ultimately embraced, said Nancy Cantor in her recent President's Lecture Series address. "We can build model communities on our campuses and invite the world in as partners," she said.

Cantor, chancellor of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, said colleges and universities have a "rare and crucial role to play for the public good." Because they can offer a safe haven in which students, faculty and staff can come together in ways not available in the outside world, they have a special opportunity to foster "an environment in which differences are neither privileged nor ignored," she said.

"We experiment by building communities that cannot be built in normal society," she said. Unfettered by social norms, universities can take a "playful and experimental attitude toward exploring issues that resonate with today's world." In addition, universities can offer a context in which the exchange of information and ideas is sustained, rather than occurring as sporadic events.

"Higher education has the luxury to lead the way," she added.

Cantor, who as former provost at the University of Michigan was one of the principal architects of that institution's affirmative action policy, warned that the nation is becoming increasingly divided along racial lines and increasingly unequal. The legacy of the Jim Crow laws, she said, has left the country so segregated that "students do not meet as equals until they arrive at our doors." As a result, enduring stereotypes have led to inequality and injustice.

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Disturbing outbreaks of violence, such as those in Benton Harbor, Mich., last year, underline the importance of becoming one nation that can live and work together, Cantor said. The nation thus has a compelling interest in promoting and providing education to bridge the boundaries of race, religion, ethnicity and culture.

It is this compelling interest that ultimately convinced the Supreme Court to uphold Michigan's admissions plan, which allowed race to be taken into account, she said, and has shifted the emphasis of the national dialogue away from a focus on individual rights and toward the greater good.

"It's not enough to affirmatively provide access," Cantor said, adding that universities must also create environments in which differences are affirmed, talked about and shared. It is these kinds of communities that can effect social change, she said.

Creating these experimental environments cannot be easy and "we're all novices," Cantor said, so we must seek models to guide us. She suggested the arts as a "natural prototype" for allowing expressions of self and social structures in a safe way. The arts provide a medium for inter-group dialogue without the silencing that often comes in normal society. Moreover, she said, "Everyone has some standing in the dialogue" when discussing or creating art. Normal boundaries should be eschewed when building communities for discussing racialized issues, she advised, with students, scholars and community members sharing the same footing.

When people are brought together in a multicultural environment such as a college dorm or classroom, storytelling and social introspection are key components in the process of getting to know one another, she said, just as happens between artists and audience as they critique one another.

"But nothing can quite match what happens when students come together informally, let down their guard and engage in dialogue, Cantor said.

As one student wrote of her experience in living with a roommate of a different race, "Diversity helps to make the world a little smaller."

However, Cantor warned, it would be naïve to think there would not be racial tensions when students who have had so little experience crossing cultural boundaries in their daily lives come together in a multicultural environment. Students will have to deal with "very real conflicts in coming to a college campus so inexperienced in living in a multicultural environment."

There may well be discomfort, ignorance and fear, but these can all be dealt with within the safe structure provided by higher education, she said. "The best thing we can do is to try to build expectations—person to person, and group to group—that people will be there for them," she said.

We need to invite people to share in the life of higher education, "to shape it and stretch it to make it fir them."

In dealing with opposition, she advised, once a university has taken the position that it will affirmatively provide access to people of all backgrounds and tailored its programs to reduce resulting individual burdens, "Don't retreat!" she advised. "Never retreat, because they [opponents] don't have a better answer. All the alternative plans have failed." Including, she added, the so-called 10 percent plans such as Texas has, which guarantee admission to state colleges for the top 10 percent of all high school seniors.

Making structural changes in hard budget times to intertwine diversity with the university's central mission such as Illinois has done has been challenging, she acknowledged, "but faculty and students have gotten on board with the idea that if we're going to serve the people of state, who are increasingly multiracial, we have to accept its importance." The commitment has validated the decision to direct the institution's scarce resources toward this goal. This differs from most universities, she noted, where they are committed to

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diversity on paper but keep it marginal to academic programs and thus never really make it a reality.

Illinois is not alone in its beliefs, Cantor added. "The National Science Foundation, has been in the national vanguard in promoting the idea that the best science is going to be done with a multiracial workforce and we need to prepare."

