Service-learning adds new dimension to student, faculty life

Explore, inspire, achieve—the key words in the new marketing campaign launched by the University this fall also "fit perfectly" with the philosophy of service-learning, says Dr. Jane Rosser, director of the newly created Office of Service-Learning.

"Service-learning really gets into the question of how to be a citizen in a democratic society," Rosser said. As part of President Sidney Ribeau's Engaged University initiative, "it is part of the continuum of ways in which we'd like our students to engage with the community and provides a context for them to ask the bigger questions about citizenship," she said.

Beyond benefiting the community, participating in service-learning also greatly benefits students by giving them the opportunity to engage in hands-on learning. "We know that we learn more by doing," Rosser said. One of the core ideas is to "use service-learning to more effectively deliver the course content. This is a different way of teaching," she added.

This type of engagement also helps students make the connection to the role of the discipline in practice. For example, students in Dr. Bob Midden's chemistry class test water samples from local wells. They learn the methodology and basic chemistry involved, but "they also know that their work matters to the lives and the quality of life of people in Wood County," said Dr. Mark Gromko, interim provost.

Likewise, Bonnie Fink, interim director of the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology, recalls the commitment and sense of responsibility her technical writing students felt when they worked with her as volunteer editors and writers on grant proposals for nonprofit organizations.

"Service-learning has been demonstrated to be very effective at getting students engaged in learning," said Gromko. "Because they can see the significance of what they're doing to important social problems and causes, they can be drawn into subject matter with an enthusiasm that's difficult to achieve in the classroom."

Service-learning also offers instructors and students the opportunity to become closer as they work together on meaningful projects, Fink added. "It allows faculty to model the behavior we are trying to teach."

Service-learning defined

As defined in part by the Service-Learning Committee and with the president's approval, service-learning at BGSU is a "curriculum-based, credit-bearing educational experience in which students (a) participate in an organized service activity that meets identified community needs, and (b) reflect on the service activity in such a way as to gain further understanding of curricular content, a broader appreciation of the discipline, and an enhanced sense of personal values and civic responsibility." The entire definition, which expands on this first paragraph, is adapted from R.G. Bringle and J.A. Hatcher's A Service-Learning Curriculum for Faculty.

Gromko emphasized, "This is not a free-standing program but one that is well-integrated with other programs. The service-learning office, the BG Perspective staff and the BGExperience program are working closely together to deliver a curriculum that gets students involved with community partners. It's an excellent pedagogical strategy with advantages you can't find in other ways."

Campus resources provide support

The incorporation of service-learning into courses must be driven by faculty, Rosser said. "My job is to create the structures to enable and support faculty who want to teach this way. Faculty may have questions such as 'Where will I have the time to develop the course?' Who
The service-learning office can also help find external funding and connections with the community, and provide assistance with publishing, grants and scholarships. "There's been a huge explosion of publishing opportunities around service-learning, both in general and by discipline," Rosser pointed out.

The office can also work on such needs as transport and infrastructure, she said, but she must hear from faculty what support they require. A goal is to develop an advisory council of faculty with experience in service-learning and those who wish to become involved.

The CTLT will play a key part as the home for professional development. Fink said she is excited to be working with Rosser and faculty members to provide the "structure and the venues" for faculty who want to incorporate service-learning into their curricula. Faculty can collaborate to learn together, and the many who have been doing service-learning in their courses can contribute their expertise.

"This is such a valuable learning tool," Fink said. "Students today are different, and classes are transforming to meet their needs. Students really want to be linked to the outside world, and this is a way for us to work with the community to really apply the things we're doing here as far as learning outcomes and our core values."

The University is fortunate to have a wealth of expertise and resources that faculty and campus organizations can draw upon. Partnerships for Community Action, the Center for Innovative and Transformative Education and the Wood County Americorps office, where Rosser was formerly the director, can help with community connections, as can the offices of campus involvement and student affairs.

"We don't have to reinvent the wheel" in order to increase the level of service-learning at the University, Rosser said.

Open house presents grant opportunity
An opportunity to develop a service-learning course will be presented at an open house from noon-1:30 p.m. Wednesday (Jan. 31) in 316 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Sponsored by the service-learning office, Jen Gilbride-Brown from Ohio Campus Compact will be here to share information about Great Cities, Great Service mini-grants.

The $5,000 mini-grants are available for the development and implementation of certain academic service-learning courses, to be based on community-identified needs to increase the "connectedness" that urban youth feel with their communities. The proposal deadline is March 1.

