BGSU astronomer receives Galileo Award

The Great Lakes Planetarium Association recently presented a BGSU astronomer with its Galileo Award for exemplary leadership in the international planetarium community.

Dale W. Smith, physics and astronomy, is the first recipient of the Galileo Award, the highest honor bestowed by the association, of which Smith has been a member for 20 years.

Smith was chosen unanimously for recognition. His colleague James Manning, director of the Museum of the Rockies Planetarium in Bozeman, Mont., noted, "I can think of few individuals more dedicated to the ideals of planetarium education and professionalism and to bringing together the world planetarium community in common cause than Dale Smith."

Smith has taught and served as planetarium director at Bowling Green since 1973. A 1970 graduate of Colgate University, he received a master's degree in 1973 and a doctorate in 1978 from the University of Washington.

He has served as the president of GLPA and the International Planetarium Society and edited numerous publications for the improvement of the profession including a multilanguage publication by the United Nations, “Planetarium: A Challenge for Educators.” He also has produced 17 original planetarium programs and adapted more than 40 others for presentation in BGSU's planetarium.

The world's oldest and largest regional planetarium association, GLPA owns the largest collection of planetarium resource materials in existence. Its members include leaders in the national and international planetarium community. GLPA played a key role in the formation of the International Planetarium Society, and is an affiliate of the National Science Teachers Association.

$1 million donation to benefit students at BGSU

A $1 million gift will provide the University with private support for entrepreneurial studies, the intercollegiate golf program and an initiative to make values exploration part of every student's experience.

The gift from Ronald R. Whitehouse, a 1967 graduate, and his wife, Carol Sue (Lee) Whitehouse, who also attended BGSU, was announced Friday (Feb. 20) during a donors luncheon at the Pelican Bay Club in Naples, Fla.

The retired couple now divides their time between homes in Harbor Springs, Mich., and Nokomis, Fla., but Sue grew up in Ottawa Hills, and Ron, a member of the BGSU Foundation Board of Directors, was raised in nearby Sylvania.

Longtime supporters of the University, they have designated that the funds support programs in keeping with what has played important roles in their own lives.

"The education and values developed during our BGSU undergraduate experience were major contributors to our entrepreneurial business success," Ron Whitehouse said. "We are extremely pleased that this gift will assist in providing even more opportunities for today's BGSU student."

The gift will be divided three ways.
The Jay R. Gould Award, named for a former professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., "is truly the most prestigious award that STC gives to faculty members," noted Sandra Hamer, assistant to the president of the society for academic and research programs.

In addition to innovation and creativity in teaching, award criteria include mentorship of students "above and beyond" the classroom, extending after graduation into their careers, she explained.

"Bonnie is known for her contagious enthusiasm for the profession of technical communication and for STC—both of which are now evident in the lives of the students she has touched," added Hamer, who also directs the technical and professional communication program at Cedarville University.

Eligibility requirements for award nominees include at least 10 years as members of the society—Fink was named an Associate Fellow of STC in 2001 and is current manager of its Secondary Education Outreach Committee—and at least 15 years in post-secondary education, where she has taught since 1988.

Holder of a bachelor's degree in education from BGSU, Fink was a secondary English and communications teacher for 18 years before joining Bowling Green's English department faculty as an instructor in 1988. That December, she received her master's degree in English, with a specialization in scientific and technical communication, from the University.

She continued to teach in the English department until 2001, and from 1998-2001, was coordinator and adviser for the undergraduate program in scientific and technical communication.

In 1998, she won the BGSU Undergraduate Alumni Association's Master Teacher Award and the President's Award for Academic Advising. The following year, she was the University's December commencement speaker.

Also, from 1991-2001, Fink was adviser to the BGSU Chapter of STC. The chapter won the society's Student Chapter Achievement Award in five of those years, its newsletter competition in 1994 and 1996, and a Pacesetter Award in 2001.

"Bonnie encouraged me to attend regional and international STC conferences as a job-hunter, as a professional, and as a presenter," wrote Giordano, adding that thanks to Fink's "continual influence and encouragement," she has gained the knowledge, experience and confidence to make presentations at the society's last seven annual conferences.

Now in the College of Technology, Fink teaches distance learning classes, as well as a Technology Systems in Societies course. She is also developing an online, degree completion program for working adults and new courses for firefighters and EMS personnel and for library science students. In addition, she has an Ohio Board of Regents grant to design and implement information literacy training for technologists.

