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Monitor Newsletter July 17, 2006

Bowling Green State University

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BGSU Firelands to use $1 million grant to harness wind power

The western Lake Erie shore near Huron could become a model for alternative energy sources, U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-9th District) told an audience at BGSU Firelands July 10. The congresswoman was on campus to announce a $1 million research grant from the U.S. Department of Energy for the Coastal Ohio Wind Project, a study to determine the type and placement of wind turbines at the college.

“BGSU, as the largest producer of teachers in Ohio, will help educate the public about new technologies and new possibilities,” she said. A proponent of fostering independence from foreign oil suppliers, Kaptur said the nation needs a balanced, long-term plan for energy production from a variety of sources, including wind.

Working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Federal Aviation Administration, the study will look at area wind speeds and the turbines’ potential impact on birds, bats and local air traffic. Home to threatened species such as the piping plover, the area is in the migratory path of several species of songbirds and is the nesting site of once-endangered bald eagles. “There will be a lot of pre-construction assessment” for the height and location of the turbines on the 216-acre campus, Kaptur said. “We don’t want to destroy the eagles we’ve worked so hard to restore.”

BGSU's Center for Regional Development will survey area residents to see what size and heights they feel are acceptable, Firelands Dean James Smith said. The potential impact on tourism will also be evaluated.

The eventual size of the turbine will be smaller than the four located near Bowling Green. Smith said. The power generated by the 250-kilowatt or larger turbine will be used by BGSU Firelands. “This is not a large-scale wind farm we’re talking about,” Smith said, adding that there is a national precedent for schools using wind power to save on utility costs.

Smith said eventually the project could include alternative energy sources such as biodiesel or methane to turn turbines when the wind is not blowing.

“We need to identify and capture the power of the wind,” Kaptur said. “It’s something we understood 100 years ago, but then we got led astray by the petroleum industry. We learned a lot, then the Europeans took it and created an industry.”

From 1974-81, NASA Glenn in Cleveland led the U.S. Wind Energy Program for large, horizontal-axis turbines. NASA constructed and operated its first experimental, 100-kilowatt turbine at the Plum Brook facility in Sandusky.

“We want to build on NASA Glenn’s experience and take it to the next level,” Kaptur said. “From here to Cleveland, we have the technology. We can attract companies that can build the turbines; Owens Coming can build the blades.”

Ohio is second in the country for production of wind-energy component parts, with more than 40 manufacturers. With jobs in automobile and oil production going overseas, the alternative energy industry could provide economic revitalization to the area, she added.

Noting that the Davis-Besse nuclear reactor is aging, the congresswoman said she would like to see the area develop a mix of solar power, geothermal and biodiesel energy, among others.

“We have a lot to teach. We have to change the habits of a nation and of individuals. We also have to change how we see ourselves and how others see us,” she said, recalling the persistent image of the Cuyahoga River in flames. “We need to change from the Rust Belt to
Hess honored for lifetime achievement as U.S. foreign relations historian

Dr. Gary Hess, a Distinguished Research Professor of history, has received the Norman and Laura Graebner Award for lifetime achievement as a historian of U.S. foreign relations.

Hess is the 10th recipient of the award, which includes $2,000 in cash and is presented biennially to a senior historian of diplomatic or international affairs who has significantly contributed to the profession through scholarship, teaching and/or service.

The honor was announced recently at the annual meeting of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, of which Hess is a past president. Also past president of the Ohio Academy of History, he is a former editorial board member for the journal Diplomatic History and former chair of the U.S. State Department’s Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation.

Hess is a nationally known authority on U.S. foreign relations, particularly in Southeast Asia. He is the author of six books and editor of another. His Presidential Decisions for War: Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf, published in 2001, led to his service the following year as a consultant to the Central Intelligence Agency on long-range planning of U.S. foreign policy.

Another outgrowth of his expertise on U.S.-Asian relations has been his work as a consultant and lecturer in the officer-training program at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton.

The 2004 winner of the Graebner Award, Dr. Warren Cohen of the University of Maryland- Baltimore County, nominated Hess for the honor. Hess’s reaction was “genuine humility,” he said, explaining, “this is the most prestigious award in my field; the previous recipients are among the very best scholars of American foreign relations over the last 40 years, and to be included in that group of historians marks the high point of my professional career.”

