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Monitor Newsletter May 19, 2008

Bowling Green State University

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Ribeau urges campus to maintain focus; changeover processes in development

As the campus adjusts to President Ribeau's upcoming departure from BGSU for Howard University this summer, processes are under way to name an interim president and begin the search for Ribeau's successor.

While these processes are being set in motion, President Ribeau assures the campus that he remains strongly committed to BGSU and will assist the board of trustees in any way it deems appropriate in the changeover. To assure a smooth transition, he will continue at BGSU through the end of July. A date for a sendoff celebration will be determined.

"I ask the entire campus community to maintain a sense of discipline and purpose and to work together to identify and support our leadership team," he said, adding that open dialogue and continued reliance on the University's shared governance structure and due process will be important to a successful segue.

"I urge the campus to stay focused," President Ribeau stated. "We must continue to do what we do and what we're known for and do it well. It is important to maintain the momentum of the past 13 years.

"I thank the BGSU community for their support and helping realize our dreams and aspirations. There's still much work to do," he said.

Ribeau requests that all those participating in campus initiatives continue to maintain existing timelines. In particular, he expects that the Strategic Planning Group, which is designing a 10-year strategic plan for BGSU, will make "significant progress" through June and July, and will refine its work over the summer in preparation for the introduction of the plan to the entire campus for full consultation by the end of the fall. The strategic planning will secure the future programmatic direction and priorities of the University in this time of change, he said.

The search for a new General Counsel is moving ahead and will continue, the president said, and it is hoped that the position will be filled as soon as possible.

Next steps

Michael Marsh, president of the board of trustees, announced that a committee has been formed and will move quickly to name an interim president. Trustees Stephanie Imhoff, John Moore, Debra Ryan and Robert Sebo are screening names of potential candidates and will present the results of their work at a special meeting of the entire board on June 6.

The board is discussing the process it will utilize for hiring a new president and examining what procedures are currently in use by universities in similar situations, Marsh said. It is also preparing a proposal request for a search firm to aid BGSU. If all the elements fall into place, he said, the search firm could be named in the near future.

Goldwater Scholar 'digs' bones

"I've wanted to be a paleontologist since I was four or five years old," says Ben Linzmeier, a geology major with a concentration in paleobiology. With support from a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, Linzmeier can focus entirely on his studies next year.

The 20-year-old rising senior from Milladore, Wis., was notified this spring he would receive the Goldwater award, which covers the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board to a

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maximum of \$7,500. The scholarships are awarded to academically outstanding sophomores and juniors majoring in natural sciences, mathematics or engineering who are interested in research careers.

"The Goldwater is very competitive," said Linzmeier's advisor, Dr. Margaret Yacobucci, geology. "They are awarded on the basis of academic performance and the student's potential for success as a scientist. It's a prestigious national honor and considered a strong plus when applying to graduate school.

"Certainly, Ben is very well qualified and enthusiastic," Yacobucci added. "He has been very engaged in making opportunities for himself since he came to BGSU."

Linzmeier said he hopes his experience shows that students should not be afraid to reach for opportunities. "I just want to encourage students here at BG to apply for things, because you don't know if you don't try," he said, adding that the geology faculty, including Yacobucci and Dr. John Farver, as well as Dr. Paul Moore, biology and director of the Honors Program, have always been supportive.

The Goldwater scholarship is the next step in his trajectory toward working in his chosen field, preferably as a university professor or curator and researcher.

Linzmeier is president of the Geology Club and an Honors Program student. His childhood hero was Dr. Bob Bakker, the iconoclastic paleontologist he saw on Public Broadcasting Service documentaries. He avidly watched every program and studied dinosaurs while he was growing up, he said. He then looked for a college where he could study paleobiology, choosing BGSU because it is one of a few universities that offer paleontology as a concentration for undergraduates.

Paleobiology is the study of ancient life as recorded in the rock record. Bridging geology and biology, it looks at any remnant of early life such as shells, bones, footprints and burrows.