At the University level, Fink designs and presents communication workshops to BGSU units and industry for the Continuing and Extended Education and human resources offices. She is also current co-chair of the Enrollment Network and a member of the President's Advisory Council.

Rebecca Ferguson, assistant vice president for human resources, has known Fink since 1996, when Ferguson's office contracted with her to develop and deliver training.

"During this time, I have watched Bonnie go out of her way to provide a human touch to teaching and technology for our staff, students and external training clients," noted Ferguson, who currently serves with Fink on the President's Advisory Council. "She is candid, creative, fun and one of the most positive forces of energy we have on this campus."
The largest portion, $500,000, will be used to create the Ron and Sue Whitehouse Entrepreneurial Fund to support educational offerings related to entrepreneurship in the College of Business Administration.

A special feature of the college's new minor degree program in entrepreneurship is that it is open to business and non-business majors alike. "This magnificent gift will provide opportunities for many of our students to turn passion into entrepreneurship," according to Robert Edmister, dean of the college.

A second portion of the gift—$350,000—will support the Creason-Piper Endowed Scholarship in Golf and the intercollegiate golf program, the sport in which Ron Whitehouse participated as an undergraduate.

Thanking the couple for their continuing support, BGSU Athletic Director Paul Krebs said, "This is a huge benefit for the men's golf program. While it is always meaningful to receive this kind of support for our athletic programs, it is particularly meaningful when that support is from former student athletes."

The remaining $150,000 will create the Ron and Sue Whitehouse BG-Experience Fund to support the University's values initiative. The initiative is designed to make critical thinking about values central to the undergraduate experience at BGSU, according to College of Arts & Sciences Dean Donald Nieman, who has been involved in the program since its inception.

"Ron and Sue Whitehouse's gift will enable us to significantly enhance this exciting new program that has enormous potential to promote student success," the dean noted.

"We are thrilled by the leadership support Ron and Sue are making to enhance these programs," echoed BGSU President Sidney Ribeau. "The support is indicative of the values Ron and Sue hold."

Ron Whitehouse has a bachelor's degree in economics from the University and an MBA from the University of Toledo. A former president and CEO of HQ Chicago Inc. and chairman of the board of HQ Network Systems Inc., a San Francisco-based nationwide developer of executive business centers, he has been retired since 1998.

Prestigious award honors BGSU faculty member's teaching, mentorship

Bonnie Fink has attended Society for Technical Communication conferences for years, watching peers receive the Jay R. Gould Award for excellence in teaching in the field and wondering if she would ever be "good enough" to be so honored.

She doesn't have to wonder anymore.

Fink, visual communication and technology education, is among this year's five recipients of the award, presented by the largest professional organization in technical communication. The presentation will be made May 11 at the international society's annual conference in Baltimore.

"I think being rewarded for teaching by former students is as good as it gets," said Fink, who was nominated by Jennifer Giordano, a 1997 BGSU graduate whom Fink influenced outside, as well as in, the classroom.

"As an adviser, mentor and friend, Bonnie Fink has shared her expertise and enthusiasm with me, believed in me, challenged me and encouraged me," wrote Giordano in her letter of nomination to the award committee. "Through my participation in our growing network of BGSU 'tech-comm grads'—an informal group which she has fostered through STC events over the years—I know that she has done no less for each of her other students."
Kristie Foell to travel to Germany for leadership program

Kristie Foell, German, Russian and East Asian languages, is one of 25 university faculty members nationwide who have been chosen to participate in a leadership program designed to train the next generation of educators in German.

Foell, who is also the director of International Studies, will participate in TrainDaF, an educational program in teaching German as a foreign language.

Participants were chosen by the American Association of Teachers of German in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut's TrainDaF.

At a time when languages other than Spanish are losing popularity, the program provides participants with the tools needed to connect to German institutions, according to Foell.

Through the program she and other American teachers will visit Washington, D.C., Germany and Chicago. The German Ministry of Education is funding all three trips.

In Washington, D.C., Foell will meet with representatives of the German government as well as other German teachers and professors. Following the introductory program, she will attend a one- or two-week seminar in Germany during the summer. Then in the fall, she will attend the 2004 AATG annual national meeting for foreign language educators, and share her experience with colleagues.

In addition to expanding her knowledge on content, Foell said she will "have the opportunity to brainstorm with other people to find out where we are going with German in this country."

