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Monitor Newsletter October 27, 2008

Bowling Green State University

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Outreach project puts odds in math teachers' favor

“Life is uncertain,” says Dr. James Albert, mathematics and statistics, but having a grasp of the laws of probability can help people make better decisions, as can the ability to understand data.

With the help of a two-year, $192,710 award from the Ohio Department of Education and support from BGSU, Albert and colleagues Dr. Barbara Moses, the Bailey Family Endowed Professor of Mathematics, and instructor Diane Mott are working with area teachers to better prepare them to teach these skills to their students. Participants also gain three hours of graduate credit at no cost.

“Ohio standards require that we teach probability topics in grades K-12, but the schools are having a hard time working that into the curriculum,” Albert said. “We want to give them curriculum and activities that address real-life situations the kids are dealing with. At the end of the course, we want the teachers to make lesson plans to show what they’ve learned.”

Much of the course content is based on a textbook Albert wrote, Data Analysis and Probability for Teachers, that will be published by Wiley.

Fifty teachers of grades 7-12 are participating in the grant project, “Developing Reasoning about Data and Chance.” They began in July 2007 with an online class on data analysis, with special emphasis on graphing and relationships. They will be taking a second online course in summer 2009 on concepts of probability. The group also meets in person occasionally to work on specific skills. At the next meetings, in November, the teachers will give presentations on the lesson plans they have written. The spring meetings will focus on developing graphing calculator skills.

“In each year, the course is directed toward understanding and addressing students’ misconceptions on learning these topics,” Albert said.

“Probability is not a natural skill,” he observed. “It’s not hard to make mistakes. People have certain beliefs about chance that aren’t true. Also, many people have difficulties adjusting their probabilities in the presence of new information.”

He cited the example of gamblers feeling that when they’re on a “hot streak,” they’re either bound to cool off or, conversely, should keep going, when in reality the odds revert to the baseline only in the long run.

Dana Edmonds, math department chair for grades 7-12 in the Washington Local Schools, said her interest in taking the course was particularly piqued by the probability aspect. “I think there’s a lot more we could be doing with probability and that kids would want to take that as an elective. I’d like to offer a class in it at some point.”

“We want to better equip teachers and give them the tools to teach these concepts,” Albert said.

BGSU gets proactive against illegal file sharing

Students and others at BGSU now have to face the music if they have obtained it illegally using peer-to-peer (P2P) software.
As part of a proactive approach to P2P and digital copyright issues, BGSU has implemented a new technology called CopySense, by Audible Magic Corp. It allows legal use of P2P software such as BitTorrent, Gnutella and LimeWire, but when it finds a computer is using the software to obtain copyrighted material in violation of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA), consequences are immediate.

The user's Web browser is redirected to a page informing him that his Internet access will be blocked for a period of time. Residence hall computers are without Web access for 24 hours for the first offense. For a second offense, the time frame is two weeks, as well as 30 days without P2P capability. The block for a third offense will continue until the student meets with the Division of Student Affairs, which must then permit Information Technology Services to clear the block. Access to University network services such as email, MyFiles and MyBGSU are maintained during any block.

For users in administrative buildings, the blocks are for 15 minutes, one hour and two hours, respectively. Instances of illegal file sharing on the administrative network are "significantly less" than in residence halls, said Matthew Haschak, director of information technology security and networking.

Implementation of CopySense is one of the means being used to raise BGSU awareness of the issues surrounding the DMCA. The layered approach, called Digital Copyright Safeguards, also includes education and awareness and legal alternative layers. Providing impetus to add the technical layer was the number of cease and desist letters—658 during 2007-08—from the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), which also has sent pre-litigation settlement letters to BGSU students threatening a lawsuit unless they settle for at least $3,000.

Those numbers told University officials the extent of the problem, leading to the addition of the enforcement safeguard, Haschak said. "The purpose is to protect the student," he pointed out, saying that from BGSU's standpoint, having students without Internet access for a time is preferable to having students sued, especially if legal action would impact their ability to stay in school.