BGSU art historian wins prestigious photography fellowship

Andrew Hershberger, School of Art, will use a \$2,500 research fellowship to study "The Dark Side of Photography: A Short History of the Negative Print."

A contemporary art history specialist, Hershberger has been awarded a 2004 Ansel Adams Research Fellowship at the University of Arizona's Center for Creative Photography. One of two recipients this year, Hershberger is among 22 selected since the program's inception in 1991.

He will spend roughly two weeks at the center this summer, studying 34 photographers' negative prints—photographs in which highlights are black and deep shadows are white.

Hershberger's doctoral dissertation at Princeton University dealt with mid-20th century American photographer Minor White, whose negative prints inspired a contemporary, Walter Chappell, to claim that they made him "remember what I do not yet know." White loved the assessment, said Hershberger, noting that while it's confusing, he also finds it fascinating.

Photographer Franz Roh's description of negative prints as "photography in the minor key" is "probably the most interesting theory I know of" on the subject, added Hershberger, who wants to explore why photographers made such prints, how they used them and what they said about them. He expects the research to result in an article and/or an exhibition.

The international fellowship, funded through a Polaroid Corp. endowment in memory of renowned photographer Ansel Adams, is open to scholars from any discipline, as well as museum professionals, independent researchers, artists and candidates for advanced degrees. A committee comprised of the Center for Creative Photography's director and staff, along with invited photography faculty, chooses recipients.

Founded by Adams in 1975, the center holds an extensive collection of photographs and related materials by artists from around the world. It also houses the greatest number of complete archives of American photographers found in the United States.

Hershberger has been a BGSU faculty member since 2001, the same year he earned his Ph.D. in art and archeology from Princeton. He received a bachelor of fine arts degree from the University of Arizona and master's degrees from the University of Chicago and Princeton.

From 1998-2001, Hershberger was curatorial and research assistant and cataloger at the Photography Study Center at Princeton's University Art Museum. He has co-curated three photography exhibitions there, and his photographs and short films have been part of gallery shows and screenings elsewhere. He has won an honor and a merit award from the American Institute of Architects for his photographs.

His most recent publication is a 2003 review of *The Illuminating Mind in American Photography*, a book that the first Adams Fellow, David Peeler, developed from his fellowship project.

Knight elected to national research organization office

William Knight, director of planning and institutional research, has been elected associate forum chair of the Association for Institutional Research (AIR). He will begin his three-year

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term on the board in June.

As part of his duties, Knight will serve as chair of the organization's national conference in May 2006 in New Orleans. Expected attendance at the event is 1,200-1,900 members.

AIR is a professional association of more than 3,100 institutional researchers, planners and decision-makers from higher education institutions around the world. AIR benefits its members and helps advance research that will improve the understanding, planning, and operation of higher education institutions. It is governed by an 11-member volunteer board of directors elected by the membership.

Since its incorporation in 1965, AIR has grown to be a respected voice on higher education issues at the federal level. There are six international member associations and 43 state, regional and sector associations.

Knight has served on numerous AIR committees and as editor of the revised *Primer for Institutional Research* produced by the organization. Active in regional and state institutional research associations since 1998, he has served as the four-year public university representative, vice president, and president of the Ohio Association for Institutional Research and Planning. He is also a member of the Northeast Association for Institutional Research.

Knight received a Ph.D. in higher education administration, with a cognate in institutional research, from Kent State University in 1992. He earned his M.Ed. in higher education/student personnel from Kent State in 1989.

He has been at BGSU since 1996 and is also an adjunct assistant professor of higher education. Previously, he was director of institutional research at Georgia Southern University, where he was also an assistant professor in the Department of Educational Leadership, Technology, and Research. Knight was a Visiting Scholar in the Program in Higher and Adult Continuing Education/Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education at the University of Michigan in 1992.

