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Monitor Newsletter June 18, 2007

Bowling Green State University

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BGSU

JUNE 18, 2007

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Medical Mutual gift to enhance campus wellness efforts

BGSU faculty, administrators and staff are the benefactors of a gift from Medical Mutual of Ohio.

As part of a comprehensive effort to improve employee health and wellness, the \$200,000 gift over four years will provide program planning to assist BGSU employees with weight loss, smoking cessation and education on a variety of wellness topics. The goal is to create a culture of health consciousness and to encourage and reward healthy habits, informed health-care choices and a commitment on the part of each employee to take an active role in their wellness.

Representatives from the Wellness Connection, the Student Health Service, the Student Recreation Center and Human Resources have already begun planning an employee wellness day and other wellness-related events.

Dr. Glenn Egelman, physician in chief and director of the Student Health Service, said, "We are excited to develop this important partnership with Medical Mutual of Ohio and are hopeful that it will have a meaningful impact on the wellness of our campus community."

The gift from Medical Mutual reflects the growing emphasis in the health-care industry on wellness and preventive care. Kent Clapp, chairman, president and chief executive officer at Medical Mutual of Ohio, said, "We're here to serve our policyholders. Our partnership with Bowling Green State University will provide outstanding service to our customers. Over the years as the health-care industry and the needs of our customers have changed, so have we."

With nearly 2,500 employees, Medical Mutual has been a health-care partner in Ohio since 1934.

The gift is part of Building Dreams: The Centennial Campaign for BGSU, which has raised more than \$114 million to date. The \$120 million campaign runs through December 2008.

BGSU to get elementary with math, science

Over the next couple weeks, BGSU will help about 170 northwest Ohio teachers reinforce their knowledge of elementary math and science education.

The University will host summer institutes for two grant projects—Research-based Inquiry Physics Experiences (RIPE), from June 18-28, and Northwest Ohio Teachers Enhancing Achievement in Mathematics and Science (NWO TEAMS). Sponsored by the Northwest Ohio Center of Excellence in Science and Mathematics Education, a group of NWO TEAMS teachers who entered the two-year program last summer will be on campus June 18-21, followed by a new group June 25-July 3.

Both projects are part of BGSU's ongoing efforts to improve education in the so-called STEM disciplines—science, technology, engineering and math.

The 41 participants in RIPE teach preschool through third grade, while the 128 teachers expected for NWO TEAMS are from grades 3-6. In both cases, though, they will be learning different classroom approaches—to physics in RIPE and to science in general, plus math, in NWO TEAMS—and how best to address state standards. Each project also offers materials

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for the teachers to take back to their schools, opportunity for graduate credit and follow-up during the school year.

RIPE is one of 22 science and math education projects statewide to receive funding through the federal Improving Teacher Quality Program. Earlier this year, the Ohio Board of Regents released more than \$2.8 million for projects in higher-need Ohio schools, including \$133,549 for RIPE.

The project director, Dr. Tracy Huziak-Clark, School of Teaching and Learning, said that she and her collaborator, Dr. Stephen Van Hook, physics and astronomy, have researched the youngest students' understanding of scientific concepts, based on hands-on learning, conceptual hooks such as songs and phrases, and movements and physical activities.

In RIPE, they will share information about content as well as what they've learned about teaching. Physics content in Ohio's state standards for early childhood education focuses on sound and light, forces and motion, magnetism, astronomy and energy, Huziak-Clark said. For example, she explained, the standards require that students gain some understanding of energy, so lifting items can help show 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," she said. "We are hoping that this project will help teachers learn physical science concepts and be excited and comfortable teaching them in the fall."

Participants will receive a kit of materials—including magnets and toys with springs—to take back to their classrooms. 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 this fall.

NWO TEAMS is funded through the Ohio Department of Education Math and Science Partnership program and was awarded to BGSU and the University of Toledo. Dr. Lena Ballone-Duran, School of Teaching and Learning, and Dr. Emilio Duran of UT are the principal investigators. Last year, \$350,000 was provided for the first group of teachers who went through the summer institute and eight school-year meetings. This year, the number of participants has increased by 88 and the funding by nearly \$300,000, to about \$634,000.