For further details and an application, visit http://www.ohiok-16service.org/occ/greatcities.cfm or contact the office at 2-9865 or jrosser@bgsu.edu. The Office of Service Learning is located in 309A University Hall. For more information, call Rosser at 2-9288.

U.S. needs to rethink priorities: Jackson

He didn't endorse a candidate in the growing field of Democratic presidential contenders but, addressing a capacity crowd in BGSU's Lenhart Grand Ballroom Jan. 25, the Rev. Jesse Jackson called for "a new direction" for America.

The longtime civil rights activist said it would be premature for him to back a candidate. But noting the diversity already represented by Sens. Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton and New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson—the first Hispanic White House hopeful—he said the campaign "will be full of very talented people" and "hopefully a race that will inspire more..."
education and participation."

"I'm not inclined to run," Jackson said, responding to a question from a ballroom audience member about whether he would seek the presidency a third time. What he is inclined to do, he continued, is promote voter registration—as he did with BGSU students during his presentation—and talk about "things that matter."

Leading that list of important issues are education and health care, he said. "It's a matter of priorities," Jackson asserted during a pre-speech press conference, saying it's "easy to get into war but not easy to get into school."

While the wealthiest Americans are getting tax cuts—and some corporations don’t pay taxes—the middle class is getting job and benefit cuts, he said. With spending for the war in Iraq thrown in, people’s ability to make a living is going down and, for college students and their families, the cost of tuition is up, he added.

The focus should be on ending the war and reinvesting in America, according to Jackson, who said a multinational United Nations force is needed now in Iraq instead of "more Americans with targets on their backs." Diverting $1 billion of the money spent on the war each month to education and health care in Ohio alone would produce change "in a meaningful way," he noted.

"Some say there's too much noise in Washington; I say there's not enough," he said, stipulating that what's needed are more people singing "the right tune" about, for instance, job safety and health benefits for coal miners.

"We are a great and blessed nation, but we must learn a great lesson—live together," said Jackson, founder of the Rainbow Coalition and People United to Save Humanity, now merged into the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition.
BGSU project to make physics elementary

Kids are fascinated by magnets and the springs often found in their toys.

A BGSU project aims to put more of those things in the hands of the youngest schoolchildren by helping their teachers think of ways to make science more exciting for them.

Research-based Inquiry Physics Experiences (RIPE) is one of 22 science and mathematics education projects statewide to receive funding through the federal Improving Teacher Quality Program. The Ohio Board of Regents recently released more than $2.8 million for projects in higher-need Ohio schools, including $133,549 for RIPE.

"Research-based inquiry" refers, in this case, to researching what classroom approaches work with students in preschool through third grade, and now teaching their teachers those strategies, said project director Dr. Tracy Huziak-Clark, School of Teaching and Learning.

Huziak-Clark explained that she and her collaborator, Dr. Stephen Van Hook, physics and astronomy, have been studying young students' understanding of scientific concepts, based on hands-on learning, conceptual hooks such as songs and phrases, and movements and physical activities.

They will share information about content as well as what they’ve learned about teaching, she added. Physics content in Ohio's state standards for early childhood education focuses on sound and light, forces and motion, magnetism, astronomy and energy, she noted. For example, she said, the standards require that students gain some understanding of energy, so lifting items can help demonstrate how it is transferred from food to exercise, and a spring is useful for a discussion of how energy enters, is stored and leaves an object.

"Historically, teachers of kindergarten through third grade do not have physics as part of their preparation and, therefore, feel less prepared for the physical science Ohio standards," said Huziak-Clark. "We are hoping that this project will help teachers learn physical science concepts and be excited and comfortable teaching them in the fall."

Up to 40 teachers may participate in RIPE, which will open with a two-week institute this summer. Teachers from Bowling Green, Wood County, Washington Local, Findlay City and Sandusky County schools will have first priority for the available spots. Any unfilled spaces will then be offered throughout northwest Ohio.

Participants will receive a kit of materials—including magnets and toys with springs—to take back to their classrooms, along with four graduate credit hours from BGSU. All of the teachers must then develop and implement a weeklong unit based on what they learn. That will be among the topics of discussion at three follow-up meetings next fall.

"We’re very excited," said Huziak-Clark about the professional development project. "Let's have a little fun and learn something at the same time."

