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## Monitor Newsletter August 25, 2008

Bowling Green State University

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# BGSU Monitor

AUGUST 25, 2008

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## **Year ahead is time to seize opportunities, shape future: Cartwright**

Lest anyone think BGSU might be simply treading water during this transition year between presidents, the message from Interim President Carol Cartwright in her Opening Day address was emphatically the opposite. Instead, this is a time of great opportunity for the University, she said.

Speaking to a full crowd in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom Friday (Aug. 22), Cartwright reviewed some of the factors that make it imperative that the **University** continue to move forward—in some cases quickly. These include the “new relationship we have with the governor, the chancellor and the Ohio Board of Regents,” the search for a new president and the renewed importance of recruitment and retention of students.

“We have a fundamental responsibility to ensure that BGSU does not mark time while looking for a president. I think you will agree that slowing down now would be the wrong approach. The stakes are too high,” she said.

“The issues in higher education are coming fast in Ohio. Expectations for us are changing, and we must be proactive and we must be responsive.

“This is a responsibility we all share. We have an important role to play during this historic time,” she said.

The campus community will have a prime opportunity to exercise that responsibility during the upcoming “Charting Our Future” discussions on the **University’s** strategic plan, she noted.

### **Future of higher education**

Ohio is in the early stages of a 10-year strategic plan for higher education, designed to make the state more competitive in the nation and around the world, Cartwright noted.

“The goals are straightforward: Graduate more students, keep more graduates in Ohio and attract more degree holders from out of state.

“For the most part, these are things we are already doing at Bowling Green and we are doing them well. We just graduated the largest entering class in the history of the **University.**”

Acknowledging the strong legacy left by President Sidney Ribeau, Cartwright said, “His accomplishments here over the past 13 years helped to create opportunities and position the University for even greater success in the future.”

“In order to maximize resources, the board of regents wants to work with us to leverage the unique strengths of each institution, leading to the establishment of the centers of excellence,” Cartwright reiterated. Each university is responsible for nominating and approving its own centers of excellence by next June; BGSU has identified the arts as its first and is in the process of examining other possibilities, such as educator preparation, leading and creating effective organizations, health and wellness, and the environment and sustainability.

Campus input will be solicited throughout the nominating process, she said.

In addition to the centers of excellence, all of the public universities and community colleges will be measured on 20 areas of accountability: access, quality, affordability and efficiency, and economic leadership.

“These are already strong areas for BGSU,” she said, giving examples in each.

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"We will participate actively in Ohio's Strategic Plan for Higher Education," Cartwright said. "I assure you we will stand up for issues that are important to us when they arise. And, as in any transition, there may be occasional frustrations. But I am confident we will be capable of managing whatever comes our way.

"We cannot succeed alone," she added. "We will be active in the dialogue at the state level. We will adapt. And we will do our best to keep BGSU aligned with the new reality for higher education in the state of Ohio."

The faculty is the bridge to the future, Cartwright said. They helped build the strong foundation Bowling Green stands on today and are central to BGSU's ability to excel in the future.

**Enrollment becomes crucial**

Another area of "great transition" is that of enrollment and retention, Cartwright said. The core mission of the University is to provide a strong academic experience that attracts students with "depth and character" from around the world and to provide the programs and services to see them through to graduation. In order to do that, having financial support from a "robust undergraduate enrollment" is imperative.

"Everyone is feeling the changes that are being driven by a major shift in demographics in our region and across the country. As our fall recruitment will demonstrate, our recruitment efforts are slightly out of synch with these shifts," she said.

For example, the Cleveland area has always been a key region of focus for Bowling Green's recruiting efforts, she said. But while BGSU will always be attractive to students from that area, "the demographic reality is that northeast Ohio is just not a current growth area. Each passing year produces fewer and fewer potential students for Bowling Green.