The professional development project focuses on enhancement of state-based teaching units, to be more specific to northwest Ohio, said Jessica Belcher, the project coordinator. The goal is to provide participants with "resources, tools and teaching habits that will make them better teachers in the long run," she added.

Teaching the teachers will be "facilitators" from BGSU and UT; Findlay, Toledo and Bowling Green schools; the Hancock County and Wood County educational service centers (formerly county offices of education), and staff from the Northwest Ohio Center of Excellence.

Partners with BGSU in the regional center are faculty from UT's SciMaTEC program, the University of Findlay, Owens Community College and Lourdes College; teachers from 19 counties; college students training to be teachers; public school administrators; educational service centers; community agencies, and businesses.

High school students earning BGSU credit from a distance

A group of 54 high school students from northwest Ohio are the newest members of the BGSU community, though their relationship will be mainly long distance.

The high-achieving juniors and seniors—they have an average grade point average of 3.8—are gaining college credit this summer by taking BGSU science courses online.



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The free classes are co-taught by BGSU faculty and area high school teachers and are funded through a \$225,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Education to cover fees, tuition and books.

The collaborative Post Secondary On-Line Corridor program is coordinated by Dr. Julia Matuga, associate dean of graduate studies and external programs in the College of Education and Human Development, and Charlene Butler of the Wood County Educational Service Center (ESC).

The three courses offered this summer and their BGSU faculty are Life in the Sea, taught by Dr. Matthew Partin, biological sciences; Weather and Climate, taught by Dr. Arthur Samel, chair of the geography department, and Introduction to Environmental Studies, taught by Megan Hughes, Environmental Programs.

With the help of BGSU's Interactive Distance Education for All Learners (IDEAL), the University courses were redesigned to ensure that National Education Association guidelines for online high school courses were met.

"It's as intensive as a college course, and the content is the same," Hughes said. "But we are supporting them differently than if they were actually undergraduates."

Matuga, whose research specialty is in learning how students learn online, said, "Having the BGSU faculty, who are experts in the content matter, work together with the high school teachers, who know and understand high school students, will help make the classes a success and ensure the students get the individual attention they need.

"A six-week college course is very intensive, and we're trying to make sure we give them as many support systems as we can. We're trying to make sure they have a good time and learn, too."

The class began June 16 when the students came to BGSU. They attended workshops on online learning and teaching strategies and using Blackboard, along with two course meetings and a campus tour.

"It's important that they get to meet their classmates and form study groups so they're comfortable asking one another questions when they're back at home," Hughes said.

Attending the luncheon on Saturday were Dr. Josué Cruz, dean of the College of Education and Human Development; Dr. Donald Nieman, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Doug Garman, superintendent of the Wood County ESC, and representatives from the BGSU Honors Program.

The classes will meet in person again for a wrap-up session on July 30.

The online course is another way the University is reaching out to enhance science education in the region, Matuga said. "There are so many opportunities on campus this summer for high school students in the sciences," she said. "Having all these opportunities for northwest Ohio is fabulous."

Diamante Awards committee seeks nominations

BGSU will once again host the Diamante Awards this year, recognizing individuals and organizations for their achievements and service to the Latino community. The dinner and awards ceremony will be held Sept. 14 in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

The organizing committee is calling for nominations. Awards will be presented in the categories of Latino Youth Leadership, Latino Adult Leadership and Corporation/Community Agency.

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Winners are chosen based on recognition of exemplary leadership/achievements within the Latino community or community at large, or demonstrated excellence in their fields; dedication and commitment in an ethical and inclusive fashion, and modeling qualities and behaviors of a mentor for youth and community.

Leading the team are co-chairs Drs. Bettina Shuford, assistant vice president for student affairs, and Alberto Gonzalez, vice provost for academic services. Other BGSU members are Yolanda Flores, multicultural and academic affairs; Dan Karns, student affairs; Connie Weaver, financial aid, and student Naomi Valdez.