Black American composers to be featured in Arts & Sciences forum

A prominent composer, writer, arranger and performer will be the next College of Arts and Sciences Forum speaker when the series resumes Feb. 19. William Banfield, endowed chair in humanities and fine arts at the University of St. Thomas (Minn.) will discuss his new book, *Musical Leadership in Color: Conversations with Black American Composers*, at 12:30 p.m. in 228 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

In this sequel to his award-winning *The Black Composer Speaks*, Banfield interviewed 40 black composers to learn their philosophy, background and technique, placing their work within the greater context of Western music. A scholar of black music, Banfield has held residencies at Duke University, Morehouse College and the University of Texas, and was a W.E.B. DuBois Fellow at Harvard University in 2001. In 2002, he was invited by author Toni Morrison to be the Atelier visiting artist at Princeton.

Banfield has composed eight symphonies, seven operas, a musical, six orchestral concerti and numerous works for voice, choir, choir solo instrumentalists and chamber ensembles. He synthesizes a number of musical styles and traditions, from classical to jazz, in works such as his opera "Soul Gone Home" and his piano concerto "No Mirrors in My Nana's House." He formed the 14-piece BMagic Orchestra in 1997 after moving to the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, which has since performed with a number of well-known musicians, including Bobby McFerrin, Patrice Rushin and the Plymouth Music Series Ensemble Singers.

Banfield's free, 12:30 p.m. presentation will be preceded by a noon luncheon. The \$8.75 taco buffet may be paid for with cash, check or bursar account. Reservations for lunch are due by Feb. 13. Call 2-2017 or email ajoyce@bgnnet.bgsu.edu with your BGSU ID number.

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High school students can see BGSU on Presidents' Day

High school students from Ohio and surrounding states can join the BGSU community for a day during the ninth annual Presidents' Day open house Feb. 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

About 6,000 visitors are expected for Presidents' Day, including more than 2,000 prospective students, according to Gary Swegan, director of admissions. Roughly 10 percent of the visitors are expected to be out-of-state guests.†

Each year, about 200 members of the University community volunteer their time to host the guests, check students in, and help direct them to locations on campus.

"The importance of this day is that it allows prospective students to pick and choose what they want to see at will," Swegan said.

The Presidents' Day program provides students with opportunities to gather information and have questions answered by BGSU faculty and staff. Some events are tailored toward high school juniors who are just beginning to look at colleges, while others are tailored toward seniors preparing to enroll at BGSU.

Academic departments and residence halls will be open to visitors from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and 45-minute walking tours of campus will be offered from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Classroom visits may be made throughout the day.

Information sessions about residence life are scheduled for 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m., and financial aid information will be presented during a 1 p.m. session. The admissions office will make a presentation to high school juniors at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., and to seniors at 2:30 p.m. Information about the University Honors Program will also be presented at 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. sessions.

IN BRIEF

How 2 workshops offered by the union

The Bowen-Thompson Student Union is offering a "How 2" workshop series for the University community this spring. Class sizes are small and individual instruction is provided. The following is a list of available workshops, including the new yoga classes.

Belly Dancing Feb. 3-17
Calligraphy Feb. 23-March 2
Sign Language Basics March 16-April 13
Money Matters April 20
Tie-dyed T's April 27
Yoga Feb. 5-March 18 and March 25-April 29

Advance registration is required at the Information Center in the union. For details about registration and materials fees and class times, call 2-9000 or visit www.bgsu.edu/offices/sa/union.

CALENDAR

Tuesday, Feb. 3

Firelands Diversity Celebration Presentation on legal definitions of today's modern family and how family law impacts children, parents and partners, by Rob Salem, University of Toledo College of Law, 1 p.m., 1001A Cedar Point Center, BGSU Firelands. Call 2-0648 or 419-433-5560.

Faculty Senate, 2:30 p.m., McFall Assembly Room.

Arts & Sciences Distinguished Faculty Lecture, "Parental Cohabitation and Children's Well-Being," by Wendy Manning, sociology, 4 p.m., Union Theater.

Guest Recital, by double bassist Robert Naim, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore

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Musical Arts Center.

Movie, "Animal House 25th Anniversary," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by the University Activities Organization.