Foell has taught at Bowling Green since 1995. She is a graduate of Yale University and holds a master's degree and doctorate in German literature from the University of California, Berkeley.

Innovative teaching tactics focus of economics conference

Does using poetry and laboratory experiments to teach economics sound far-fetched? Perhaps. But they are among the innovative and effective teaching methods being used in some of the nation's best classrooms.

Three leaders in economic education will discuss these and other creative teaching strategies at a conference being presented by the economics department on March 5. Although the topic is economics, the tools are useful for junior and senior high school teachers and college-level professors of other academic disciplines as well.

At the conference, Michael Watts of Purdue University and Charles Holt of the University of Virginia will discuss creative teaching techniques that develop active learning, bring interdisciplinary aspects to study and help students retain economic concepts that lead to economic literacy.

Watts, a professor of economics and director of the Center for Economic Education at Purdue, will present sessions on "Literature and Drama and the Classroom" and "What Students Remember and Say about College Economics Years Later." He argues that using literary readings encourages all students to participate in class discussions.

Holt, the Willis Robertson Professor of Political Economy at the University of Virginia, believes laboratory experiments, integrated with Socratic teaching approaches, enable students to discover meanings of economic concepts. He will focus on two topics, "Experiments in Teaching Economics" and "Practical Applications of Experiments."

In addition, Timothy Fuerst, the Owens-Illinois Professor of Economics at Bowling Green, will discuss what leads to a successful experiment. A nationally recognized economist,
Fuerst received the BGSU Master Teacher Award in 2000.

The conference will be held from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 5 at the Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

The cost to attend is $60, which includes continental breakfast and lunch. To register, call 2-8181.

For more details, contact Mary Ellen Benedict at 2-8221 or email mbenedi@cba.bgsu.edu.

The conference is the 12th in an annual series designed to enhance economic education.

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Presidents' Day draws 2,100 prospective students

Prospective students came from the north (Canada), south (Mississippi), east (Connecticut) and west (Utah) for the Presidents' Day open house Feb. 16.

In all, 2,113 high school juniors and seniors were among the roughly 6,000 visitors for the ninth annual event, according to admissions Director Gary Swegan.

"This was on par with our best programs" in terms of attendance, he said, noting that students from 17 states and the District of Columbia had registered to come. And, unlike last year, the weather cooperated. "We were definitely blessed that way," he added.

"At the end of the day, we all felt this was probably the smoothest one (Presidents' Day program) we've had," Swegan said, calling it "all in all, a very successful day."

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BGSU project to record more Great Lakes history

The BGSU Center for Archival Collections has received a $15,000 matching grant to continue work on a Great Lakes maritime personnel database for its Historical Collections of the Great Lakes.

The grant was awarded by the Ohio Coastal Management Assistance Program of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to support an Ohio Maritime Personnel Online Database Project begun in 2000. The new project will add data about maritime personnel to an existing directory of sailors from Ohio and the Great Lakes. The grant will pay for a part-time data entry operator, staff and student help.

Information on approximately 40,000 individuals involved in the maritime trades, primarily sailors, will be entered into the database during the 12-month project, which started last month.

Data from the directories of the International Ship Masters Association (1980-2004) and the Great Lakes Red Book (1899-1950) will also be added and made available to the public through the Historical Collections of the Great Lakes Web site. These sources will expand the information available on the individual, providing names of vessel captains, chief engineers on steam vessels, the sailor's vessel name and where they lived throughout their career, according to Robert W. Graham, archivist for the Historical Collections of the Great Lakes.

The online database is the second major database project at BGSU aimed at increasing access to hard-to-find historical and genealogical information. Both databases can be accessed at http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/hcgl/hcgl.html.
IN BRIEF

President to address 'The Strength of Community'

President Ribeau will speak on "The Strength of Community" in his annual State of the University address Thursday (Feb. 26).

The campus community is encouraged to come for coffee and fellowship before the 10 a.m. address in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom at the Bowen-Thompson Student Union. BGSU Firelands audiences can view a simulcast of the talk in the IDEA Center, 326 West Building.

Former astronaut Dr. Mae Jemison to speak on campus

The campus community will have an opportunity to hear Dr. Mae Jemison, the first black female astronaut, at the Africana Studies Student Research Colloquium luncheon on March 19.