"We're not shutting down file sharing," he added, noting the academic uses of P2P. "We're shutting down illegal file sharing."

The University is also attempting to increase awareness through information on the Web site www.bgsu.edu/dmca-safeguards, which is part of its Information Security site www.bgsu.edu/infosec. Presentations of "I Swear I'm Not Sharing Music," a session in the First Year Success Series, have been part of the education effort as well.

Among the information on the BGSU Web pages are alternatives for obtaining music and other media legally. One of them is Ruckus, a Web site where free music downloads are available to college students. The music can only be played on a Windows computer; users must pay to put it on an MP3 player or a CD. Haschak said more than 1,500 BGSU users have already made over half a million downloads from Ruckus.

The number of cease and desist letters from the RIAA left Bowling Green 55th on a list of U.S. universities that received notices from the association last year. BGSU was second in the state to Ohio State University. Ohio University was first on the national list in 2006-07 but, after installing CopySense, placed 232nd last year. Each university receiving the letters is responsible for identifying accused students.

"The majority of the students have been very understanding" in the couple weeks since CopySense was put in place at BGSU, Haschak said. "We're making them more aware."
For the fifth time, BGSU's College of Business Administration has been named an outstanding business college by the Princeton Review. The New York-based education services company features the University in the just-published 2009 edition of its "Best 296 Business Schools." Bowling Green also maintained its reputation for being especially strong in the opportunities it provides for minority students, the review said.

According to the review, "For those hoping to fast-track their business careers, the MBA program at the College of Business Administration at Bowling Green State University provides an excellent (and speedy) opportunity for students, even if they didn't get their undergraduate degree in business."

The MBA program was noted in the "greatest opportunity for minority students" category "based on the percent of students from minorities, the percent of faculty from minorities, and student assessment of: resources for minority students, how supportive the culture is of minority students, and whether fellow students are ethnically and racially diverse," according to the review's description of its criteria. BGSU is sixth on the list of 10 headed by Howard University and including such schools as Texas A&M University.

According to Robert Franek, Princeton Review vice president for publishing, "We select schools for this book based on our high regard for their academic programs and offerings, institutional data we collect from the schools, and the candid opinions of students attending them who rate and report on their campus experiences at the schools."

Students at BGSU agree that the student body is a "very diverse group from almost every continent" that consists of "very intelligent, committed, and dedicated" individuals. Statistics state that for the school at large, while "90 percent of students are from Ohio, a whopping 55 countries are represented on campus. Additionally, about one-third of the MBAs are international students."

"We are pleased to be recognized as the leading business college in our region and one of the best in the nation. Great business programs are created because of the hard work of students, faculty and staff. External recognition of our programs from sources such as The Princeton Review and U.S. News and World Report validates the great work of these individuals," said Dr. Rodney Rogers, dean of the business college.

The Princeton Review does not rank the schools in the book on a single hierarchical list or name one business school best overall. Instead, the book has 11 lists ranking the top 10 business schools in various categories. Ten lists are based on the review's surveys over the past three years of 19,000 students attending the 296 business schools profiled in the book. One list, "Toughest to Get Into," is based solely on institutional data.

The BGSU College of Business Administration first earned accreditation from AACSB International—the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business—in 1954. Bowling Green is one of only 171 colleges worldwide to have earned AACSB accreditation in both business and accounting.

Yolanda Flores honored with Miguel Ornelas Award

Each year, many good things happen on campus to promote better relations among people and an understanding of other cultures. But they don't happen without assistance, which is what Yolanda Flores of the Office of Multicultural and Academic Initiatives has steadfastly provided.

