Hold fast to ‘distinctive mission,’ president tells University

In his 11th State of the University address to the campus Feb. 3, President Sidney Ribeau offered a perspective on the relative value placed by the government on higher education and the waging of war. Commenting on a report in the day’s news that the United States is spending about $4.5 billion a month on the war in Iraq, or about $100,000 per minute, and about $800 million a month in Afghanistan, or about $18,000 a minute, while universities in Ohio are “scraping and struggling to get just a small increase in funding,” Ribeau said. “The balance of the scales is a little odd.”

Noting that Ohio institutions are asking for about $1 million more apiece while the federal government recently cut $14.5 billion from the national student loan program, he said, “I think we would get a greater return on our money in the quality of life by spending more on education than we do on war.”

Ribeau is president of the Inter-University Council, an association of Ohio’s four-year institution presidents, and serves on the Higher Education Funding Council, a legislative committee that is looking at changes to the funding allocation process. Overall, state support for higher education in Ohio, or “state share of instruction,” continues to decline, he said.

In an overview of the changing landscape in Ohio and the nation, Ribeau highlighted potential developments that are under discussion, including what he called some “pretty scary” initiatives. These include a proposal to allocate funding by a voucher system, in which money would follow the student but “do nothing for the institution,” Ribeau said, and a metric that would decide funding based on campus productivity and efficiency. “I don’t know how they would measure that,” he commented skeptically.

Another, more positive proposal, which he said “might see the light of day,” was put forth by senators Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green) and Joy Padgett (R-Coshocton). It would increase funding and provide incentives based on course completion and graduation success. Incentives for programs in the STEM (science, math, engineering and technology) areas are being discussed both at the state level and nationally, Ribeau said. In his State of the Union address, President Bush said he would ask Congress to pass legislation that would provide significant increases in basic research funding over the next 10 years, as well as funding to prepare 30,000 new math and science teachers and provide additional training to 70,000 current teachers in math and science. At the state level, Ribeau said, it is not clear yet if the STEM proposal would allocate new funds for those areas or merely redirect existing funding.

The funding council must file its report by May, Ribeau said, and “however it comes out, it will impact all the higher education institutions in the state. We cannot assume from this day forth that we will funded in the same way in the future—and not just at the same levels—as in the past, but in ways that will impact how we make decisions about what to teach, what not to teach and how we conduct our business.”

Ribeau drew a laugh with an illustration of the power of funding control to change one’s mission and life. “I don’t have to come into your house and say, ‘I want you to change the dietary habits of your family!’ If I cut your salary enough, you will change the diets of your family.”

He encouraged people to take an active stance on issues in higher education, where “we are the experts. We need to be very, very vocal because if we don’t define our agenda, someone else will change it for us.”
One area he does not expect to change, however is BGSU’s relationship with the University of Toledo and Medical University of Ohio when they merge. He applauded the work of the two presidents, Dr. Dan Johnson and Dr. Lloyd Jacobs, respectively, in taking the initiative on a step they hope will strengthen both. While there is “major work to be done” in sorting out how the merger will be accomplished, Ribeau said, “there’s no reason to think anything will change in our relationship.” BGSU has multiple shared programs and research projects in the millions with UT, he said, and looks forward to new partnerships and opportunities resulting from the joining of the two institutions.

He also reassured the campus not to be threatened by the merger. “Our mission is not their mission and their mission is not our mission,” he said.

Success garners national note
By adhering to Bowling Green’s distinctive mission to be the premier learning community in Ohio and one of the best in the nation, faculty and staff have achieved tremendous results that have been noted at the national level, Ribeau said.

U.S. News and World Report has cited BGSU for its learning communities and first-year programs, and now the Association of American Colleges and Universities has expressed interest in learning more about those areas here, he announced.

In terms of year-to-year continuation of students, or retention, Ribeau said “we’ve made marvelous progress as a result of our programs.”

Last year, the student retention rate was 79.9 percent, the highest it’s been in 12 years. And for students in learning communities, it is even higher: 83.1 percent.

“We said we were going to do it, we’ve done it and we’ve done it quite well,” he said.

BGSU’s commitment to undergraduate research has also been very successful, he added. “It starts today, preparing undergraduates to be the researchers and the academicians of tomorrow.