The University has enlisted the assistance of a leading enrollment management and recruiting specialist firm to "help guide our internal discussion and ensure that our efforts are headed in the right direction. They will help us see new opportunities and new ways of sharing the excitement of a BG education" and to adapt to the changing situation, Cartwright said.

In the end, it will come down to some fundamental questions that BGSU needs to answer: "What kind of students do we want? Where will they come from? How will we attract them? How will we support their success?"

Giving examples of some of the University's "extraordinarily intelligent and committed students" who are academic standouts and involved in their communities, Cartwright said "we are finding that the students of 2008 and beyond are looking for new directions. They want more than a degree. They want a sense of purpose and values in their lives.

"We need to respond with the types of programs they want to pursue, inside the classroom and with our co-curricular partners in our own learning community and beyond."

BGSU is a leader in the state for co-ops, internships and practica, she said, adding that the co-op program in the College of Technology is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

In addition, BGSU is known for its strong student life program, integrating curricular with co-curricular, and needs to continue to enhance these offerings, she said. "Our faculty must also take the lead in curriculum review—a primary and critical retention issue. We must remain committed to best learning practices, best knowledge bases and the foundation of a strong general education."

**Charting our future**

Cartwright issued a strong call for the campus to participate in "Charting Our Future" week, Sept. 8-12, a chance to provide thoughtful input into the direction BGSU will take in the coming years.

Last year, former President Sidney Ribeau charged a campus-wide group with drafting a 10-year strategic plan, "a unified plan to align all areas of the University and allow us to respond

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to changing conditions, including the new expectations of Ohio's chancellor and governor," Cartwright described.

That team has reviewed the many planning documents created over the past few years and identified the major themes and ideas. "They have completed important background work and built a platform for all of us to use as we create the new plan. And when I say 'we,' I mean all of you in the BGSU community," Cartwright said.

The sessions scheduled for Sept. 8-12 will allow broader input from the campus community. A video of a "dry run" of one of these sessions is available on the Charting Our Future Web site.

In addition, beginning today (Aug. 25), more background information will be sent by email for nine days, each day addressing a different topic. "After nine days we will all be even better prepared for the collaborative discussions," which will encompass the community's debate on the University's vision, mission, values and overarching goals, Cartwright said.

"We will look carefully at your input, consult with appropriate groups and, shortly after the conclusion of all the discussions, I will issue a statement about the results of our work," she said.

"We're in a leadership transition and people want to know where we're going," she said. "And we need to inform the presidential search process—finding the best possible leadership match with our vision, mission and values is the key to a successful search. This is our opportunity to influence the process."

**Seizing opportunity**

"We've all heard the saying 'opportunity only knocks once,'" Cartwright said. "But I will warn you that it has been my experience that many times opportunity doesn't even knock at all. We have to be prepared to open the door, track it down and maybe even tackle it.

"This is our opportunity."

**High gas prices inspire healthy alternatives to driving**

While the current gas price squeeze has created pain in people's budgets, for some BGSU employees it has also led to healthier transportation options—from walking or biking to work to carpooling. A site on MyBGSU can help match up riders.

Linda Szych, in the College of Musical Arts, has revived her former habit of carpooling, thanks to some help from Stacie Enriquez, manager of Parking and Traffic. Szych lives in North Toledo, almost to Michigan, and the long commute was costing her heavily in gas.

"I called Stacie to see if there were people working at Bowling Green who were in or around my ZIP code," Szych said. "She provided me with a list of email addresses, and I sent out messages to see if anyone was interested in carpooling."

Janet Crawford in Career Services turned out to live a mile from her, and the duo has been sharing rides four days a week ever since. They have recently added a third person from their neighborhood, Leslie Galan from the bursar's office, to their carpool.

Szych said the pleasures of having company are an added bonus to saving money on gas. "It's really nice. When you drive alone, sometimes you get to work and wonder, 'How did I get here?'" she said. "Now the time flies. We start talking as soon as we get in the car and we talk about everything," she added.