On Oct. 15, Flores was presented the Miguel Ornelas Human Relations Award, which is granted annually to acknowledge contributions to the University community and to inspire activism and service. The award recognizes an individual and/or a group or organization on
campus whose programs, services or actions, in the judgment of the Human Relations Commission, have significantly enhanced positive human relations at BGSU.

Flores has worked on the Latino Issues Conference for 15 years and was one of the founding members of the Latino Cultural Artists Association. She has assisted with Multicultural and Academic Initiatives' annual dinner theatre and Kwanzaa celebrations for several years. She has also served as advisor to Lambda Gamma and Sigma Lambda Beta.

"In short, Yolanda has promoted and encouraged positive human relations, the diverse contributions of others and multiculturalism at BGSU for many years," said Barbara Toth, chair of the Human Relations Commission.

In keeping with Flores' Latina heritage, Toth presented the award in Spanish, saying, "Es un honor para mí presentar el premio Miguel Ornelas, el cual se regala para reconocer las contribuciones de una persona que promueve las relaciones humanas positivas de manera muy especial."

The award is given in honor of Dr. Miguel Ornelas, a former Human Relations Commission member and director of affirmative action at BGSU, and is intended to bring to the attention of the University community the actions and services of those who reflect his values. Before his death in 1989, Ornelas served as an advocate for issues of diversity, as head of the Ohio Hispanic Institute of Opportunity and as a member of the University's Graduate Student Senate, Third World Graduate Association and La Union de Estudiantes Latinos. He was the recipient of the first Hispanic Award from Project Search.

Bowling Green is bridge to U.S. for German delegation

BGSU will host a group of distinguished German visitors this week who are in the United States for a grass-roots perspective on the 2008 presidential election.

The Atlantik-Brücke (Atlantic Bridge) Foundation, a private, nonpartisan association, chose Ohio for its status as a pivotal state in recent presidential elections and BGSU because the foundation has academic ties to the University. Founded in 1952 to foster transatlantic understanding and cooperation, Atlantik-Brücke has been instrumental in helping BGSU develop a memorandum of understanding with the University of Hildesheim, Germany. The agreement allows Bowling Green students seeking a minor in Peace Studies to study at Hildesheim during the summer while Hildesheim students visit BGSU for a complementary study-abroad experience.

From Wednesday (Oct. 29) to Sunday (Nov. 2), members of the group will tour northwest Ohio, meeting with elected representatives and business leaders. They will be on campus Nov. 3 for a reception hosted by Interim President Carol Cartwright. Assisting in organizing and facilitating the area visit are Dr. William Balzer, psychology, and Marketing and Communications.

Atlantik-Brücke's membership comprises representatives from politics, business, trade unions, academia and the media, brought together by a shared dedication to German-American friendship. About 35 members of the group will be in the delegation visiting BGSU.

For more information on the foundation, visit http://atlantik-bruecke.org/.
BGSU State Fire School receives funding for statewide rescue training

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) recently awarded BGSU's State Fire School an $80,000 stipend to conduct statewide rescue training classes.

The funds will be used for the development and delivery of technical-rescue training for the eight regional urban search and rescue teams in the state.

State Fire School will work with each of the regional directors to meet their team's training needs.

"These funds will be used to develop and deliver classes such as rope rescue and confined space rescue at no cost to the fire departments or individuals," said Ann Light, assistant dean of Continuing & Extended Education. "This means that more emergency responders will be trained and ready to deal with complicated and demanding situations in Ohio and across the nation."

"After evaluation of current programs available in Ohio, the only program in the state with the facilities, instructor base and administrative support to provide the training is Bowling Green State University," said Mel House, OEMA director of operations.

BGSU and Continuing & Extended Education have offered training programs through State Fire School for more than 30 years, and currently deliver regional technical-rescue training.

"Receiving this support is an honor and a privilege for State Fire School because it demonstrates that the Ohio EMA has confidence in our ability to deliver high-quality training," Light said. "We worked with the Ohio EMA on a pilot program last year and after that success, they decided to expand it this year."