“But all that didn’t just happen. A number of people on campus have taken the time to make these things work so we have the kind of experience we want for our students.”

In addition to national recognition for undergraduate programs, the University has received acclaim for its graduate-level programs. He reiterated the statement in BGSU’s mission statement that it will support its vision by having focused master’s and specialists’ degrees and a number of nationally recognized doctoral programs, as well as academically challenging teaching, fully connected research and public service.

This year, he said, BGSU has secured $6.2 million in federal earmarks for six faculty research projects, several of which involve collaborations with UT, MUO and other Ohio universities. BGSU is already $2 million ahead of this time last year in external grants and contracts.

He pointed to a number of successes campuswide, from music student Kisma Jordan being chosen by famed soprano Marilyn Horne to sing in her master class at Carnegie Hall, to the Center for Family and Demographic Research being chosen as one of only 15 population centers nationally to receive support ($1.3 million) from the National Institutes of Health. GEAR UP faculty and students are making a difference in the educational outcomes at schools in Toledo and have received more than $4 million in a second federal grant, Ribeau said. Fulbright scholars from BGSU this year include Dr. Cindy Miglietti of Firelands and Dr. Dwayne Gremler, marketing. And Dr. Pavel Anzenbacher, chemistry, has been named an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow, a highly competitive national award.

The Comprehensive Campaign has already raised more than $91 million of our $120 million goal, he said, despite those who said at the outset that it couldn’t be done.

These are only a few of the successes the campus has marked, he said. The intellectual climate is thriving, enhanced by recent visits from author and educator John Beck, who spoke about the students of today and how they are “neurologically wired” through video-game
playing; famed “Remember the Titans” coaches Herman Boone and Bill Yoast, who taught a community and a nation a lesson in how to get along and work with others, and speaker Jane Elliott, the former Iowa teacher whose simple “Blue Eyes/Brown Eyes” classroom experiment was a powerful demonstration of the dangers of discrimination and prejudice.

All these provided valuable insights to campus, Ribeau said. “If we don’t learn how to get along and work together, we’ll wind up spending more than $100,000 a minute to clean up the mess we’ve made,” he said.

Community/BGSU partnerships celebrated at conference

“Sustainable Communities, Powerful Partnerships” is the theme of the 2006 conference and grant launch sponsored by Partnerships for Community Action and the Center for Innovative and Transformative Education.

The 2005 grant recipients will discuss their projects during the campus-community conference, to be held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday (Feb. 8) in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union. This year’s partnership grant winners will be announced at 12:30 p.m. during lunch, which runs from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom.

PCA/CITE partnerships team University faculty or staff and students with community members on projects of mutual benefit, especially in the areas of educational opportunity, economic development, health and well-being and cultural awareness.

The 14 innovative ventures from last year included teaching recovering addicts to pursue healthy leisure activities, improving junior high school students’ literacy by having them write and share books with residents of an assisted-living facility, and engaging Toledo youth and adults in a community garden, with an emphasis on environmental stewardship, nutrition and culinary arts.

Also during the conference, Da Colored Gurz Collective, a Toledo theatre troupe, will give two performances. The first, from 1:30-3 p.m. in 202 Union, is titled “It’s All Connected—Building Partnerships Across Issues of Difference.” The second, from 4:30-6 p.m. in 201 Union, is “The Histories—Celebrating Black History Month.”

All events are free and open to the public. To register, call 2-9624 or email pca@bgsu.edu.

PCA/CITE announce 2006 partnership grant recipients

Twelve campus/community joint projects have received grants totaling $46,290 from Partnerships for Community Action (PCA) and the Center for Innovative and Transformative Education (CITE).

The recipients will be introduced at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday (Feb. 8) during the seventh annual PCA/CITE grant-launch lunch in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the Bowen-Thompson Student Union. The lunch is part of a daylong conference on “Sustainable Communities, Powerful Partnerships.”

During the conference, which runs from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Union, funded projects from 2005 will be on display, and partners will be available to talk about their work through presentations throughout the day.

Following are the projects funded for 2006 and their partners:

• “BGSU and Perrysburg Heights Community Association Collaboration: Oral Histories, Digi
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tal Presences and Community Mural" - Anita Serda, Perrysburg Heights; Debra Zappitelli, family and consumer sciences; Laura M. Rusnak, digital arts, and Dr. Radhika Gajjala, telecommunications.

