Monitor Newsletter January 08, 2007

Bowling Green State University

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Rev. Jesse Jackson headlines Black History Month on campus

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, famed civil rights activist and two-time presidential candidate, will visit BGSU Jan. 25 as part of the University's "Celebrating Our Heritage" commemoration of Black History Month.

In an address titled "Honoring His Dream . . . Making It Our Reality," Jackson, who began his leadership in the civil rights movement as an assistant to Dr. Martin Luther King in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, will discuss the late civil rights leader at 7 p.m. that evening in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Admission to Jackson's talk is free, but tickets are required and will be available beginning Jan. 16 at the Information Center in the union.

Jackson is the founder of numerous organizations aimed at bringing racial and gender equality and economic and social justice to the nation, including the Rainbow Coalition and People United to Save Humanity (now merged into the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition). His advocacy helped bring international issues such as apartheid in South Africa and the fight for democracy in Haiti to the forefront of the nation's consciousness.

He has served as an international diplomat on several occasions, securing the release of captured Navy lieutenant Robert Goodman in Syria in 1984. He was the first American to bring freed hostages out of Kuwait and Iraq in 1990, and in 1997 was appointed by President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright as Special Envoy of the President and Secretary of State for the Promotion of Democracy in Africa.

The author of two books, Keep Hope Alive and Straight from the Heart, Jackson is host of "Both Sides with Jesse Jackson" on CNN. His BGSU visit is sponsored by the Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Committee.

The University will also remember Dr. King with a unity march from the union to Olscamp Hall beginning at 4 p.m. Jan. 21, followed by a reception from 5-7 p.m. in 101 Olscamp.

Also this month, the Gospel Choir will hold the fourth annual Gospel Fest at 7 p.m. Jan. 19 and 20 in the ballroom. The cost for the Friday evening performance is $7 for students and $10 for nonstudents; Saturday's tickets are $10 for students and $20 for nonstudents. Tickets for the entire weekend are $15 for students and $25 for nonstudents.

In addition, a special exhibit, "From Slavery to Freedom: The Story of Africans in America," will be shown on the first floor of Jerome Library beginning Jan. 23, sponsored by University Libraries.

'Celebrating Our Heritage' events

February, Black History Month, begins with a kickoff luncheon from noon-3 p.m. Feb. 3 in 202A Union. Sponsored by the Black Student Union, reservations for the event can be made by calling the BSU office at 2-2692.

Commons Dining Center will host a Black History Month brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 5, and Founders Food Court will hold an African-American Heritage Luncheon at the same time Feb. 27.

The fifth annual Black Issues Conference, "Lifting as We Climb," will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 3 in 101 Olscamp Hall. The conference will feature Dr. Elaine Richardson, associate professor of English and applied linguistics at Pennsylvania State University, along with other presentations by students and faculty. For more information, call the Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives (CMAI) at 2-2642.
Dr. Angela Nelson, chair of the popular culture department, will present “Mapping the Study of Black Popular Culture” at 11 a.m. Feb. 15 in the Pallister Conference Room in Jerome Library. Nelson will look at the work and influence of pioneering black writer, scholar and activist W.E.B. Dubois and trace the history of scholarship in the field.

“Lost Boys of the Sudan,” a documentary film, will be screened at 3 p.m. Feb. 21 in the Union Theater, with an introduction by Dr. Awad Ibrahim, educational foundations and inquiry. The showing is sponsored by the University Libraries and the group Human Values for Transformative Action.

The campus will celebrate the musical and political legacy of famed reggae singer Bob Marley in a Feb. 22 tribute event beginning with a documentary film and discussion about Marley from 4-7 p.m. in 207 Union, followed by a reception from 7 p.m. to midnight in the Black Swamp Pub.