IN BRIEF

Cartwright to address student affairs in Saddlemire Lecture

Interim President Carol Cartwright will deliver the 18th annual Gerald L. Saddlemire Lecture on Friday (Oct. 31). Her talk will concern higher education and the special roles, relationships and responsibilities held by those who work in the student affairs profession.

Cartwright’s presentation begins at 10 a.m. in 308 Bowen-Thompson Student Union and is sponsored by Student Affairs and the higher education and student affairs department.

The annual lecture honors the late Dr. Gerald Saddlemire, a national leader in the student affairs profession and founding chair of the College Student Personnel Program.

Holiday Menu Makeover contest yields healthy eating

We all look forward to the special holiday foods but dread the extra pounds that come with them. To help avoid that problem, a wellness initiative will be held from Nov. 3-14 in which faculty and staff can share their healthy recipes for the holidays.

A contest will be held for the best recipes, with entries judged by students in the food and nutrition graduate program. Winners in the categories of main dish, side dish and dessert will receive $100 gift cards to Williams-Sonoma, and all participants will be entered in a drawing for a Nintendo Wii and Wii Fit.

All the recipes will be collected in a cookbook that can be used throughout the holidays and for years to come.
Drop off your recipes to Caitlin Spontelli, interim health educator at the Wellness Connection, at 170 Health Center, or email them to cspont@bgsu.edu. Contest rules are located at the WellAware site, www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/wellaware/page11011.html.

The program is made possible through support from Medical Mutual of Ohio and BGSU WellAware.

**Bingman to speak on birds’ navigational, spatial ability**

Dr. Verner Bingman, Distinguished Research Professor of psychology, will discuss his research into birds’ amazing abilities to navigate and remember spatial “maps” in his upcoming Distinguished Faculty Lecture, “Avian Navigators and the Evolution of a Cartographic Brain.”

The talk will be held from 4-5 p.m. Nov. 3 in 206 Union. Sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, it is free and open to the public.

According to Bingman, “Birds are the supreme navigators of the animal kingdom. The accuracy of their migratory flights is legendary. However, what we observe today is the product of a long evolutionary history of brain organizational and behavioral adaptation. In this talk I will highlight a series of notable findings from our research at Bowling Green describing how the spatial ecology of birds, and homing pigeons in particular, has provided a selective landscape leading to the evolution of a hippocampus dually adapted to the needs of global navigation and spatial context as a code for memory.”

Bingman is known worldwide for his groundbreaking research into the role of the hippocampus in spatial navigation. His work has been funded by several agencies, including the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, NATO and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. Those grants have approached a combined $1 million.

He has appeared in numerous media outlets—National Public Radio, BBC Radio and Italian National Television among them.

At BGSU, he was founding director of the J.P. Scott Center for Neuroscience, Mind and Behavior, in 1999, and winner of the Olscamp Research Award in 2001.

**‘Zombies’ to take on humans this week in campus tag game**

This week, BGSU and the BG Undead will host “Humans vs. Zombies,” a game of tag where participants are eliminated through the use of Nerf blasters. The game will be played outdoors campuswide from 7 a.m. to midnight daily through Thursday (Oct. 30).

Game players will be marked with neon green bandanas with the BG Undead logo on them. They will be worn on the head, arm or leg. Only registered players may participate.

The University has put in place a set of guidelines for the game, which include:
- All activities must take place outside and on campus property.
- Participants must wear an identifying armband or leg band.
- Only brightly colored Nerf blasters are permitted.
- Nerf blasters are not permitted in classes.

For more information, visit www.bgundead.com.
CALENDAR

Monday, Oct. 27
Expect Respect Teen Council Project, "There Is No Excuse for Abuse," with Mary Krueger, director, Women's Center, on Shynerra's Law and solutions to the problem of teen relationship violence, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 115 West Building, BGSU Firelands.