Conference prepares students to compete on global scale

It was hard enough when college graduates entering the job market had to compete with all the other bright young Americans, but today they must also compete with bright young people from around the world. How should they prepare themselves to function in the global marketplace, and how can they make themselves stand out from the others, who are also very well prepared?

That was the question discussed Jan. 19 at a conference on global competitiveness titled “Creating Your Value-Add.” Led by BGSU’s Students Initiative on Global Competitiveness, the day featured prominent national and international speakers, including Yusuf Omar, consul
general for the South African Consulate-General in Chicago; Dr. Henry Silvert, a research associate and statistician for the Conference Board, and Sonja Steptoe, senior correspondent and deputy news director for Time magazine in Los Angeles, whose article “How to Build a Student for the 21st Century” was Time’s Dec. 18 cover story.

In addition to their talks, the guests interacted with students throughout the day, offering guidance and support.

**High demand, short supply**

Valuable advice was offered by the day’s keynote speaker, Robert Lane Greene, global agenda correspondent for the online version of The Economist—“the nerdiest magazine but the one you get in first class,” as he described it. Greene is also an adjunct professor of global affairs at New York University’s School of Continuing and Professional Studies and has written for a number of other publications.

“Prepare yourself for luck,” he told attendees. That way, when an opportunity arises, you will be ready to take it. And, though it seems a bit cold, “See yourself as a tool, since you will be bought and sold as a commodity in the market for labor.”

“How can you add value to yourself?” Greene asked. The key to creating a unique and satisfying career, he asserted, lies in the most basic theory of supply and demand. The average person thinks only about what is in demand when preparing for a career, but the second, equally important piece is supply. What is in high demand but very short supply?

**Study foreign languages**

“In the global field, studying and mastering a foreign language is the essential sign of a person who is serious about global competition,” according to Greene. “It will open doors that nothing else will open.”

In any business negotiation, the advantage is to the person who knows what you’re saying and has read the same books and studied the same material. Knowing another language is an indispensable tool in the global economy, he stressed. The speaker of several languages and now studying Arabic, Greene said, “No person of normal intelligence cannot master a foreign language,” though it is very challenging.

But what language to study? Again, the law of supply and demand can be a guide. While Spanish is widely spoken, even in the United States, it is in plentiful supply, he pointed out. And, despite India’s growing economic prominence, most people from India speak English.

A more promising possibility is Portuguese, which is much more rarely spoken outside Portugal and Brazil. “With Brazil taking up half the land mass of South America and half its population,” and with its huge resources of oil and other forms of wealth and a government newly open to trade, “it will grow increasingly important to be able to speak the language,” Greene said.

Another progressively more important language to study is Chinese, he said. China is becoming an economic powerhouse and taking its place among the world’s leading business forces, but “we don’t have the skills to meet the Chinese,” Greene said. Studying Mandarin now fits the mantra of high demand, low supply.

In the past five years, speakers of Arabic have become very important, he said, pointing out that, even today, there are only six fluent Arabic speakers at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad—“the largest embassy in the world, in a country of 28 million people, and there are only six people there who can speak Arabic.” Another example of the country’s unpreparedness to deal with international issues occurred during the Iran hostage crisis of 1979, when there were no Farsi speakers on the U.S negotiating team.

Today, “written standard Arabic is a very handy thing to have in your toolkit,” he observed.

**Have a second skill**

In order to stand out from the rest, Greene advised students to combine study in two or more
areas in which they have an interest or affinity.

For example, he said, interests in the law and computing could add up to expertise in intellectual property law. Writing and photography skills could land one a job as a photojournalist, one who is much more valuable to an editor because of the dual abilities. A degree in a science such as microbiology, chemistry or particle physics, combined with business ability, could yield a career in biotechnology.

The list goes on, he said, but the key is to think about "what makes you different, what you know that makes you unique. Focus on those things, expand them and specialize.

"Find your passions, develop them and never stop," he said.

IN BRIEF

Be there for State of the University address Friday
President Sidney Ribeau will deliver his State of the University address at 10 a.m. Friday (Feb. 2) in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

The campus is invited to come at 9:30 for coffee and fellowship before the talk.

Chinese economy to be discussed at forums
Dr. Thomas Rawski, an economics and history professor at the University of Pittsburgh, will give two presentations next week, as the Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar and the next speaker in the College of Arts and Sciences Forum series.