Linzmeier was also eager to do hands-on work in the field. He got that opportunity as a freshman by taking part in BGSU's GeoJourney, a nine-week, cross-country, field-based course of study focusing on physical/historical geology, American and Native American culture studies and environmental studies.

"Right after my freshman year in college, I got my first internship. I spent 15 and a half weeks at the Mammoth Site in the Black Hills of South Dakota," Linzmeier said. As one of four interns, he worked six days a week giving tours and conducting simulated digs for children with replica bones and using "air scribes" to prepare fossils for study.

"Most of my days off I volunteered in the casting and molding area. It was a lot of work and a lot of fun," he said of the summer experience.

Then, last summer, he won a highly competitive paid internship, at the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian Institution. As part of the Research Training Program (RTP), he worked on a project with Dr. Martin Buzas of the paleobiology department—one of the world's leading experts on foraminifera (single-celled organisms with shells)—and Dr. Lee-Ann Hayek, a mathematical statistician. They looked at recent foraminifera to learn about the effects of a drastic drop in salinity in the St. Lucie Inlet of Florida's Indian River Lagoon in 2005, by measuring their numbers from before, during and after the drop. "The crisis decimated the 'forams,'" Linzmeier said.

"Our project was called 'Ammonia Test Morphology: A Quantitative Study of Variation.' I measured 25-30 different traits on a single 'foram' to tease apart the species, and found variations between two species," he said. "All the RTP students had to give a talk and poster presentation at the end of the 10 weeks. Working with Marty taught me I need to learn a lot more about statistics," he said, adding that will come next year.

This summer brings a stay in Colorado and New Mexico for the required geology "field camp," in which students learn how to measure and map stratigraphic sections of sedimentary rock.



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The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation has been a federally endowed agency since 1986. The Goldwater Scholarship Program was designed to honor the late senator from Arizona and to encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, natural sciences and engineering. It is the premier undergraduate award of its type.

Business college forging ties with Chinese universities

New doors are opening for BGSU business students and faculty in China.

Dr. Rodney Rogers, dean of the College of Business Administration, and Dr. Mark Bennion, coordinator of the college's study abroad programs, left last weekend for a week in China, where they will sign agreements creating exchange and study abroad programs with two universities.

BGSU will have exchange programs with Hong Kong Baptist University and the University of Macau. In addition, under a study abroad agreement, up to 15 Bowling Green students will be integrated into classes at Hong Kong Baptist and Macau each spring semester, beginning next year. Immersing students into the classroom in this way is very unusual in most exchange programs, Rogers said.

The first exchange students could go to China as soon as next fall, said Bennion, noting that the agreements mean BGSU "will have the largest number of students studying in Hong Kong and Macau of any Ohio school." And they won't have to learn a new language, he added, pointing out that teaching in English is a unique quality of universities in Hong Kong and Macau, both of which are classified as special administrative regions of China.

"Our students will have exposure to China and Chinese culture without the necessity of learning Chinese," said Bennion, also an associate professor of marketing at Bowling Green.

Meanwhile, all College of Business Administration faculty members will be eligible to apply for the faculty exchange program. The program will also bring Chinese faculty to Bowling Green to teach undergraduate and graduate courses similar to those they have taught in Hong Kong and Macau.

While the connections that produced the agreements were made in familiar ways—networking through colleagues—the locales for the resulting programs promise to present an eye-opening experience for participating students, Bennion said.

"It's really an exciting place to be," he said of Hong Kong. Macau, he continued, is built around the tourism and hospitality industries, with more visitors than Las Vegas each year. The agreements are timely in terms of the United States' growing business relationship with China. Total trade between the two nations grew from \$33 billion in 1992 to more than \$386 billion in 2007, according to U.S. State Department figures quoted by Bennion. The U.S. is China's second-largest trading partner, while China is now the third-largest trading partner for the U.S., behind Canada and Mexico. American exports to China have been growing more rapidly than to any other market—up 18 percent in 2007 after increases of 21 percent and 32 percent in 2005 and 2006, respectively. A 12 percent growth in imports from China last year brought the U.S. trade deficit with its Asian partner to \$256 billion.