Fall Workshop Series, "Introduction to Stata," noon-1 p.m., 315 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Provided by the Center for Family and Demographic Research.

BGSU ARTalk, "A Case for Design Education in K-12 Art Education," with Dr. Paul Sproll, head, Department of Teaching + Learning in Art + Design, Rhode Island School of Design, 6 p.m., 117 Olscamp Hall.

Tuesday, Oct. 28
Instructional Design Discussion Series, "Overview of Education in Second Life," 9-10 a.m., Center for Teaching and Learning, 201 University Hall.

College of Arts & Sciences Forum, with Susanne Ayoub, Max Kade Writer in Residence, on her return to her hometown of Baghdad, 12:30 p.m., 201 Union. Preceded by a noon luncheon, the lecture is free and open to the public.

Open Forum, hosted by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, with Interim President Carol Cartwright, CFO Sherri Stoll and Provost Shirley Baugher, 2:30-4:30 p.m., 206 Union. A live-feed broadcast of the forum will be available at http://wbgustream.bgsu.edu/bgsu/wc102808, and questions will be taken at the presentation or by phone at 2-6609.

Faculty Recognition Dinner, 6-9 p.m., Lenhart Grand Ballroom, Union.

Lecture, "The State of the Election - With One Week to Go," with David Jackson, political science, 2:30-4:30 p.m., 228 Union. Presented by the BGSU Xi of Ohio Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, and co-sponsored by the BGSU Honors Program.

Tuesday Night Film Series, "Plan 9 from Outer Space" (U.S., 1959), 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater.

Brass Ensembles, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 29
Ladder Safety Training, with Bess Weaver, Environmental Health and Safety, 10-11 a.m., 2 College Park Building. Register at 2-2171 or www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page22440.html.

Brown Bag Lunch Spirituality Series, "My Faith and My Profession as ___," 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 318 Union.

Brown Bag Luncheon, "Being Woman, Being Black: A Conversation with Charlene Gilbert, Documentary Filmmaker." Gilbert is also on the women's studies and theater and film faculty and director of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women, University of Toledo, noon-1 p.m., Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Fall Speaker Series, "Romantic Partner Effects on Drug and Alcohol Use," with Peggy Giordano, sociology, noon-1 p.m., 315 Union. Series hosted through the Center for Family and Demographic Research.

Men's Soccer vs. Michigan State, 3 p.m., Cochrane Field.

Thursday, Oct. 30
BG@100 CSS Session, Understanding Academic Structure, a PowerPoint presentation, 8:30-9:30 a.m., 1007 Business Administration Building.

Community Partnership Series, focusing on Toledo GROWs, with Michael Szuberla, manager, 2-3 p.m., Center for Teaching and Learning, 201 University Hall. To register, call 2-6986 or email ctf@bgsu.edu.

Women's Soccer vs. Toledo, 3 p.m., Cochrane Field.
Volleyball vs. Miami, 3 p.m., Anderson Arena.

MFA Reading, with David Williams, poetry, and Brandon Jennings, fiction, 7:30 p.m., Prout Chapel.

Friday, Oct. 31

18th Annual Gerald L. Saddlemire Lecture, by Interim President Carol Cartwright, on higher education and the special roles, relationships and responsibilities held by those who work in the student affairs profession, 10 a.m., 308 Union. In celebration of National Careers in Student Affairs Month, and sponsored by Student Affairs and the higher education and student affairs department. Contact the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs at 2-2147 for more information.

Seminar, "Teaching Taboo: How to Have Meaningful Politically Incorrect Conversation about Race/Ethnicity in the Classroom," with Dr. Samuel Richards, Penn State University, 1-3 p.m., 206 Union. A reception with refreshments will follow the talk. Contact Andrew Wilczak at awilczak@bgsu.edu for more information.