• "Cheer-Leading Away from Dating Violence" - Dr. Mary Krueger, director of the BGSU Women's Center, and Cheryl Grant-Boyd, founder and CEO of Shay's Foundation for Life.

• "Elder Abuse Conference" – Sandra Hamilton, Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc.; Barbara Van Wormer, Lucas County Department of Jobs and Family Services; Dr. Nancy A. Orel, director of the BGSU Gerontology Program, and Jennifer Wagner, human services/gerontology.

• "Environmental Education Project" – Susan Hardy, coordinator of the Erie County Solid Waste Management District; Tina Sevenbergen, program director for Erie County Recycling and Litter Prevention; Judith Williams, early childhood studies, BGSU Firelands, and Andrew Shella, biology coordinator and lab sciences safety coordinator at BGSU Firelands.

• “A Group Intervention Program for Families of Children with Developmental Disabilities” – Jane Repp, director of educational services at School of Hope; Dr. William O’Brien, psychology, and BGSU doctoral students in clinical psychology Heather Schwetschenau, Jessica Harper, Eileen Delaney and Kristyn Saveliev.

• "Local Food Works" – Michael Szuberla, director of Toledo GROWS, Toledo Botanical Gardens, and Dr. Holly Myers-Jones, director of BGSU's Center for Environmental Programs.

• "Northwest Ohio Foodways Traditions: Cultural and Nutritional Values of Local Foods" – Sue Clanton, Bowling Green Community Development Foundation; Wendy Stram, Bowling Green Convention and Visitors Bureau; Christie Raber, director of the Wood County Historical Museum; Earlene Kilpatrick, director of Main Street BG, and Dr. Lucy Long, popular culture.

• “Parent/Professional Empowerment Project” – Vicki J. Snyder and Timothy Floyd, Lucas County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, and Dr. Mary M. Murray, intervention services.

• “Project Healthy Choices” – St. Thomas Aquinas School teachers Kacie Travler, Sherry Shafer and Debbi Jeziorowski, and Peggy Adams, Social Work Program.

• "Two Bridges Community Literacy Project" – Pat Bennett, East Toledo Junior High School; Emily Francis, Waite High School, and Dr. Tim Murnen, School of Teaching and Learning.

• "Utilizing Collaborative Problem-Solving to Increase Educational Successes of Youth Who Have Mental Illness" – Elizabeth Sheetz, president of Ohio Public Images, Inc.; Antoinette Knecht, Northwest Ohio Special Education Regional Resource Center, and Dr. Ellen Williams, intervention services and rehabilitation counseling.

• "Vernal Pool Adventures!" - Kim High, naturalist with Toledo MetroParks, and Eileen Sawyer, BGSU doctoral student in human movement, sport and leisure studies.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, contact Partnerships for Community Action at 2-9624 or email pca@bgsu.edu.

Tom Muir to discuss the ancient art and science of metal vessels

The University community will have an opportunity to hear one of the country's foremost practitioners of metalsmithing when Tom Muir discusses his work Thursday (Feb. 9).

Muir, Distinguished Professor of the Arts and head of the jewelry and metalsmithing depart-
A renowned metalsmith who has worked in gold for more than 20 years, Muir has participated in more than 300 exhibitions in the United States and abroad. His pieces have been purchased by the Art Institute of Chicago, the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian. In 1993, his work was chosen for the White House Collection of American Crafts holiday exhibit, and a piece from his “Changing Hand” series was included in a major 2003 exhibition of German and American art.

His work has also been shown at the Chicago Athenaeum and the Museum of Arts and Design (formerly the American Craft Museum) in New York, and is included in “The Art of Gold,” a three-year traveling exhibition mounted by the Crocker Museum of Art in Sacramento, Calif. One of the foremost artists working in hollowware, Muir has received attention in several books and journals such as Metalsmith, American Craft and Craft Art.

IN BRIEF

Learn about wine at Union ‘How-To’ workshop

Have you ever wondered what the difference is between a pinot noir and a merlot? Struggling with the wine list at your favorite restaurants? Come find out the secrets to choosing, tasting and pairing great wines from 6-8 p.m. tonight (Feb. 6) and/or Feb. 13 in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Bill Stimmel, owner of Stimmel's Market in Bowling Green, will conduct the workshop.

