Monitor Newsletter January 20, 2009

Bowling Green State University

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Holden collaborates with Army on soldier reintegration

Last summer, Dr. Brett Holden, theatre and film, taught a class at the Chautauqua Institution in New York called “Witnessing War: The 20th- and 21st-Century Soldier Experience in Literature and Film.” Though rewarding in itself, the class resulted in a special opportunity for Holden and a possible new avenue for helping soldiers who have been through war.

“It was a wonderful week, and the class was an intensive reflection on the cinematic and literary representations of war and how veterans’ experiences as seen through their diaries, poems and letters home interfaces with film versions,” said Holden, who has studied and taught about the impact of war on soldiers and their families for many years. A major focus has been the reintegration of the warrior into civilian life; he is particularly interested in how film and veteran literature might be used to aid in the process.

The Chautauqua course packed into five days what he normally covers in a 16-week class at BGSU. “It was an incredibly dynamic group,” he said. “We had doctors, lawyers, retired military—including a colonel—scholarship students and veterans from Korea, Vietnam and World War II.”

Also in the class, he later discovered, was Dr. William Gardner, a pathologist with the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Gardner is also executive director of the American Registry of Pathology.

Since a large part of what goes on at Walter Reed is helping heal returning soldiers, not only physically but psychologically, Gardner was especially interested in Holden’s work. He followed up on the class by inviting Holden to give the Calendar/Binford Lecture on Nov. 19.

The audience for the lecture, which was held in the National Museum of Health and Medicine, comprised doctors, psychologists, military officials, therapists, recovering soldiers and others devoted to the care of veterans.

At his talk and the dinner beforehand, “I felt for the first time that I was speaking to individuals who knew exactly what I was talking about,” Holden said. “The American public does not have a clue, or a clear picture of, the wars that we’re fighting or their effects. We need to work more than ever to understand the returning soldiers and ask how we as civilians can assist with their reintegration.”

Not the Hollywood version

Holden’s lecture, called “Utilizing the Literature and Film of War to Facilitate the Warrior-Civilian Transition,” dealt with the significant potential that exists in utilizing such materials to help soldiers readjust following combat. Unfortunately, he said, the typical depiction of combat and soldiers in Hollywood productions has dealt heavily with concepts of heroes and glory—the opposite of the reality of war.

“The true story of the struggle with fear and anxiety is seldom told,” Holden said. “It’s closely tied to the survival instinct and not a measure of a soldier’s fortitude; the physical effects of war from the environment to disease to lack of sleep; the separation from loved ones and fears of growing apart and of spousal infidelity; the worries about homecoming and how they might be viewed and whether they’re different now and how their life goals have changed. Society discourages us from telling this and prefers stories about heroes and glory. It shames soldiers for admitting to these feelings.” But all these factors play a role in a warrior’s reintegration to civilian life, he added.

In addition to giving the talk, Holden met with others at Walter Reed, including Thomasine (Tammy) Alvarez, president of the Friends of the Uniformed Services University (USU) and wife of the first pilot shot down over Vietnam, who was a fellow inmate of John McCain’s in
the infamous “Hanoi Hilton.” At the request of Dr. Gardner, Holden had reviewed a documentary she helped fund called “Fighting for Life,” about the experiences of military physicians in training at the USU and the challenges they face in caring for the wounded in military hospitals at home and abroad.

He also toured the USU campus, in Bethesda, Md., and Walter Reed, experiences he described as “emotionally overwhelming.”

“I met individuals who work in soldier care who every day must walk among human beings who are struggling with major life changes. They went into the war with one idea of what their future would be but now find it’s all different.

“At USU they’re training doctors who are going to see things you’re never going to see. It takes a special kind of person to be a doctor or a physical therapist in that kind of setting where you’re dealing with people who have been harmed in every way you can be harmed.” Holden had high praise for the compassion and commitment of everyone involved in the effort.