Women's Professional Development Series, "Negotiating Your Employment Contract in Tough Economic Times," with Rebecca Ferguson, human resources, 1:30-3 p.m., Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Executive Briefings Program, with Stephanie Imhoff, BGSU alumna, member of the Board of Trustees, and chief financial officer, Longaberger Baskets, 4-6 p.m., David J. Joseph Business Hub, Business Administration Building.

Women's Swimming vs. Eastern Michigan, 5 p.m., Cooper Pool, Student Recreation Center.

Hockey vs. Nebraska-Omaha, 7:05 p.m., Ice Arena.

Saturday, Nov. 1

Hall of Fame Banquet, 10 a.m.-noon, Ballroom, Union. For more information, contact Athletics at 2-2401.

Double Reed Day, open to music educators as well as bassoonists and oboists of all ages and abilities, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Moore Musical Arts Center. The schedule includes a performance by BGSU faculty, an oboe and bassoon instrument workshop, a concert by the Double Reed Choir and master classes with Nathaniel Zeisler, bassoon, and Jacqueline Leclair, oboe. For more information, contact Zeisler at 2-2524 or nzisler@bgsu.edu.

Men's Soccer vs. Buffalo, 11 a.m., Cochrane Field.

Women's Swimming vs. Ball State, 1 p.m., Cooper Pool.

Football vs. Kent State, 2 p.m., Doyt Perry Stadium.

Volleyball vs. Western Michigan, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Hockey vs. Nebraska-Omaha, 7:05 p.m., Ice Arena.

Sunday, Nov. 2

Faculty Artist Series, "Old and New," with Andrew Pelletier, horn, and Kevin Bylsma, piano, 3 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Women's Basketball Exhibition vs. Findlay, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Monday, Nov. 3

Expect Respect Teen Council Project, "There Is No Excuse for Abuse: Media Images, Masculinity, Dating Violence," with Julie Didelot and Alyson Wilson, natural and social sciences, discussing solutions to the problem of teen relationship violence, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 115 West Building, BGSU Firelands.

Bowling Green Experience Workshop Series, "Advising as Teaching – Advising in Selective Majors," 2-3 p.m., Center for Teaching and Learning, 201 University Hall.

ICS Lecture, "American Dreams: Gender, Migration, and the Work Experiences of the Asian Indian Community in Metropolitan Detroit," with Vibha Bhalla, ethnic studies, 2:30 p.m., 207 Union. For more information, call 2-0585. Presented by the Institute for the Study of Culture and Society.

Distinguished Faculty Lecture, "Avian Navigators and the Evolution of a Cartographic Brain," by Verner Bingman, Distinguished Research Professor, psychology, 4-5 p.m., 206 Union. Sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences.

BGSU ARTalk, "Recent Work," with Karen Kunc, printmaker and Cather Professor of Art, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 6 p.m., 1101 Fine Arts Center.

Continuing Events Oct. 31 and Nov. 1

Conference, "Treatment of Children and Adolescents Who Stutter," 8 a.m.-5 p.m., both days, 101A Olscamp Hall. Hosted by the communication disorders department.

Through Nov. 4

Art Exhibit, BGSU Clay Club Exhibition, Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.
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BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

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Through Nov. 14

Art Exhibit, "Alternative Typestyles," by Matt Tullis, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands, Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Through Nov. 19

Art Exhibit, "Graphic Language: The Art of the 'Comic' Book," Dorothy Uber Bryan 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. The gallery will be closed Nov. 11 for Veterans Day.

Through Nov. 25

Planetarium Show, "The Cowboy Astronomer," showings at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays and 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15. $1 donation suggested.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

There were no new job postings 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:

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

Off-campus classified:

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/cl_staff/page11145.html

ADMINISTRATIVE

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page11137.html

OBITUARY

Janis Pallister, 82, a Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of romance languages, died Oct. 18 in Bowling Green. She taught at BGSU from 1961-85. She became an honorary alumna in 1997; in 2002 the University gave her the honorary degree Doctor of Letters.