On Monday (Feb. 5), his Phi Beta Kappa talk will be on "China's Economy—Past, Present, Future," from 1:30-3 p.m. in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater.

Beginning with the socioeconomic structure of imperial China (pre-1911), he will trace the steps that led to the nation's current economic boom. He will also look ahead to see what factors might affect China's prospects for continued economic growth. The presentation is free and open to the public.

On Feb. 6, he will speak on "The International Dimension of China's Long Boom" at the Arts and Sciences Forum. The forum, from noon to 1:15 p.m., will be held in 308 Union.

Rawski will discuss how poor populations can benefit from globalization, using the example of China and the rest of East Asia. He will explain the development and modern history of China's economy, emphasizing the crucial role of cross-border flows of resources, products and knowledge in China's economic boom and the necessity of its having open access to world markets for future success.

A lunch of soup, salad, baked potato and dessert buffet will be served at noon for $7.95 (plus tax). Lunch reservations must be made by Tuesday (Jan. 30). Call the college office at 2-2340 or email mjhitt@bgsu.edu. Those wishing to come at 12:30 p.m. for the free lecture are also welcome.

Rawski is co-organizing a large, collaborative project aimed at evaluating China's recent growth spurt from the perspective of global economic history. The past president of the Association for Comparative Economic Studies, he is the author of several books on economics and history, and China's development.
Video on FMS procedures available online

With one week remaining before Financial Management Solutions (FMS) go-live, the BG@100 project team and the University community are completing final preparations. The University will be using FMS for all financial transactions, which will introduce changes in how purchases are made and in associated business practices.

A brief video describing significant points of the FMS implementation is available on the BG@100 Web site at www.bgsu.edu/bgat100. The site will also be a resource for documents such as training manuals, self-service training modules, listings of FMS support resources, training labs to be offered during the week of Jan. 29, open labs to be offered after the go-live, cross-reference tables to obtain Department Cost Center numbers, and tables to find project/grant numbers. Continue to check the Web site for updates, and direct any questions or requests for additional information to BGat100@bgsu.edu.

Areas asked to review, update forms

In anticipation of the BG@100 FMS go-live on Feb. 5, departments and offices are asked to review forms used or produced within their area for any AFIN references that will need to be updated. For example, a request for an Agency/Org number on a form will need to be changed to request Department Cost Center (DCC) information.

Additionally, any forms you may have downloaded to your desktop might need to be updated. Areas are asked to review and revise forms and, as appropriate, have them posted to the Web by Feb. 4 in order for users to access the updated material. Users should acquire an updated form from the appropriate originating department for each need, e.g., obtain a Leave Reporting Form from Human Resources.

You will continue to use the current paper system for Travel Expense and Business Entertainment Expenses; however, the forms will be updated to reflect use with the FMS system.

Financial Responsibility Agreement to be required

Beginning today (Jan. 29), and annually hereafter, all students who intend to register for classes must first electronically sign an agreement accepting responsibility for paying all charges incurred on their BGSU bursar account. Parents or guardians of those under 18 must sign a paper copy of the agreement and submit it to the bursar’s office.

All students are required to accept the Financial Responsibility Agreement in order to register during the upcoming summer and/or fall enrollment periods.

If the University does not have an accepted Financial Responsibility Agreement signature on file, a registration hold will be placed on the account and the student will be unable to enroll until he or she successfully completes the document. The Ohio Attorney General’s Office has mandated that all Ohio public, state-supported institutions maintain a completed agreement for every student.

The process of signing the agreement is short, simple and very similar to the electronic signature submitted when using new software.

Effective today, the e-signature can be found on the first page of MyBGSU under Financial Services. Once the student has accepted the agreement, he or she will be able to review it and the date it was signed and print a copy, and the registration restriction will be removed.

Students are encouraged to electronically sign the Financial Responsibility Agreement well before attempting to register for summer and/or fall semester classes. More information can be found at www.bgsu.edu/offices/bursar. Questions may be emailed to bursar@bgsu.edu, or call 2-2815.
AAUW scholarships available for women

The Bowling Green branch of the American Association of University Women offers an annual book scholarship of no less than $200 to women who demonstrate financial need and are permanent residents of Wood County.

Applicants must have completed at least one year of study in a degree program. Nontraditional female applicants who have returned to school to finish or begin a degree or retrain, and who use Bowling Green or Wood County as their permanent address, will be given preference.