The annual CMAI dinner theatre will be held Feb. 23 and 24 in the ballroom. Tickets to the Friday performance of “The 90s, Part 2” are $12 and include light refreshments. Doors open at 7 p.m., with the show at 8 p.m. The Saturday performance costs $20 and includes a cash bar and buffet. Doors open at 6 p.m., followed by the show at 7 p.m. Individual tickets can be purchased at the Information Center in the union; table reservations can be made at the center at 2-2642.

Events continue into March, including a visit from Keith Beauchamp, director and producer of “The Untold Story of Emmett Till,” March 29 and 30. The times and locations will be announced.

Events are subject to change. For more information, call the CMAI at 2-2642.

Carnegie Foundation cites BGSU for engagement

BGSU is among five U.S. colleges and universities whose curricular engagement with the community has been recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

The Stanford, Calif., foundation, which has used national data to classify higher education institutions since 1970, recently created its first elective classification, for community engagement, requiring applications for consideration.

From 88 applicants, 76 institutions were chosen and classified in one of three categories, including curricular engagement, which the foundation describes as “teaching, learning and scholarship which engage faculty, students and community in mutually beneficial and respectful collaboration. Their interactions address community-identified needs, deepen students’ civic and academic learning, enhance community well-being and enrich the scholarship of the institution.”

In addition to BGSU, California State University-Monterey Bay and three private colleges—Pitzer, in Claremont, Calif.; Spelman, in Atlanta, and Tusculum, in Greeneville, Tenn., earned the curricular engagement designation.

“I am delighted that we were able to secure the ‘community engaged university’ classification for our campus, particularly in the area of curricular engagement,” said Sandra A. MacNevin, director of the BGSU Office of Engagement.

“This past year our priority in the Engagement Initiative at BGSU has focused on pedagogies of engagement, including community and service learning, cooperative education, internships, study abroad, study away and other pedagogical approaches that engage our faculty, students and staff in partnerships and collaborations with the external community,” she continued. “It is a great achievement to be recognized nationally for our efforts in this area,
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and to be included in the inaugural group of universities that has been classified this year as community engaged institutions.

The other engagement categories are outreach and partnerships, in which the University of Cincinnati and Kent State University are among nine designees, and a category for institutions with "substantial commitments" in both curricular engagement and outreach and partnerships. That list includes 62 colleges and universities but none from Ohio.

"Finding new and better ways to connect with their communities should be a high priority for higher education institutions today," said Lee Shulman, president of the Carnegie Foundation. "The campuses participating in this elective classification provide useful models of engagement around teaching and learning and around research agendas that benefit from collaborative relationships."

By requiring descriptive documentation, the foundation indicated it was able "to address elements of institutional mission and distinctiveness that are not represented in the national data on colleges and universities."

To be selected in any of the three categories, institutions had to provide descriptions and examples of institutionalized practices of community engagement demonstrating an alignment among mission, culture, leadership, resources and practices.

BGSU to receive CHEA Award for learning outcomes

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation has announced that BGSU has been chosen to receive the 2007 CHEA Award for Institutional Progress in Student Learning Outcomes.

"Given the current debate regarding the role of student learning outcomes in accreditation, Bowling Green State University serves as a solid example of the enormous progress that institutions are making through the implementation of comprehensive, thoughtful and effective initiatives. We are delighted to recognize this distinguished institution with this award," CHEA President Judith Eaton said in a news release announcing the recognition.

BGSU is one of only five institutions selected for the honor from a nationwide pool of 31 candidates. Other winners are Mesa (Ariz.) Community College; Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla.; Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terra Haute, Ind., and the University of Saint Mary in Leavenworth, Kan.

The awards will be presented to representatives of the five institutions on Jan. 31 during the 2007 CHEA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

When educators talk about "student learning outcomes," they're talking about "what students know and what they can do with that knowledge," according to Ohio Eminent Scholar Dr. Milt Hakel, psychology, who has been heavily involved in the University's efforts to measure student success over the past decade. Those "outcomes" include problem solving, oral and written skills, teamwork and leadership skills, among others.

