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Monitor Newsletter August 11, 2008

Bowling Green State University

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BGSU Monitor

AUGUST 11, 2008

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Wolfe Center to be space where arts can meet, flourish

The arts have the power to take the breath away—to stop people in their tracks and cause them to rethink their assumptions.

The new Wolfe Center for the Arts will provide a space on campus where the arts can flourish and robust collaborations between them can take root. Like Hemingway's "clean, well-lighted space," the building itself will offer an environment conducive to creativity and synergistic partnerships.

In addition to being a place for students and faculty to learn and work on theatrical, dance, musical, film and digital arts productions, the center will offer the community an exceptional venue in which to see a wide range of performances.

Designed by the international architectural firm Snøhetta, based in Oslo, Norway, the Wolfe Center will feature an abundance of natural light and open, welcoming public areas and functional work areas. A number of green initiatives have been included in the building design to reduce energy costs and make use of environmentally friendly paints and finishes.

The architects say they have taken their inspiration from the smooth planes of the northwest Ohio landscape, with its far horizons and big sky. At about 93,000 square feet, the building will be large enough for classes and rehearsals while providing performance, design and office space. It will also be the new home of the Department of Theatre and Film, currently housed in the aging South Hall.

In contrapoint to the gently angled walls of the building, a tall, vertical "fly tower" above the 400-seat main theater will allow the use of more extensive scenery and backdrops than in other campus theaters. The tower will serve as a visual symbol of the collaborative arts on campus.

The timing of the construction of the center is opportune, given that the arts have recently been named as Bowling Green's first center of excellence, in response to the new University System of Ohio requirement that state colleges and universities identify their distinctive areas of strength. The University's thriving arts programs will now have an impressive additional home with room to grow.

Emerging from the green space on the site of the former Saddlemire Student Services Building, the Wolfe Center will bridge the College of Musical Arts and the Fine Arts Center. A glassed-in walkway across the building will suggest the connection between the Fine Arts Center and the Moore Musical Arts Center.

Construction is projected to begin in 2009, with completion in 2011. The cost is estimated at \$40 million, including the roadway and parking (\$2.5 million). Generous leadership for the project was provided by Frederic and Mary Wolfe of Perrysburg. Another major gift, from Thomas and Kathleen Donnell of Findlay, will support the construction of the main theater. Most of the remainder of the cost will come from state capital appropriations.

The Collaborative, a Toledo-based firm, is the local partner on the project, and Ryan Miller of the campus design and construction office is the project manager.

To learn more about the award-winning architects, visit <http://www.snoarc.no/#/>. For more detail on the Wolfe Center, visit <http://www.snoarc.no/#/projects/76/true/all/image/307/>.

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BGSU graduate heads to Mexico as Fulbright Scholar

A study-abroad stay in Spain as an undergraduate was enough to convince Brandon Brewer to change his major. Brewer, who graduated from BGSU Aug. 9 with a master's degree in Spanish, will now be pursuing his love of the language and culture full time as a Fulbright Student Scholar in Acapulco.

He will teach English at the Autonomous University of Guerrero, one of Mexico's state universities. "I'll apply what I've learned teaching Spanish at BGSU as a graduate assistant, and some of what I've learned volunteering as an English teacher," he said. "My goal is to immerse students in the language and also give them the cultural aspect."

But he is most looking forward to Fulbright's required community-oriented project outside the university, in which he will work with students in a middle or high school. Depending upon the availability of technology, he would like to arrange a "pen pal" correspondence with a group of students in the United States. "The U.S. is having its presidential election, and Mexico just went through theirs two years ago. I'd like to get them into blogging and email to compare the two countries," he said.

Originally a media arts major, Brewer grew up in the Tucson, Ariz., suburb of Oro Valley. As an undergraduate at the University of Arizona, he surprised his family by choosing to go to Alcalá, Spain, for a study-abroad program. "It was a big step," he recalled. "I had never been outside the U.S., and I hadn't known anyone who'd traveled abroad at all."

He enjoyed the experience so much, he said, that he later went abroad several more times, again to Alcalá as a BGSU graduate student as well as to Brazil and Mexico. "I like languages a lot and I want to learn more," he said, adding that he is also looking forward to the warm climate and living in a Spanish-speaking culture once again.

BGSU scores at leading digital arts conference

Once again, Bowling Green is making its mark in the international SIGGRAPH exhibition, taking place in Los Angeles this week (Aug. 11-15).