Szych and Enriquez are former carpool mates from the days when both lived in Napoleon,

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and both strongly encourage others to take advantage of the benefits of ride sharing.

Those benefits extend beyond saving on gas, says Dr. Gary Silverman, chair of the environmental science department and Environmental Programs. "It's better for the environment," he noted.

**Campus 'Ride Board'**

BGSU has its own ride-sharing finder on MyBGSU, according to Deb Wells, ITS customer relations manager and a carpooler herself. "In Blackboard, there is already a Ride Board available. It is lightly used, but that is probably because not many know it's there," she said. To reach the Ride Board, log into MyBGSU, go to Blackboard and click on the Community tab. On the right side of the screen will be a list called Discussion Boards. Ride Board is the first on the list. Simply fill out your information and it will be posted there.

"If gas prices stay high or go even higher this fall, I think people will start to find other ways to get to work besides driving themselves," Enriquez said. "Not only will it save them money but it would also help ease the congestion in our campus parking lots."

Given people's variable schedules, carpooling every day is not always possible, Szych acknowledged, but "even one day a week is better than nothing."

A longtime carpool group from the Hamler/Deshler/McClure area comprises Rose Smith, ITS; Melody Drewes, College of Technology; Marsha Bostelman, biological sciences, and Amy West and Amy Prigge, both from marketing and communications. "We rotate drivers by the week," West said. "If we need to drive separately one of those days, we just find someone to trade days with. You have to be flexible to make it work."

**Self-propelled transportation**

For those lucky enough to live nearby, biking or walking to work is another good option. The University has some admirable role models in those areas—people who have been doing so since before the energy crunch.

Ellen Dalton, budget administrator in the College of Musical Arts, walks or bikes to work each day from her home on Clay Street in any weather, and has been known to turn down rides from friends driving by because she likes the exercise walking provides.

Her colleague Dr. Vincent Corrigan, music composition and theory, discovered the benefits of walking while on leave in the Netherlands last year, where he walked about an hour and a half each day in the course of getting around. "For me, with aging has come diabetes," he said. "But when I got back from Holland, my blood sugar number was absolutely terrific." That convinced him to take up the habit of walking to work, which has continued to help keep him healthy, he said. Although his wife, Ann, drives to work, he only rides with her in very bad weather and has filled his own car up with gas just once since March.

"Walking forces you to relax," he observed. "It's important to take a variety of routes to keep it fresh."

Dr. James Evans, geology, who also walks from Dalton's neighborhood, has long been a strong proponent of city and campus bike paths.

Bikers include Drs. Andrew Layden and John Laird, physics and astronomy. Layden and his wife have been able to get by with just one car. Drs. Paul Morris and Lee Rockett, biological sciences, also bike year 'round.

Other regular bikers include Marc Brunner, design and construction, and Dr. Bob Midden, COSMOS director.

The dollar savings and the health (and weight) benefits of walking and biking may inspire people to continue their newfound mode of transportation even if gas prices go back down.



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**BGSU says goodbye to 26 staff members**

Several administrative and classified staff members have retired since last December. These individuals will be honored on Dec 10 in the Mileti Alumni Center.

Administrative staff retirees, their department and year hired include:

- In January, Sidney Sink ('79), assistant athletic director, intercollegiate athletics, and Kent Strickland ('77), information security officer, Information Technology Services.

- On March 1, David Crooks ('85), assistant to the vice president for student affairs.

- In April, Linda Hamilton ('72), director of budgeting, finance and administration, and Clarence Terry ('74), director of minority recruitment, admissions (deceased).

- On June 1, Linda Glaviano ('85), assistant director of Help-a-Child, School of Leadership and Policy Studies.

Retired classified staff, their department and year of hire include:

- In December, Kenneth Stemen ('80), plumber, facilities services.