Hakel called the CHEA Award "a rare honor" in light of the nation's having some 3,000 institutions of higher learning.

Institutions were judged on the basis of four criteria: articulation and evidence of student learning outcomes; successful outcomes; informing the public about outcomes, and using outcomes for improvement.

In addition, CHEA noted that BGSU showed outstanding achievement in:
- Attention to outcomes embedded in an institutional culture
- Good use of current technology in the methods and tools to track outcomes
- The extensive use of faculty and strong faculty support
- Institutional leadership that is dedicated to the importance of outcomes
- Approaches to outcomes that can be replicated at other institutions.
“It is gratifying to be recognized nationally for the emphasis we place on student success and measuring how well our students are learning the skills and knowledge they truly need,” said President Sidney Ribeau.

Founded in 1996, the CHEA is an organization of nearly 3,000 degree-granting colleges and universities and the only higher education institutional membership association to be created by a referendum of college and university presidents. CHEA scrutinizes accrediting organizations for quality, based on self-created standards, and serves as an advocate on accreditation issues to government. Currently, CHEA recognizes 60 institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations. The association also hosts numerous conferences and produces publications on matters relating to accreditation.

Internal auditor helps campus design effective processes

The prospect of being audited tends to make most people uneasy. But the message Mel Hudson-Nowak wants to get out to campus is that she is here to offer advice and assistance.

“I want to help people identify the right way to do things,” said the University’s director of internal auditing and advisory services. “The difference between an IRS auditor and my role is that my role is to look at the way processes are designed and see if they’re designed to achieve the desired outcome.”

She can also help determine if departments are having the right people look at their data to insure confidence in its accuracy and integrity, and make sure they are in compliance with all relevant rules and regulations.

“My expertise is in process,” Hudson-Nowak said. As she told a gathering of new directors this fall, everyone in an organization has responsibility for internal controls, from the management, which sets expectations; to employees, who design and execute internal controls; to the auditors, who monitor and evaluate those controls.

Hudson-Nowak also reminds faculty and staff they should feel comfortable using the Fraud Hotline, which is set up so employees can confidentially report any possible problems to her. That number is 419-494-1962.

“If there’s anything you think is inappropriate or unusual or that makes you uncomfortable, you should not hesitate to call. I will treat all calls seriously and confidentially,” she said.

A difference of scale

Hudson-Nowak, who lives in Michigan with her husband and two children, began work at BGSU in July. She earned an MBA in finance and marketing from Michigan State University and then was recruited by the Ford Motor Co. to work in the finance department, first in auditing and later in product development.

Her work also took her to Sweden, where she helped Volvo, a division of Ford, develop processes in accordance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act regarding financial accounting and reporting.

The difference between BGSU and Ford is simply the scale, Hudson-Nowak said. Whereas at Ford there were 150 people in the audit office, here she will have a staff of four: an auditor, an internal control coordinator and two graduate assistants. “The internal process side is not very different” between the University and Ford, she said.

BGSU benefits from having considerable financial expertise among the board of trustees, she said. She works closely with the audit committee, which she described as “very experienced and very knowledgeable.” In addition, President Ribeau, through his membership on several corporate and nonprofit boards, is aware of current practices and sees the importance of having strong financial leadership, she said.
Assessing risks, reviewing processes

One of her first major tasks at BGSU is to develop a risk assessment for the University. "I will be asking 'What can we do with the resources we have and what can't we do?'" and then assign priorities, she explained. She will first propose a 15-month audit plan and then revisit it yearly.

To engage the campus in the process, in November she organized a risk forum with nearly 25 people from a range of areas to gain a wider view of business and budget practices. After the forum, BGSU Counseling Center Director Dr. Craig Vickio said, "Working in the Counseling Center has certainly left me highly sensitized to the importance of mitigating risks in our work—such as the risks of students acting in ways that endanger themselves or others. My center colleagues and I have also worked hard to insure that client confidentiality is maintained and to thereby minimize any risk of a security breach. Attending Mel's risk management forum helped me to significantly enhance my awareness of other types of risks that exist in our work and also enabled me to more fully appreciate how risk management is everyone's responsibility across campus."