The U.S. is also the sixth-largest foreign investor in China, with cumulative investment estimated at \$57 billion through the end of 2007.

The new exchange and study abroad programs are not connected with BGSU's similar program begun about 25 years ago with China's Xian Foreign Languages University. But for students—who can get help with the cost of going to China through Bowling Green's Center



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for International Programs—some of the potential benefits are the same.

“Study abroad programs that immerse students into the regional and local cultures provide incredible opportunities for personal and professional growth,” Rogers said. “While the U.S. is currently a business global leader, to maintain our leadership position we need to ensure that we are graduating students who understand the nuances of the global marketplace. Many students return from a semester abroad saying ‘This experience changed my perspective and changed my life.’”

Then there are the benefits for business students in particular.

“Professionally, these students are more prepared to face a global economy in which the United States plays a leading role,” Bennion said, pointing out that the average business student is unaware that the U.S. is the world’s leading exporting, as well as importing, country. “The students will become familiar with the world of international business; in classes at the host university they will gain perspective on the U.S. as a customer and trading partner.”

The experience also increases their marketability, he added. “These students distinguish themselves as being adaptable—placing themselves outside their comfort level and succeeding. They will have proved they can live and work in a multicultural environment and accomplish their objectives.”

BGSU historian’s book examines contradictory portrayal of women

While women have made strides toward equal rights in the United States, some cultural attitudes about them haven’t budged much in 200 years.

Striking comparisons can be made, for example, with early 19th-century temperance literature, which Dr. Scott Martin, history, examines in his recently published book.

In *Devil of the Domestic Sphere: Temperance, Gender, and Middle-class Ideology, 1800-1860*, published by Northern Illinois University Press, Martin points out the contradiction in the portrayal of women by antebellum temperance reformers, who saw alcohol abuse as a male vice that imperiled women in an increasingly urban, industrial world.

Martin explains “there were competing conceptions of women as both good and evil” in the literature, which painted them as angelic but also as “Eve the temptress leading men astray.” The image of a wife battered by a drunken husband was common, but writers often hastened to add that male abuse wouldn’t have happened if women hadn’t driven men to taverns with peevish or nagging behavior at home, or offered them “the poisoned cup” themselves, he says.

“Some of these patterns of blaming the victim still do persist,” the author notes.

So does a fascination with violence against women, which was vividly described in the temperance writing, says Martin, also the history department chair at BGSU. Part of the reason for the graphic depiction was to convey the harm of alcoholic violence and build sympathy for temperance reform. The descriptions were so extreme as to be almost pornographic in effect, however, undercutting the goal of promoting morality.

Temperance reformers were part of a segment of society that was just taking shape then but is taken for granted now. “This was a period when the middle class had not really formed,” he points out, so the reformers in the emerging class, to generate cultural authority, used temperance literature to propagate ideas about the nature of women and their role as guardians of the home.

Temperance was an important issue to women because drinking essentially represented



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encroachment by the outside world, Martin explains, and they couldn't fulfill the guardian role if their husbands were coming home drunk. They needed protection, but it wasn't forthcoming, he says, through legislation—70 years before Prohibition, starting in Maine in 1851, a number of states and territories banned the production and sale of alcohol, but many of those laws were overturned in the courts.

Women were held up as morally superior to men and, as such, capable of exerting influence and convincing men to give up drinking, Martin relates. When that proved untenable, though, the reformers again reverted to blaming women, saying they weren't trying hard enough or, in trying to be hospitable, were offering drinks to guests, he says.

And women who were drinkers themselves really presented a problem, as early 19th-century society regarded female drunkards as much more of a scourge than men, he says. That had to do in part with reflecting badly on male relatives and with the notion of motherhood—that women were responsible for raising good citizens and that alcohol was one of the few things, if not the only thing, that could make mothers lose their innate love for their children. But it was also difficult to jibe female drunkenness with the idea of women as angelic, he adds.