Hosted by the Special Interest Group on Graphics and Interactive Technologies, the annual conference will draw an estimated 30,000 computer graphics and interactive technology professionals from six continents for the industry's most respected technical and creative programs focusing on research, science, art, animation, gaming, interactivity, education and the Web.

BGSU senior Melissa Griffith, a digital arts major from Cleveland, has won third place for her series of prints in the student competition called SpaceTime. Only 40 works were selected for the exhibit out of more than 200 entries worldwide. Another student, Wayne Silasi of Uniontown, also had work accepted into the exhibit, which was curated by Dr. Dena Eber, digital arts. The works were juried in a "blind selection" process, of which Eber was not a part.

Eber and digital arts colleagues Anthony Fontana and Bonnie Mitchell, chair of the department, will be presenting a talk Thursday (Aug. 14) on "Artistic Expression Using Second Life in the Classroom." Selected from over 1,000 entries, the presentation focuses on educational opportunities in the arts in Second Life and summarizes aspects of their work. Second Life is a three-dimensional, virtual environment open to multiple users.

BGSU art faculty and students have been leaders at SIGGRAPH for a number of years, from serving on committees to exhibiting their work to curating various divisions. Last year, a trio of Bowling Green students won the top prize in the world's first international FJORG! "Viking Animator" Competition, held in conjunction with SIGGRAPH. In 2005, Mitchell's students

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were invited to produce the promotional video for the conference's Emerging Technologies exhibit. Mitchell, a past member of the executive board, chaired the 2006 Art Gallery—which Eber chaired in 2001—and Heather Elliott-Famularo, also digital arts, was chair of the ETech venue in 2004.

Kiilmeyer named communications director

David Kiilmeyer has joined the Marketing and Communications staff as senior communications director. He will oversee internal communications and media relations.

Kiilmeyer earned bachelor's and master's degrees from BGSU, in journalism and mass communications, respectively. He has 16 years' experience in public relations, media, marketing, advertising, internal and crisis communications.

Before returning to the University as an employee, he had worked for 12 years with FLS Marketing in Toledo, where he was named vice president in 2001. At FLS, Kiilmeyer provided counsel to a number of corporate, nonprofit and civic clients including The Toledo Zoo, the city of Toledo and the YMCA of Greater Toledo.

A longtime Bowling Green resident, Kiilmeyer was chief photographer for the Sentinel-Tribune from 1988-91.

Kiilmeyer's office is in 509 Administration Building. He can be reached at 2-8587 or davidk@bgsu.edu.

IN BRIEF**Help kick off 2008-09 Falcon sports on Aug. 23**

Roll Along! under the lights at Doyt Perry Stadium, as BGSU Athletics gears up for 2008-09 with the Falcon Sports Kickoff from 6-8 p.m. Aug. 23.

The evening's festivities include free admission and a free raffle, plus an opportunity to purchase the official 2008-09 BGSU Athletics fan T-shirt from the University Bookstore at a special discounted price. Concessions will also be open, with a variety of food items and beverages available for purchase.

If you're planning to attend, please call 2-2401 or email rbcoats@bgsu.edu.

6 p.m. Fan check-in and raffle entry at the southeast entrance (Gate 14) to Doyt Perry Stadium

6-7:15 p.m. On-field fan-interactive stations with BGSU student-athletes and coaches

7:15-8 p.m. Photo/autograph opportunity with BGSU student-athletes

Parking is recommended in the game-day lots east of the stadium for easy access to Gate 14 via walkways.



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CALENDAR

Tuesday, Aug. 12

Weight Watchers at Work, noon-1 p.m., 101 Olscamp Hall.

Wednesday, Aug. 13

Dinner, for new, full-time tenure-track faculty and newly promoted faculty, 6:30 p.m., Lenhart Grand Ballroom, Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Hosted by the provost's office.

Friday, Aug. 15

New Faculty Resource Fair, 9 a.m., Lenhart Grand Ballroom, Union.

Continuing Events Through Aug. 12

Art Exhibition, Now Art 2008, Union art galleries. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday.

Aug. 13-15

New Faculty Conference, Union and Olscamp Hall.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

School of Teaching and Learning. Instructor. Call Lorie Morelock, 2-7336. Deadline: Aug. 18.

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

Betty Shaner, 85, died July 30. She was retired from the University Bookstore.