Another of Hudson-Nowak's projects is to review and update the internal audit charter, which will provide the scope and authority for her office.

In addition, she is developing a process for corrective action follow-up. "It's important to find things that need to be fixed, but it's just as important that they actually get fixed," she pointed out. By having a formal process that includes "severity guidelines," she can decide when a simple notice of a process that needs to be changed would be sufficient and when more supervision is in order.

Help is available

Hudson-Nowak wants employees "to feel this is an approachable office," and encourages everyone to call her if:
• They are doing anything new that may have unintended consequences.
• They see something in their data or financial information that doesn't seem to make sense. "I can help you get answers so you don't make decisions based on something you can't explain," she said.
• They feel they need a full or partial audit of their processes. Employees can ask her to take a look at their operations and let them know if there's anything they should be concerned about, she said.

While she might not always be able to provide a comprehensive audit of a department, depending on what else she is working on at the time, she might examine a specific aspect of its business.

According to Hudson-Nowak, the greatest risk occurs when there is something new and different happening, whether in the area of process, personnel or computer systems. "That's when the risk goes up," she said. And even though people might not look forward to hearing they have a problem, "they'd rather hear it from me than from the external auditor," she said. "I can provide an independent and objective opinion for them."

"It's reassuring to know that Mel is available to help all of us in our efforts to address potential risks—not only by aiding us in developing procedures for managing risks but also by insuring that we are carefully reviewing and revising these procedures as new risks emerge," Vickio said.

IN BRIEF

BG@100 open forum last before FMS goes live

The BG@100 project will host an open forum at 11 a.m. Thursday (Jan. 11) in 316 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. This week's forum will be the last before the FMS "go-live" event scheduled for Feb. 5.
BG@100 PeopleSoft FMS will ‘go live’ on Feb. 5
On Feb. 5, the FMS system will go live and officially be the University's financial system. The BG@100 project team is finishing final implementation tasks and finalizing the plan for FMS “go-live.”

As of Feb. 5, all University financial transactions will be processed in FMS, and the purchasing office and business office will no longer accept paper documents used in AFIN to initiate the creation of purchase orders and to process vendor invoice payments. Departments will be required to use the online FMS system to transact these types of financial business.

BG@100 FMS training is being offered for staff members who need access to transact financial business. Anyone needing training on the FMS system who has not attended training sessions or has not received an invitation to attend may contact the project office by email at BGat100@bgsu.edu for more information and to set up training.

BG@100 FMS project information is available on the Web at www.bgsu.edu/BGat100.

University Choral Society spring auditions under way
The College of Musical Arts is holding open spring-semester auditions by appointment for the University Choral Society.

The ensemble will perform William Walton's “Belshazzar's Feast” with the Bowling Green Philharmonia on Sunday, April 22.

The choral society provides opportunities for community and University singers to come together to sing great choral music with an orchestra. The ensemble performs frequently with the Bowling Green Philharmonia and the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. Mark Munson, University choral activities director and president of the Ohio Choral Directors Association, directs the group.

Participation in the ensemble can be on a noncredit basis or for University credit through the Creative Arts Program. Singers include current BGSU students as well as University faculty and staff, church choir members and other northwest Ohioans with previous amateur or professional choral experience.

Beginning tomorrow (Jan. 9), weekly rehearsals will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the First United Methodist Church, 1506 E. Wooster St.

Those interested in auditioning may sing a prepared solo in any language. An accompanist will be provided. For more information and to arrange an audition time, call the College of Musical Arts at 2-8288 or email Munson at munson@bgsu.edu.

Creative Arts Program offers Kindermusik classes
The Creative Arts Program at the College of Musical Arts will offer four Kindermusik courses Jan. 22 through April 27 at the Moore Musical Arts Center.