Wednesday, Feb. 4

Brown Bag Lunch Film, "Mighty Times: The Rosa Parks Story," with Marshall Rose, director of Equity, Diversity and Immigration Services, and Mary Wrighten, multicultural services, Jerome Library, noon-1 p.m., Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Faculty Artist Series Concert by soprano Ann Corrigan, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Thursday, Feb. 5

Firelands Diversity Celebration Concert of African rhythms by Jabali Afrika (the Rock of Africa), noon, Central Lounge, BGSU Firelands. Call 2-0648 or 419-433-5560 for more information.

Administrative Staff Council, 1:30-3 p.m., 207 Union.

Provost's Lecture Series, "The First Boomer: Bill Clinton, George W., and Fictions of State," by Eric Lott, University of Virginia, 6 p.m., 201 Union. Hosted by the Institute for the Study of Culture and Society.

Visiting Writer Series, readings by Jeffrey McDaniel, author of three books of poetry, 7:30 p.m., Prout Chapel.

International Film Series, "Ren Xiao Yao (Unknown Pleasures)," 2002, China, directed by Jia Zhang-Ke, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Friday, Feb. 6

Mathematics & Statistics Colloquium, "Weighted Composition Operators on the Bergman Space," by Ruhan Zhao, University of Toledo, 3:45 p.m., 459 Mathematical Sciences Building.

Apollo Night, 7:30 p.m., 202 Union. The cost is \$5. Sponsored by the BGSU Gospel Choir.

Movie, "Animal House 25th Anniversary," 11 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by UAO.

Saturday, Feb. 7

Fifth Annual Black Issues Conference, "Definition Hip-Hop," with keynote speaker

Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 101 Olscamp Hall. The cost is \$7 for students and \$10 for the public. Sponsored by the Center for Multicultural & Academic Initiatives and the Black Student Union. Call 2-2642.

Young People's Concert Series, "You Gotta Have Harp," featuring flutist Katie Jones and harpist Julie Buzzelli, 11 a.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Recommended for children ages 5 and older. Tickets, \$2 for adults and \$1 for children, will be available at the door.

Women's Basketball vs. Western Michigan, 1 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Sunday, Feb. 8

Bowling Green Philharmonia, conducted by Emily Freeman Brown, 3 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Movie, "Animal House 25th Anniversary," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by UAO.

Monday, Feb. 9

Open Forum, with Henry Fogel, president of the American Symphony Orchestra League, 9:30 a.m., Kennedy Green Room, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Presentation and Concert, "The Life and Music of William Grant Still: Dean of African-American Composers," 6:30-9 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Sponsored by the College of Musical Arts and WGTE FM.

Continuing Events

Through Feb. 18

Student Art Exhibit, enameling exhibition, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands.

Through Feb. 25

Art Exhibit, pinhole photography, Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.

Through March 5

Planetarium Presentation, "The Wright Way to Fly: How the Wright Brothers Invented the Airplane," showings at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, and 2 p.m. Feb. 21. \$1 donation suggested.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

There were no new postings this week.

Contact the Office of Human Resources at 419-372-8421 for information regarding

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classified and administrative positions. Position vacancy announcements may be viewed by visiting the HR Web site 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 is 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6.

Secretary 1. (C-6-Re)—College of Education and Human Development, Student and Academic Services. Pay grade 6.

Administrative Secretary 2 (C-4-Re)—College of Technology, Dean's Office. Pay grade 10.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Director of Gift Planning (V-046)—Office of Development, University Advancement (Re-advertised). Administrative grade 18. Review of applicants will begin Feb. 20. All applicants will receive full and fair consideration until the position is filled.

Outreach Coordinator for Field Experiences (R-079)— College of Education and Human Development, Office of Research and Field Experiences. Administrative grade 14. Deadline: Feb. 13.

Staff Internal Auditor (R-077)—Internal Auditing and Advisory Services. Administrative grade 15. Review of applications began Dec. 15 and will continue until the position is filled.

OBITUARIES

Emily Jean Schaller, 92, died Jan. 21 in Toledo. She was an instructor of educational curriculum and instruction from 1964-77.

Memorials may be given to the Emily Jean Schaller Scholarship Fund.