"Female drunkards undermined the whole middle-class ideology of gender," Martin says, speculating that the number of women alcoholics was probably underestimated at the time because people didn't want to deal with the issue.

Even today, most people would likely say a drunken woman is worse than a drunken man, he suggests. On the surface, Americans may have abandoned their notions of female gentility, he argues, but they have maintained the notion of female alcoholics being morally inferior to their male counterparts, who are expected to drink.

"It takes a long time for these deeply embedded cultural patterns to change," Martin says, citing the lack of women's suffrage until 1920. And that was 50 years after the 15th Amendment gave black men the vote, demonstrating the influence of traditional gender roles, he says.

Devil of the Domestic Sphere is the second book by the BGSU professor, who also wrote *Killing Time: Leisure and Culture in Southwestern Pennsylvania, 1800-1850*. In that 1995 book, he touched on the early 19th-century spike in alcohol consumption—more than twice today's consumption per capita—that fueled the U.S. temperance movement. That topic intersected with his interest in women's history and gender to produce the new book.

New campus newsletter to debut next week

Check your inbox on Wednesday for a new online publication—@BG— geared exclusively to BGSU faculty and staff. This biweekly newsletter, accessible through MyBGSU, is designed to keep up with campus happenings as well as highlight our many accomplishments.

Sponsoring an event? Send us a photo. Win an award? We'd like to know. Trying a new summer hobby or adventure? Give us details. @BG welcomes your story ideas, photos, information and suggestions—send to atbg@bgsu.edu.

Take a look and give us feedback. We want to know what you're interested in.

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Trustees present scholarships to two undergraduates, one graduate student

This year, the University trustees have chosen to honor three students with the prestigious Board of Trustees Leadership Scholarship. The awards were presented at the May board meeting to Lauren Rinelli, recipient of the graduate scholarship, and Tracy Benson and Lauren Farnsworth, recipients of the undergraduate scholarship.

Rinelli is a doctoral student in sociology and the daughter of Helen Rinelli, Nanuet, N.Y., and Thomas Rinelli, Sebastian, Fla. She will hold a research fellowship with the Center for Family and Demographic Research during the summer and next academic year. Rinelli is a member of the Human Subjects Review Board and the Sociology Graduate Student Association. She was responsible for organizing the first BGSU and Ohio State University Graduate Student Conference and will organize the second conference soon.

Benson, a pre-medicine major, is from North Olmsted. She has one more year at BGSU before going to medical school. The daughter of Monica and William Benson, 24329 Carla Lane, she has a 3.88 grade point average. Benson has been active in Dance Marathon and the Offenhauer Hall Council. She has served as a resident advisor and is vice president of the pre-med honorary Alpha Epsilon Delta. Benson also received a Student Life Award at the Applauding Excellence Banquet earlier in the semester.

Farnsworth is a senior journalism major with a minor in photography. The Toledo resident is the daughter of Douglas and Rebecca Farnsworth, 1731 Eastgate Road. She has a 3.63 grade point average and works in the Office of Marketing and Communications and the University Bookstore, in addition to freelancing for the Toledo Free Press. Farnsworth is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society and the Student Honors Association. She has also volunteered as a copy editor for the BG News. Over the summer, she is working for the photography department in marketing and communications and interning at the Bluffton News. Farnsworth aspires to work as a photographer for National Geographic.

In 2002, the trustees established the \$1,000 scholarship in conjunction with the creation of the President's Leadership Academy and in support of an ongoing BGSU priority—promoting a culture of leadership at the University.

In addition to a minimum grade point average of 2.75, scholarship recipients must exhibit outstanding scholarship and leadership skills. Applications are accompanied by an essay on the student's leadership philosophy and how he or she intends to contribute to the culture of leadership at BGSU and society as a whole.