Kindermusik classes, taught by licensed instructor Samantha Closz, are designed to enhance a child's learning, growth and development through music.

All classes will meet in 3010 Moore Musical Arts Center. Class fees will cover all supplies and materials.

In a Kindermusik class, instructors lead parents and their children through activities...
using music and movement. Parents learn more about their child's individual developmental process, and the shared learning experience creates a unique bond as the child associates learning with fun, musical play.

The first class, Village (newborn to 18 months), will meet from 5:30-6:15 p.m. on Tuesdays. Caregivers will participate during the class time and are asked to bring a blanket to each class.

Our Time (18 months to 3 years) will meet from 6:30-7:15 p.m. on Tuesdays. Caregivers are not required but may participate during the class time.

On Wednesdays, Sing & Sign (6 months to 3 years) will be held from 5:30-6:15 p.m., and Imagine That (3 to 5 years) will follow from 6:30-7:15 p.m. Caregivers will participate in the last 15 minutes of each class.

Classes require no prior musical training by the caregiver.

For more information, contact the Creative Arts Program office at 2-8177.

CALENDAR

Monday, Jan. 8
Spring Semester Begins.

Thursday, Jan. 11
BG@100 Open Forum, 11 a.m., 316 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.
Guest Artist, pianist Arthur Greene, University of Michigan, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Friday, Jan. 12
Panel Discussion, "Hurlstone and His Helions: A Brilliant Legacy," 7 p.m., 204 Fine Arts Center.

Saturday, Jan. 13
20th Annual Reddin Symposium, Guest speakers explore the United States and Canada's responses to challenges facing higher education, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., 101B Olscamp Hall. Reservations are required for the free symposium. Contact Barb Berta at the BGSU Canadian Studies Center at 2-2457 or cast@cba.bgsu.edu, or register online at www.cba.bgsu.edu/cast/reddin.html.

Monday, Jan. 15
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Classes canceled, offices closed.

Continuing Events
Jan. 11 and 12
Elsewhere Theatre Production, "365 Days/365 Plays," seven short plays from the series by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Suzan-Lori Parks, 8 p.m., Joe E. Brown Theatre, University Hall. A short talk-back session with the actors, directors and producers will follow the Thursday (Jan. 11) performance.

Jan. 11-13
Caryl Crane Children's Theatre Auditions, for a musical version of "The Emperor's New Clothes," 4:30-7 p.m. Thursday and Friday (Jan. 11 and 12) and 9-11 a.m. Saturday (Jan. 13), McBride Auditorium, BGSU Firelands. Roles are available for ages 10 through adult. A song and dance will be taught to each one who auditions. Scripts are on closed reserve at the BGSU Firelands Library. Performance dates are March 1-4. For more information, call Ron Ruble at 2-5560 (work) or 419-433-3820 (home).

Through Jan. 17
Art Exhibition, 57th annual Faculty/Staff Exhibition, Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-4 p.m. Sundays.
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Through Jan. 18

Art Exhibition, Robert “Bud” Hurlstone Commemorative Exhibition, Willard Wankelman Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-4 p.m. Sundays.

Through Jan. 31

Art Exhibition, “Vision of Memories: The Chronicles of a Lifetime of Travel,” paintings by the late Dr. Fujiya Kawashima, Asian studies and history, Union Gallery. Hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY


Labor Postings
http://international.bgsu.edu/index.php?x=facinfohire5

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

Pamela Konopinski, 54, died Dec. 20 in Portage. She had formerly worked in University Dining Services.

Darrel Minifie, 84, died Dec. 24 in Toledo. He was director of the Division of Special Education and Vocational Rehabilitation from 1964-75, receiving the first Outstanding Achievement in Research and Development Award in 1973.

Memorials may be given to the Drs. Darrel and Elsie Minifie Scholarship Fund in care of the BGSU Foundation Inc.