- On Jan. 1, Ruby Bell ('78), administrative secretary, student life; Phyllis Coyer ('83), examiner, bursar's office; Susan Freshcorn ('78), cook, University Dining Services; Harold Friess ('78), maintenance repair worker, facilities services, and Deborah Klasen ('79), radio dispatcher supervisor, parking and traffic.

- In February, Roberta Kane ('83), secretary, Ice Arena.

- On March 1, Nancy Greenleaf ('93), secretary, School of Teaching and Learning.

- In April, Linda Canterbury ('83), accountant, intercollegiate athletics, and Sue Greiner ('77), cook, dining services.

- On May 1, Judy Jennings ('83), secretary, College of Technology, and Faye Nichelson ('75), administrative assistant, business office.

- In June, Judith Ackerman ('78), personnel technician, human resources; Carol Ash ('75), student services counselor, admissions; Joseph Baker ('73), horticulturist, biological sciences; Patricia Christen ('88), secretary, residence life; Bill Harding ('88), equipment operator, facilities services; Sharon Mason ('75), administrative assistant, provost's office, and Cathy Smith ('83), administrative assistant, accounting and management information systems.

On July 1, Barbara Miller ('78), clerical supervisor, Student Publications.

**BGSU to host premiere by video art pioneer**

Pioneering video artist Jud Yalkut will premiere a dramatic piece in his latest exhibition, opening Saturday (Aug. 30) in the Willard Wankelman Gallery in the Fine Arts Center.

In "Video Phase Patterns," his newest work and part of the "V3: Variations in Vision & Video" exhibit, Yalkut uses analog and digital imagery and edits it to create "an electronic hall of mirrors with a time delay."

Nature and spirituality were his primary inspiration for the pieces in the exhibit, which continues through Oct. 25. His goal for the show was to create "a projected image that changes reality to a more abstract form (to enable people) to see things in a new way," said Yalkut, who will give a free public lecture at 7 p.m. Sept. 5 in



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204 Fine Arts Center. A reception will follow at 8 p.m. in the gallery.

"Vision Cantos," which premiered at the Whitney Museum in New York in 2000, will be part of the exhibit as well. It includes plants, animals and other natural images, along with Tibetan imagery, to create a spiritual shrine complete with yoga mats for viewers to meditate and fully engage in the art.

One of Yalkut's greatest influences was the Surrealist art movement that began in the 1920s and portrayed a dreamlike view of reality, as seen in the collages of German artist Max Ernst. Also on display at BGSU will be Yalkut collages made of black and white images cut and pasted together to create disconcerting scenarios. For example, "The City Quakes" features a giant primate causing mass chaos in a crumbling city as part of "The Voyager's Dreambook" series.

Born and raised in New York, Yalkut worked with South Korean-born American artist Nam June Paik, who is considered the father of video art. Together they created some of the first video art shown in New York. "In 1961, I became a filmmaker," Yalkut said. "My career has been built on experimental work in film and video."

In 1973, he moved to Ohio, where he taught art classes as an assistant professor at Wright State University in Dayton and founded the film and video area of its art department. He no longer teaches but concentrates instead on his art.

Yalkut's exhibition is being presented with support from the Ohio Arts Council. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, plus 6-9 p.m. Thursdays and 1-4 p.m. Sundays.

### New blogging system comes to campus

BGSU has a new system for blogging that makes it easier than ever to keep your community updated on your current events, opinions, pictures, videos and more. Students, faculty and staff are invited to log in to the site using their BGSU user name and password to create a blog. Anyone with an email address at bgsu.edu can sign up instantly and be blogging in minutes.

Located at <http://blogs.bgsu.edu>, the system uses the open source WordPress Multi-User system that allows bloggers to:

- Choose from over 40 themes to make their blog unique (with more on the way)
- Customize their blog quickly and easily with widgets
- Create a podcast by uploading mp3 files
- Enable the Podpress plug-in and get their podcast on iTunes

Users of the old blog system at [mybgsuonline.com](http://mybgsuonline.com) can quickly export their blogs to the new system. Blogging is also now easier because all blogs provide an RSS feed.