Sign up at the Union information desk. The materials fee is $10 for a single session or $15 for both sessions.

Visiting speaker to address impact of policies, politics on Caribbean sex trade

Issues surrounding sex trafficking in the Caribbean will be explored in a Provost's Lecture Series event this evening (Feb. 6).

In her talk on “Transacting Sex in the Caribbean: Migration, Work and Human Trafficking,” Dr. Kamala Kempadoo, an associate professor of Latin American and Caribbean Studies at York University, Ontario, Canada, will discuss how U.S. foreign policy on human trafficking has impacted Caribbean countries and the consequences of conceiving sex work as violence against women.

Kempadoo will speak at 6:30 p.m. in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater. A reception will follow in the lounge outside the theater.

Kempadoo is the author of Trafficking and Prostitution Reconsidered: New Perspectives on Migration, Sex Work and Human Rights (2005), Sexing the Caribbean: Gender, Race and Sexual Labor (2004) and Sex, Sun and Gold: Tourism and Sex Work in the Caribbean, among others.

She has received a Rockefeller Research Fellowship and research grants from the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Interpares Feminist Foundation in Canada.

The talk is hosted by the Institute for the Study of Culture and Society and sponsored by the offices of the provost and the vice provost for research, the College of Arts and Sciences and
American culture studies, with help from ethnic studies.

Faculty/staff offered discounted tickets for Toledo Opera Gala

Toledo Opera invites BGSU faculty, staff and alumni to buy one ticket to its annual Opera Gala and get a second at 20 percent off. This year’s gala, billed as the “Greatest Wagner Concert Ever!” is at 8 p.m. Saturday (Feb. 11) at the Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle.

Opera Gala tickets range from $12-$50.

To place a reservation or for more information, call Jennifer Gross at 419-255-SING (7464).

The Gala Celebration—a Valentine dinner and dance before and after the concert—will be held at the Toledo Club. Tickets are $85. To learn more, visit http://www.toledoopera.org/pdf/FacultyGalaOffer.pdf.

Classified Staff Council calls for award nominations

The deadline to submit nominations for the annual classified staff awards is March 13, Classified Staff Council (CSC) has announced. The reception and ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. April 20 in 101 Olscamp Hall.

In addition to scholarships for classified staff members and their dependents, CSC presents the Outstanding Service Award to a single employee and the Outstanding Team Award to groups of two or more from a University division.

Guidelines and nomination forms are located on the following Web sites:

Staff Scholarships:
www.bgsu.edu/organizations/csc/Scholarship.htm

Outstanding Service Award: www.bgsu.edu/organizations/csc/Outstanding%20Service%20Award.htm

CSC Team Award:
www.bgsu.edu/organizations/csc/Team%20Award.htm

More information about CSC can be found at www.bgsu.edu/organizations/csc/

CALENDAR

Monday, Feb. 6


Provost’s Lecture Series, “Transacting Sex in the Caribbean: Migration, Work and Human Trafficking,” by Dr. Kamala Kempadoo, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, York University, Canada, 6:30 p.m., Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater.

Tuesday, Feb. 7

CTLT Workshop, “Using Epsilon E-Portfolio in Your Courses: The Basics,” by Dr. Milt Hakel, 10-11:30 a.m., 201 University Hall.

Firelands Diversity Celebration Event, featuring photographer Linda Panetta, 1 and 4 p.m., 204 Foundation Hall. Sponsored by the Peace and Justice Club and Young Democratic Socialists.

CTLT Workshop, “Matching the Media to the Audience and the Message,” 2-5:30 p.m., 201 University Hall.

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

Film Director Series, “As Tears Go By (Wong gok ka moon, Wang jiao ka men),”
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directed by Wong Kar-wai, 1988, Hong Kong, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Violin Recital by Treble Trouble, comprising Ioana Galu, BGSU alumna, and Penny Thompson Kruse, musical arts, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Movie, "Shopgirl," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater.

Wednesday, Feb. 8

PCA/CITE Conference and Grant Launch, "Sustainable Communities, Powerful Partnerships," 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Union. For more information or a schedule of events, call 2-9624 or email pca@bgsu.edu.