IN BRIEF

Everyone invited to Alumni & Friends Weekend

Area residents will have the opportunity to attend classes without quizzes, special gatherings and tours, and a one-day camp for children during a weekend event at the University.

BGSU's Alumni & Friends Weekend, June 20-22, will feature Saturday (June 21) morning classes such as "Emotional Intelligence: The Other Kind of Smart," "The Art of Bookbinding," "Is This Any Way to Select a President?" and "Shakespeare in Film." After a BG Taste of Pizza buffet lunch, the afternoon schedule includes tours of several campus facilities and special gatherings of academic groups and student organizations, as well as a slate of classes that cover topics such



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as "Discovering Your Hidden Creative Ability," "The Reality in TV Reality Shows" and "Where Do You Locate a Factory Farm?"

Camp BG, for children in grades one through six, will feature a visit to the herpetology and marine biology labs in addition to games, swimming and other events at the Student Recreation Center. A maximum of 30 children may attend the camp; admission is on a first-come, first-served basis.

A parking lot party featuring live music and a barbecue will be held on Saturday evening.

Sunday's events will include a morning Continental breakfast at Mileti Alumni Center and an afternoon concert featuring the Alumni Men's Chorus and the Summer Tour Choir in Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

A complete schedule, registration information and costs are available at bgsualumni.com/weekend. Additional information also is available by calling Alumni and Development at 2-2424.

Autism Summit to explore social thinking and social skills

Health officials expect more than 25,000 new cases of autism to be diagnosed this year, making it the number-one disease affecting children today.

Armed with that sobering statistic, parents, professionals and educators will have an opportunity to explore assessment, diagnosis and treatments related to autism at the seventh annual Autism Summit of Northwest Ohio, sponsored by the College of Education and Human Development, Continuing & Extended Education, the Wood County Educational Service Center and Robert and Nancy Williams.

The conference, "Thinking about YOU, Thinking about ME," will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 7 at the Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Michelle Garcia Winner, a speech language pathologist from San Jose, Calif., is the keynote speaker.

Garcia Winner specializes in the treatment of students with social cognitive deficits including autism, Asperger's syndrome and nonverbal learning disorder. Her goal is to help educators and parents appreciate how social thinking and social skills are an integral part of a student's academic and social experiences.

The workshop will explore the skill of perspective-taking and how relates to all social contact and interpretation in persons with social cognitive deficits, including high-functioning autism, Asperger's, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Participants will discover what it means to be able to "take perspective," and how a deficit in this area impacts students in every environment, including home, school, community and work.

Garcia Winner will introduce a model explaining three levels of perspective-taking deficits, along with the overall prognosis for each level.

Separate breakout sessions for parents and teachers are included in the conference, and representatives from state and local autism groups will deliver an update regarding "What's Happening with Autism."

CEUs have been approved for MRDD, psychologists, social workers, counselors, speech pathologists and occupational therapists.

The conference fee is \$69 with CEUs, \$49 without CEUs and \$15 for students. For more information or to register, visit <http://pace.bgsu.edu> or call Continuing & Extended Education at 2-8181.

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CALENDAR

Monday, May 19

First Six-Week Term of Summer Classes Begins.

Dissertation Defense, "Community Re-Visited: Exploring the Subjectivity of the Online Learner," by Sergey Rybas, English, 10:30 a.m.-noon, 206 East Hall.

Creative Arts Program, Suzuki Violin Recital, 6 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Wednesday, May 21

Classified Staff Council, 10 a.m., 316 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Monday, May 26

Memorial Day. Classes canceled, offices closed.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

Communication Studies. Instructor (print) and Instructor (broadcast). Call the department, 2-8725. Deadline: May 31.

School of Art. Two positions.

- Instructor (photography). Call Lynn Whitney, 2-8380. Deadline: June 27.
- Instructor (digital arts). Call Dena Eber, 2-8526. Deadline: July 7.

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

Lois George, 72, died May 7 in Bowling Green. She worked in the human resources office from 1982-98, and was the mother of Terrie Weaver, Social Philosophy and Policy Center.