Users in need of more than one blog can obtain others at the <http://blogs.bgsu.edu> home page. Departments, academic centers and student organizations are welcome to start blogging on the new system immediately. For support information, contact the Student Technology Center at 2-9277.

The new system represents a collaboration between Information Technology Services and the Center for Online and Blended Learning (COBL).

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**IN BRIEF**

**BGSU seminar to feature National Archives genealogy specialist**

Reginald Washington, an archivist and genealogy specialist at the National Archives, will speak at a campus-seminar, "Researching Historical Records for African-American Studies Scholarship and Genealogy," on Sept. 12.

Set for 1:30-4:30 p.m. in 228 Bowen-Thompson Student Union, the public seminar will focus on the use of federal records, which are a rich resource for the study of African-American history. Washington will share helpful approaches to researching such documents. The author of many articles and books, he lectures frequently on records and research procedures at the National Archives, where he has served as African-American genealogy specialist for 10 years.

Guides to the use of federal records for research in genealogy and broader topics will be included in the seminar packet. Admission is free, but seating is limited. To reserve a space, contact Lee McLaird, curator of rare books in BGSU's Center for Archival Collections, at 2-2411 by Sept. 5. The center is co-sponsoring the seminar with the Department of Africana Studies.

**Neurologic music therapy seminar to be held on campus**

The University will host a neurologic music therapy seminar from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 12 in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center.

Guest speaker Deborah Layman will focus on techniques and strategies for learning and rehabilitation. Layman is the co-founder and co-director of Creating Connections Company, LLC, a center for specialized interventions for children with autism and other neurological disorders.

A member of the Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy at Colorado State University, she is also a board-certified music therapist with advanced certification in neurologic music therapy.

Layman has worked with a variety of special needs children, and her research has been published in several journals. In addition, she is a music therapy grant specialist at Beech Brook, a residential treatment center for abused children in Cleveland.

Layman also serves as chair-elect of the Continuing Education Committee for the Certification Board for Music Therapists and as internship chair for the Association of Ohio Music Therapists.

She holds a bachelor's degree in music performance from Kent State University and a master's degree in music therapy from Florida State University.

The Sept. 12 event is free and open to the public, but space is limited and registration required. Confirmation should be sent to Ellen Scholl at [escholl@bgsu.edu](mailto:escholl@bgsu.edu) or by fax at 419-352-3836.

Sponsoring the seminar are the College of Musical Arts, Bowling Green City Schools and Wood County Hospital.



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**CALENDAR****Monday, Aug. 25****Fall Semester Begins.***Wednesday, Aug. 27*

**Faculty Artist Series**, with Roger Schupp, percussion, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

**Thursday, Aug. 28**

**Reading**, by Ohio fiction writer Don Pollock, 7:30 p.m., Prout Chapel. Sponsored by the Creative Writing Program.

**Continuing Events****Aug. 29-Sept. 1**

**Movie**, "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," 8 p.m., Union Theater.

**Aug. 30-Sept. 24**

**Art Exhibit**, "Pure Intentions: Works on Faith and Childhood Dreams," by alumna Rachel Ackerman, Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. daily.

**Aug. 30-Oct. 25**

**Art Exhibit**, "V<sup>2</sup>: Variations in Vision & Video, Recent Works by Jud Yalkut," Willard Wankelman Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 6-9 p.m. Thursdays and 1-4 p.m. Sundays. (An opening reception with the artist will be held Sept. 5.)

**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/](http://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.htm](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/BGSU_only/page11151.htm)

**Off-campus classified:**

[//www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/cl\\_staff/page11145.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/cl_staff/page11145.html)

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

[www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm\\_staff/page11137.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page11137.html)

**OBITUARY**

**Philip O'Connor**, 75, a Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus of English, died Aug. 16 in California. A best-selling author, he was a faculty member in the Creative Writing Program from 1967-92 and was its first chair.

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