This year, two $600 scholarships will be available. The application form for the 2007-08 AAUW Book Scholarship is available at: www.bgsu.edu/organizations/aauw/scholarship.pdf.

Applications must be received by March 13. Send completed applications to Lisa McHugh Cesarini, Office of Academic Enhancement, 104K University Hall, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0228.

CALENDAR

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Movie, "Déjà Vu," 9:30 p.m., Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater.

Wednesday, Jan. 31

Brown Bag Luncheon, "Consuming Liberation: Playgirl and Pornography for Women in the 1970s," by Chadwick Roberts, American culture studies, noon-1 p.m., Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Service-Learning Grant Opportunity Open House, "Great Cities, Great Service" mini-grants, with Jen Gilbride-Brown, Ohio Campus Compact, noon-1:30 p.m., 316 Union. For more information and an application, visit www.ohiok-16service.org/occ/greatcities.cfm, call the Office of Service-Learning at 2-9865 or email Jane Rosser at jrosser@bgsu.edu.

Guest Artist Recital, with saxophonist Nathan Nabb, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Organ Studio, 0113 Moore Musical Arts Center.

Men's Basketball vs. Ball State, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Faculty Artist Series, with oboist Susan Hatch Tomkiewicz and pianist Robert Satterlee, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Thursday, Feb. 1

Creative Writing Program MFA Readings, by Rocco Lungariello, poetry, and Katherine Lane, fiction, 7:30 p.m., Prout Chapel.

International Film Series, "Kontroll" (2004), directed by Nimrod Antal, Hungary, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Friday, Feb. 2

State of the University Address, by President Sidney Ribeau, 10 a.m., Lenhart Grand Ballroom, Union. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and fellowship.

Movie, "Déjà Vu," 6:30 and 9:30 p.m., Union Theater.

Festival Series, with Peter Schickele and P.D.Q. Bach, "The Jekyll and Hyde Tour," 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Tickets are $18, $25 and $30. To order, call the box office at 2-8171.

Saturday, Feb. 3

Eighth Annual Black Issues Conference, "Lifting as We Climb," 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 101 Olscamp Hall. With 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 at 2-2642. A Black History Month event.

Gymnastics vs. Ball State, 7 p.m., Eppler Gymnasium.

Concert, with the Bowling Green Philharmonia and winners of the 40th annual Competitions in Music Performance, 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall. Tickets are $5 for students and senior citizens and $8 for other adults. To order, call the box office at 2-8171.

Sunday, Feb. 4

Women's Basketball vs. Toledo, 4 p.m., Anderson Arena.
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

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Movie, “Déjà Vu,” 9:30 p.m., Union Theater.

Monday, Feb. 5
BGSU Firelands Man’s Inhumanity to Man Movie Series, “Eyes on the Prize: No Easy Walk,” 11:30 a.m., Firelands Room, 115 West Building.

Black History Month Kick-Off Luncheon, noon-3 p.m., Lenhart Grand Ballroom, Union.

Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar, “China’s Economy—Past, Present, Future,” by Dr. Thomas Rawski, economics and history professor at the University of Pittsburgh, 1:30-3 p.m., Union Theater.

Music at the Forefront Series, cellist Craig Hultgren, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Continuing Events
Jan. 29-Feb. 2
Blood Drive, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., 101B Olscamp Hall on Jan. 29 and 30 and Feb. 1, Multi-purpose Room on Jan. 31, and 101A Olscamp on Feb. 2. Bring a valid ID.

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. today-Wednesday.

Feb. 2 and 3
Hockey vs. Notre Dame, 7:05 p.m., Ice Arena.

Feb. 4-21
Exhibition, BGSU’s third annual Architecture Studio Exhibition, Union Art Gallery. Hours are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sundays.

Through Feb. 14
Art Exhibition, Student Enameling Exhibition, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays.

Through March 2
Planetarium Show, “Nine Planets and Counting,” 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays and 7:30 p.m. Sundays, BGSU Planetarium, 112 Physical Sciences Lab Building. $1 donation suggested. Stargazing follows planetarium show on Fridays and Sundays if weather permits.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

Visual Communication and Technology Education. Assistant Professor (two positions), Call the department, 2-2437. Deadline: March 16.

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

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:
www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/BGSU_only/page11151.html

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

ADMINISTRATIVE
www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page11137.html
OBITUARY

Ethelann Stumpp, 72, died Jan. 19 in Findlay. She retired in 1991 as a supervisor of pre-service special education students.