The Pittsburgh, Pa., native joined the BGSU faculty in 1964 and has held the rank of professor since 1972. He was named Distinguished Research Professor in 1988 in honor of his work on U.S. foreign policy and Asia. That same year, he received the Oustcamp Research Award from the University, which subsequently presented him with its Distinguished Faculty Service Award (1997) and Lifetime Achievement Award (2000).

Also the recipient of three Fulbright awards and two National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships, Hess was chair of the BGSU history department from 1973-81 and 1985-92, as well as acting dean of the College of Arts and Sciences during the 1981-82 academic year.

He earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Pittsburgh, in 1959, and his master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Virginia, in 1962 and 1965, respectively.

The Graebner Award was established by former students of Dr. Norman Graebner, a Professor Emeritus at Virginia. The noted historian had also taught at the University of Illinois and Iowa State and Stanford universities.
BGSU wins national award for fund-raising improvement

BGSU is among four institutions of its kind nationwide to be honored by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) for improvement in fund raising.

The award was announced last week at CASE's annual Summit for Advancement Leaders in New York City. Other recipients in BGSU's category—for public institutions classified by the Carnegie Foundation as research/doctoral—were Purdue University and the universities of Memphis and Missouri-Kansas City.

“We consider this to be the highest award our development program at Bowling Green has ever received,” said Marcia Sloan Latta, associate vice president for University advancement and director of development.

It's particularly special, she explained, because it's not based on an application but rather on data that all institutions submit for the Council for Aid to Education's annual Voluntary Support of Education survey.

In addition, the CASE judges conduct a blind review—the institutions' names are removed—of the previous four years' data, "so it's not a one-year snapshot in time," Latta said.

The judges analyze several key performance indicators, including the highest percentage increases in fund raising. In BGSU's case, the increase was 74.5 percent from fiscal year 2002, when just under $8,514,000 was collected, to fiscal year 2005, when the University's fund-raising efforts netted $14,858,478.

“For the University to receive this award is truly outstanding and reflective of the incredible support of our alumni and friends, who are giving so much to help our students and faculty pursue their educational dreams,” Latta added.

“We are so fortunate to have great volunteer leadership, as well as in the administration and the deans in the colleges, and all of this helps to make the fund-raising program strong.”

Russell Schmidt hits career high note with performance at Birdland

Last week, Russell Schmidt, director of jazz activities, had “the most significant gig I've ever had.” Schmidt performed with Grammy Award-winning saxophonist Joe Lovano and members of the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra at the world-renowned Birdland club in New York City.

Schmidt, a jazz pianist, performed works composed by Lovano and popular standards arranged by CJO bassist Dave Morgan. Also performing with the group was incoming BGSU graduate student Nathan Douds, on drums.

The Friday and Saturday performances were recorded and will be released on a Cleveland Jazz Orchestra CD.

Fronting the 16-member big band was Lovano, a native of Cleveland, who has recorded as a leader with Blue Note Records for the last 15 years, releasing more than 20 albums during that span.

Schmidt said he became involved with the orchestra, which he described as a “loose aggregation of musicians,” last November when he was invited to play with them at the Bop Stop, a “magnificent place” in Cleveland's Flats district. They needed a pianist when Lovano appeared with them, and “I was pleased to be first on the list,” Schmidt said. That led to the even more exciting gig at Birdland.
While the original Birdland opened in 1949, the famed club is now in its third location in mid-town Manhattan, where it has been operating since 1986. In the past 20 years, artists such as Michael Brecker, Dave Holland, Diana Krall, Kevin Mahogany, Pat Metheny, Tito Puente, John Scofield and Tony Williams have performed there, as have the big bands of Toshiko Akiyoshi and Maria Schneider.

Schmidt noted that getting the Birdland gig also demonstrates how talented a drummer Douds is. "It was a real coup for us to have him join our graduate program," he said.

Schmidt, music performance, holds two degrees from the Eastman School of Music, where he was a student of legendary jazz educator Rayburn Wright. As a jazz performer, he has worked with such artists as Eddie Daniels, John Hollenbeck, Gerry Mulligan, Arturo Sandoval and Clark Terry. He is also the artistic director for the Toledo Jazz Orchestra.