As the keynote speaker for the colloquium, Dr. Jemison will discuss her remarkable career as a physician, astronaut, chemical engineer, scientist and teacher. Her talk will take place during the luncheon from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Dr. Jemison entered Stanford University at the age of 16, graduating in 1977 with a bachelor of arts degree in African and Afro-American studies and a bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering. She earned her medical degree from Cornell University Medical College in 1981. Since then, she has followed a path of scientific and humanitarian achievement. She is well known for her contributions to Africana and other peoples through her research and international service, said Lilian Ashcroft-Eason, director of BGSU's Africana Studies Program.

Dr. Jemison spent six years with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. As the science mission specialist on the STS-47 Spacelab J flight in 1992, she conducted experiments in life and material sciences and was a co-investigator of a bone cell research experiment.

Today, she is founder and director of two entrepreneurial companies aimed at harnessing technology to improve the quality of life for people around the globe. She also founded a non-profit foundation that engages international students in the study of science through a hands-on curriculum she wrote.

This year's colloquium will address the topic "Perspectives on Race and Place in the African Diaspora." The daylong event will offer students the opportunity to participate in panel discussions and share their own research related to the theme. The colloquium is co-sponsored by the BGSU and University of Toledo Africana Studies programs.

The cost of the African cuisine luncheon is $8.25. A choice of Kenyan coconut-curry chicken and potato salad or vegetarian Moroccan chickpea stew is available. Payment may be made at the door and can be made by bursar account.

Reservations are due by March 5. Contact Mary Wrighten, multicultural services librarian, at 2-7897 or mwrighten@bgsu.edu. Include your meal preference and BGSU ID number.

State of the Region conference to address economic development

Economic development in northwest Ohio will be the theme of the third annual State of the Region conference, to be presented April 2 in Sandusky by the University's Center for Policy Analysis and Public Service.

March 26 is the registration deadline for the conference, which will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Great Bear Lodge, 4600 Milan Road (U.S. 250). Cost is $25 per person,
The keynote speaker will be Mark Drabenstott, vice president and director of the Center for the Study of Rural America within the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas. In his speech, beginning at 11:15 a.m., Drabenstott will address economic development in rural America and the concept of "thinking regionally, acting locally."

After lunch, at 1:15 p.m., representatives of northwest Ohio business and government will lead a panel discussion about the state of economic development in northwest Ohio from their professional perspectives.

Panelists will include Judith Cowan, the governor’s regional representative for the Ohio Department of Development in an eight-county area of west central Ohio; Dale Fallat, vice president of corporate services for The Andersons, Inc., based in Maumee; Michael Jay, economic development director for the city of Fremont, and Larry Stelzer, director of the Mercer County Community Development Department.

Also at the conference, attendees will be the first to see the Center for Policy Analysis and Public Service’s new publication, “The State of the Region-Northwest Ohio Perspectives.” Produced by faculty at the center, the publication will focus on regional trends in population, economics and local government.

Registration for the conference may be done by phone, at 2-8710, or online, at www.bgsu.edu/cpaps. Checks should be payable to the Center for Policy Analysis and Public Service and sent to the center, in 109 South Hall.

Speaker to discuss Waldorf teaching methods

Ron Zang, a Waldorf teacher at the Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor, will give “A Picture of Waldorf Education,” from 6-7:15 p.m. tomorrow (Feb. 24) in 1101 Fine Arts Building. A Waldorf teacher for 12 years, he also was a public school teacher for 15 years.

The first Waldorf School was developed in 1919 by Rudolf Steiner in Stuttgart, Germany. With more than 700 schools worldwide, Waldorf is considered the fastest growing educational movement in the United States. In recent years, increasing numbers of U.S. education experts have extolled the merits of Waldorf education and how it can enhance learning in public school settings. More than a dozen public school districts have adopted aspects of Waldorf methods, and there is growing interest in the use of Waldorf practices with youth in high-need urban settings.

Emphasis is placed on holistic learning, stimulation of the imagination and sequencing lesson content carefully correlated with both individual student differences and the developmental characteristics of children. Throughout the grades, the teaching practices and curriculum foster development of listening skills, creative and critical thinking, appreciation of the beauty in nature and life, and a love of lifelong learning. The arts are a major integrated component throughout the K-12 curriculum, for they are viewed as having primary importance in the development of cognition and thinking skills, as well as engaging all aspects of the child—mind, body and spirit.