The annual Diamante Awards, now comprising Bowling Green, Owens Community College, Lourdes College and the University of Toledo, were founded by the northwest Ohio Latino advocacy organization IMAGE in 1989 to recognize individuals and organizations in the local Hispanic community for their outstanding contributions, and to recognize the impact of Latinos on U.S. culture and society. The initiative includes providing scholarships and other support to make it possible for Latino students to attend college.

Nominations for the awards must be received by July 16. Nomination materials are available at <https://www.owens.edu/direct/diamante2007.pdf>. Nominators are asked to complete the form in its entirety and return it to: César Hernández, Office of International Student Services, Owens Community College, P.O. Box 10,000, Toledo, Ohio 43699-1947. Nominations may also be faxed to 567-661-7734.

To contact Hernández, call 567-661-7510, or email cesar_hernandez@owens.edu.

There's still time to give to the 2007 Family Campaign

The 2007 Family Campaign is drawing to a close, but gifts made by June 30 will count toward this year's effort.

"We're on track for a strong finish," said Michelle Banks, director of annual giving and liaison to the Family Campaign. "We have exceeded our \$700,000 goal by \$20,866 and are nearing our participation goal. I encourage everyone who hasn't yet contributed to make their gifts now and help push us to the top. Every donation, no matter the size, strengthens the University and demonstrates the campus community's support for BGSU."

As of June 15, the campaign had reached \$720,866 total dollars and 50.08 percent participation. "With a last effort by our campus community, we'll hit our goal of 56 percent participation," Banks said.

The annual campaign is an important way that BGSU faculty, staff and retirees support the University and its students. This year's theme, "Give to Your Passion," highlights the ability of donors to earmark their contributions to any area of the University, from scholarships to programs to athletics. Employee scholarship support has in some cases made it possible for students to attend who otherwise would not be here, according to Dr. Linda Petrosino, dean of the College of Health and Human Services.

Donations will also count toward the Building Dreams Centennial Campaign for BGSU.

To learn more about the campaign and hear faculty and staff donor stories, view the Family Campaign video at <http://giving.bgsu.edu/development/fundingopps/familycampaign.jsp>.

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Huron Playhouse set to entertain

The Huron Playhouse, a division of the BGSU Department of Theatre and Film, will celebrate its 59th season with three musicals and two plays.

- "Kiss Me Kate," the classic version of Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew," starts off the season and runs June 26-30.
- Experience early 20th-century American life with "I Remember Mama" July 3-7.
- "Nunsense," a funny story about adventures at a convent school, will be performed July 10-14.
- "Leading Ladies," a comedy about two Shakespearean actors dressing in drag to pass themselves off as long-lost relatives and inherit some money, will be on stage July 17-21.
- The popular musical about the cheerful orphan, "Annie," will close the season July 24-28.

Performances run Tuesdays through Saturdays. Curtain time is 8 p.m. The playhouse is located in the McCormick School at 325 Ohio St. in Huron.

Individual tickets and season passes are available. For more information, call the playhouse at 419-433-4744.

CALENDAR

Monday, June 18

Sundaes on Mondays, free ice cream, noon-1 p.m., Falcon's Nest, Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Summer Musical Institute (SMI): Musical Theatre Faculty Concert, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Tuesday, June 19

SMI: Piano Guest Concert, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Wednesday, June 20

Classified Staff Council, 9 a.m., 316 Union.
Grilling on the Green, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Union.

Thursday, June 21

SMI: Piano Duo Concert, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Friday, June 22

SMI: Piano Final Concert, 10:30 a.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.
Board of Trustees, 1 p.m., 308 Union.

Saturday, June 23

SMI: Musical Theatre Final Concert, 1 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Monday, June 25

Second Six-Week Term Begins. Bingo, noon-1 p.m., Falcon's Nest, Union.

SMI: Saxophone Faculty Concert, 8 p.m., Choral Rehearsal Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

SMI: String Orchestra Faculty Concert, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Continuing Events Through June 20

Art Exhibition, "Cream of the Crop," Union Galleries. Gallery hours follow building hours; check schedule.

Through July 11

Student Printmaking Exhibition, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.



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JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

There were no jobs posted this week.

Labor Postings

<http://international.bgsu.edu/index.php?x=facinfohires>

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:

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

There were no obituaries this week.