In 1998, he was one of only two American jazz pianists selected to participate in the Martial Solal International Jazz Piano Competition. Schmidt has served as a keyboard soloist with more than 30 professional orchestras, including performances with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center and the San Francisco Symphony. As a composer and arranger, he has written for artists as wide-ranging as jazz saxophonists Bob Berg and Michael Brecker, the Ying String Quartet and the chamber music group Rhythm & Brass.

BGSU student to participate in Chemical Oceanography symposium

Ramakrishna Boyanapalli, a BGSU doctoral candidate from Hyderabad, India, has been invited to participate in the Dissertations Symposium on Chemical Oceanography (DISCO) Oct. 8-12 in Honolulu. He is among only 26 applicants from 14 countries invited to discuss their doctoral work.

Boyanapalli, who recently defended his doctoral dissertation in biological sciences at BGSU, will receive his doctorate during summer commencement exercises on Aug. 5.

DISCO symposia extend a unique opportunity to recent and upcoming doctorate recipients in chemical oceanography to present and discuss their dissertation research in open forum with their professional peers.

Boyanapalli’s presentation at the symposium will draw from his BGSU doctoral research on measuring the availability of iron to phytoplankton using a novel light-emitting bioreporter that he designed under the mentorship of BGSU faculty members Dr. Michael McKay and Dr. George Bullerjahn.

The meeting in Hawaii is jointly sponsored by the National Science Foundation, the Office of Naval Research, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and NASA, with coordination by the American Institute of Biological Sciences.

This is not the first time that Boyanapalli has been recognized for his work and achievements while at Bowling Green. He received the 2006 Outstanding International Graduate Student Award and was runner-up for the 2006 Charles E. Shanklin Award for Research Excellence (in math and science), which recognizes excellence in original research by BGSU graduate students.
IN BRIEF

Monitor will not publish July 24

There will not be a Monitor next week, July 24. The next issue will appear on July 31.

FMS training sessions to be offered

The BG@100 project is offering training sessions for the upcoming implementation of PeopleSoft FMS. The introductory training series comprises four courses that provide an introduction to PeopleSoft and FMS-specific terms and concepts that will be used throughout all FMS training.

The course material will be presented in several formats in order for participants to obtain the information in the manner best suited to their individual needs and learning styles. These include lecture-based training sessions, PowerPoint presentations, printable pdf versions of the PowerPoint presentations with notes, and handouts.

To view options for obtaining the materials for specific courses, visit the BG@100 training Web site at http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/cio/page14566.html.

The current schedule of lecture-based training sessions begins Tuesday (July 18). To see courses that will be offered through the end of September, visit http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/cio/page22345.html.

Registration is not required to attend the sessions. All employees who will be using the PeopleSoft FMS system to complete financial transactions are encouraged to review this course material and, if appropriate, attend a lecture-based training session.

For more information about the BG@100 project, email BGat100@bgsu.edu.

CALENDAR

Monday, July 17
Bingo, noon-1 p.m., Falcon's Nest, Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Wednesday, July 19
Classified Staff Council, 9 a.m.-noon, 316 Union.

Monday, July 24
Sundaes on Mondays, free ice cream, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Falcon's Nest, Union.

Tuesday, July 25
Rhythmyx Content Management System (CMS) Training, for new users of the CMS, 1:30-4:30 p.m., 128 Hayes Hall. To enroll, call the Technology Support Center at 2-0999.

For details regarding this and other CMS training sessions, go to http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/cio/webdev/page16548.html.

Monday, July 31
Bingo, noon-1 p.m., Falcon's Nest, Union.

Continuing Events

Through July 21
Photography Exhibit, Brian Baby, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Art Exhibits, "New Talent 2006," featuring works from freshman scholarship winners and pieces by School of Art faculty and staff. Union art galleries. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. weekends.
In Brief

July 18-22
Huron Playhouse Summer Theatre, “Tintypes,” 8 p.m. nightly, McCormick School, 325 Ohio St., Huron. For ticket information and reservations, call the box office at 419-433-4744. Season passes and individual show tickets are available.

July 25-29
Huron Playhouse Summer Theatre, “Harvey.” For performance times and tickets, see above.

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 http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/hr/.

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/hr/employment/BGSU_only/page11151.html

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

ADMINISTRATIVE

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

OBITUARY

There were no obituaries this week.