Zang's lecture is supported by a 2004 Partnerships for Community Action/Center for Innovative and Transformative Education partnership support grant received by Karen Kakas, art education, titled “Using the Visual Arts to Make Connections across the Curriculum, the Community, and the Population in the Vistula Neighborhood of Toledo, Ohio.”
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419-433-5560.
Firelands Diversity Celebration Series Presentation on the historical, geographic and cultural components of the Asian-American experience in the United States, by Benjamin N. Muegco, political science and Asian Studies, 7 p.m., 115 West Building, BGSU Firelands. Call 2-0648 or 419-433-5560.

Pallister French-Canadian Lecture Series, film screening, "Emporte-Moi (Set Me Free)," with Lea Pool, Quebec filmmaker, 7 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.
Film Screening, "Curve," a short, upbeat film about the pressures of body image in the modeling world, 8 p.m., Union Theater. The film’s director and executive producer will speak following the film.

Tuesday, Feb. 24
Business Symposium, "Job Flight: Action Alternatives," 8:30-11:45 a.m., Cedar Point Center, BGSU Firelands. Call 419-433-5560 for more information. The symposium will be broadcast on the Digital Video Streaming Service and will be available for viewing in 109 Oldcamp Hall.

Firelands Diversity Celebration Series Presentation on the historical, geographic and cultural components of the Asian-American experience in the United States, by Benjamin N. Muegco, political science and Asian Studies, 7 p.m., 115 West Building, BGSU Firelands. Call 2-0648 or 419-433-5560.

Lecture, "A Picture of Waldorf Education," by Ron Zang, a Waldorf teacher at the Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor, 6-7:15 p.m., 1101 Fine Arts Building. Supported by a 2004 PCACITE Partnership Support Grant received by Karen Kakas, Division of Art Education, School of Art.


Concert, Jazz Combos, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.
Movie, "Kil Bill Vol. 1," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by the University Activities Organization.

Wednesday, Feb. 25
Brown Bag Lunch, "African American Women and Eating Disorders," by Onicea Williams, University of Michigan, noon-1 p.m., Women’s Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Firelands Diversity Celebration Series Discussion on her experience in Ethiopia, by Judy Ashkal, 12:30 p.m., Central Lounge, BGSU Firelands. Call 2-0648 or 419-433-5560.

Firelands Diversity Celebration Series Presentation on the rituals, tradition and influence of Buddhism, by the Venerable Shih Ying Fa, 7 p.m., 115 West, BGSU Firelands. Call 2-0648 or 419-433-5560.

Men’s Basketball vs. Toledo, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Faculty Artist Series, piano concert, by Laura Melton, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Thursday, Feb. 26
State of the University Address, by President Sidney A. Ribeau, 10 a.m.-noon, Lenhart Ballroom, Union. Coffee and fellowship at 9:30 a.m.


Firelands Diversity Celebration Series Presentation, "El Salvador in the 80s," by Sister Christine Body, 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., 115 West Building, BGSU Firelands. Call 2-0648 or 419-433-5560.

International Film Series, "Il Testimone dello Sposo (The Best Man)," a 1998 Italian film directed by Pupi Avati, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Friday, Feb. 27

Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium, "COSMOS: Center of Science and Mathematics Education: Opportunities for Success," by Barbara Moses, mathematics and statistics, 3:45 p.m., 459 Mathematical Sciences Building.

Hockey vs. Northern Michigan, 7:05 p.m., Ice Arena.
Movie, "Kil Bill Vol. 1," 11 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by UAO.

Sunday, Feb. 29
Chamber Orchestra, Camerata Campo di Bocca, 3 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Movie, "Kil Bill Vol. 1," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by UAO.
JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY


Musicology/Composition/Theory. Visiting Assistant Professor. Call David Hamish, 2-8487. Deadline: March 22.

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.

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

There were no new postings this week.

ADMINISTRATIVE

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


Associate Director of Recreational Sports (V-005)—Recreational Sports. Administrative grade 17. Deadline: March 5.

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.

University General Counsel (04-004NF)—General Counsel/Office of the President. Salary will be competitive and commensurate with experience. Review of applicants will begin March 1. All applicants will receive full and fair consideration until the position is filled.

Associate Director of Purchasing (R-007)—Finance and Administration/Auxiliary Services. Administrative grade 16. Deadline: March 12.

Assistant Women's Volleyball Coach (R-012)—Intercollegiate Athletics. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Deadline: March 19.

Head Men’s Soccer Coach (V-011)—
Intercollegiate Athletics. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Deadline: March 19.

OBITUARIES

There were no obituaries this week.