Black History Month Event, "It's All Connected! Building Partnerships Across Issues of Difference," a performance and audience discussion, by Da' Coloured Gurtz Collective, 1:30-3 p.m., Lenhart Grand Ballroom, Union.

Black History Month Event, "The Histories―Celebrating Black History Month," by Da' Coloured Gurtz Collective, 4:30-6 p.m., 201 Union.

Women's Basketball vs. Northern Illinois, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Faculty Artist Series, soprano Jane Schoonmaker Rodgers and pianist Kevin Bylsma, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Thursday, Feb. 9

CTLT Workshop, "Advanced E-Portfolio Topics: Using Epsilen in Your Program," by Dr. Mitt Hakel, 10-11:30 a.m., 201 University Hall.

Service-Learning Roundtable, "Learning Versus Knowing: How Students Can Build Management Skills," by Kristine Hoover, senior professional in human resources and management, noon-1 p.m., Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

CTLT Workshop, "Photo Manipulation," using Photoshop to enhance images, 1-2 p.m., 201 University Hall.

College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Faculty Lecture, by Tom Muir, Distinguished Professor of the Arts and director of the jewelry and metalsmithing department, School of Art, 4 p.m., 206 Union.

CTLT Workshop, "Metacognitive Assessment Strategies," 5:30-7 p.m., 201 University Hall. Pizza will be provided.

Visiting Artist Lecture, by printmaker David Morrison, Herron School of Art, IUPUI, 6-7 p.m., 1101 Fine Arts Center.

Guest Speaker, "Learning to Live," by Vicki Goldsmith, 2005 Iowa Teacher of the Year and one of four finalists for the 2005 National Teacher of the Year, 7 p.m., 228 Union. Sponsored by Don and Sharon Cook, the College of Education and Human Development and the Dean's Student Advisory Council.

International Film Series, "Kajmak in marmelada," directed by Branko Duric, 2003, Slovenia, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Poetry and Fiction Readings, by poet Nate Haldeman and fiction writer Sruthi Thekkiam, graduate students in the Creative Writing Program, 7:30 p.m., Prout Chapel.

Concert, by BGSU student composers featuring their work, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Friday, Feb. 10

TEA Time, presentation by artists Amanda Burke and Natalie Waldburger on the contemporary art scene in Toronto and comparing the Canadian and American art gallery systems, 3:30 p.m., Ceramics Studio, Fine Arts Center.

Guest Artist Concert, by Jura Margulis, University of Arkansas, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Movie, "Shopgirl," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater.

Sunday, Feb. 12

Art Opening Reception, annual Undergraduate Art and Design Exhibition, 2-4 p.m., Willard Wankelman and Dorothy Uber Bryan galleries, Fine Arts Center. The exhibition begins Feb. 14.

Valentine's Day Skate, 7-8:45 p.m., Ice Arena.

Movie, "Shopgirl," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater.

Monday, Feb. 13

College of Arts and Sciences Forum, with Mark Shieldcastle, Ohio Department of Natural Resources biologist, noon-1:15 p.m., 228 Union. Lunch will be served at noon ($7.95 plus tax). Those wishing to come at 12:30 p.m. for the free lecture are welcome. Reservations are due by Thursday (Feb. 9). Call 2-2340.

BG@100 Open Forum, update on the proj-
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Continuing Events
Feb. 6-10


Feb. 9-12

Performance, “The Vagina Monologues,” 8 p.m. Feb. 9 and 10, and 2 p.m. Feb. 12, Union Ballroom. Tickets, $10, are on sale in the Union lobby from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday (Feb. 7 and 8). Proceeds from the show benefit the Cocoon Shelter and SAAFE program.

Feb. 9-March 12

Art Exhibition, BGSU Computer Art Club, Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

Through Feb. 14

Art Exhibition, “Student Enameling Exhibition,” Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Through March 3

Planetarium Show, “Worlds in Your Wallet: How the World’s Money Tells the Story of Science,” 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, BGSU Planetarium, 112 Physical Sciences Lab Building. $1 donation suggested. Stargazing follows planetarium show on Fridays and Sundays if weather permits.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY


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

On-campus classified:
http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/BGSU_only/page11151.html

Off-campus classified:
http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/cl_staff/page11145.html

ADMINISTRATIVE

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page11137.html

OBITUARY

There were no obituaries this week.