Team dedicated to veterans
Throughout the visit, Holden and his hosts discussed the soldier experience, soldier recovery, and how his courses and service work may contribute to soldier reintegration. He also shared information about the Veteran Assessment and Service Team (VAST) at BGSU, an apolitical service group he convened in 2003 in which students spend a year working with families, soldiers in the field, and nonprofit and other service organizations. Its members provide special support for the Ohio Army National Guard’s Bravo Company of the 148th, located in Bowling Green, and Alpha Company, in Walbridge.

Students in VAST can co-enroll in Holden’s “War, Film, and the Soldier Experience” course for an academic component to the experience. In addition to the films and soldier testimonies studied, the course features guest speakers, calls from soldiers on duty and service-learning opportunities. The intense teamwork and study are aimed at creating a “better-informed student and one who is prepared to become an activist and help shape change,” Holden said.

Holden has worked in military issues for about 10 years. While he is not a veteran, “I grew up among veterans and soldiers in my family who were deeply affected by war. They scoffed at Hollywood films and were incensed by pro-war films that glorified war. They warned me, ‘Don’t buy into this.’”

Then around 1998, three years before 9/11, he began to notice rising tension in the Middle East and realized “we needed a better understanding of conflict and the real costs of war. I had just begun to glimpse the magnitude of those costs, and they are just overwhelming, more than most people ever imagine.

“Because one of the primary ways students learn about the world is through film (if it’s in a film, they’re convinced it’s real), I began creating courses that would motivate students to learn in different ways,” he said. One academic effort, the Veteran Project, pairs students with former soldiers, many of them members of his students’ own families. They interview them using a Human Subjects Review Board-approved set of questions, to gain a deeper understanding of the war experience.

His efforts on behalf of soldiers and veterans were recognized in December at a military family night volunteer appreciation banquet held in Columbus, at the invitation of Maj. Gen. Gregory Wayt, Adjutant General of Ohio.

War’s impact on the University
Because of the conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere, “we as a university are going to have more and more of these soldiers returning, and their reintegration will become an increasingly important issue for us,” Holden said. He hopes that the courses and group he has developed could be used to assist in their successful transition and to help the rest of the campus understand their situation.
Undergraduate Student Government, and especially Sen. Johnnie Lewis, has expressed interest. In addition, senior Jessica Precop is developing a Web site devoted to the reintegration of veterans through an internship in the Office of the Dean of Students.

On another level, Holden is part of the new Peace and Conflict Studies minor degree program and is co-teaching "Peace and Cultural Legacies of the Nuclear Age" for the third time. The program has "brought together a variety of us who are passionate about finding ways to resolve conflict before there's tragedy," Holden said.

BGSU economist promoted by Fed, predicts growth by midyear

Dr. Timothy Fuerst, economics, has been named a senior economic advisor to the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

Fuerst has provided his expertise on money, financial markets and monetary policy to the bank as a consultant since 1994. His promotion allows him to participate in confidential open-market committee briefings, where Fuerst sees classified economic-related documents and gives his perspective to the Fed.

He said senior economic advisors are selected based on their research accomplishments and widespread recognition of their expertise within the field. The economist has an extensive research history and is frequently cited in other scholars' published articles. In fact, he is among the top 4 percent of more than 16,000 authors worldwide, according to the Internet Documents in Economics Access Service, which uses Research Papers in Economics Author Services, the largest bibliographic database in economic research.

Fuerst is among six economists serving as senior economic advisors in the Fourth Federal Reserve District, which includes Ohio and parts of Kentucky, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The Cleveland bank, which serves the Fourth District, is one of 12 regional banks in the Federal Reserve System. The regional banks, along with a Board of Governors in Washington, D.C., comprise the system, which is responsible for formulating and implementing U.S. monetary policy, servicing banks and bank holding companies, and providing financial services to depository institutions and the federal government.

Fuerst has some positive views of the economy in 2009. While the first quarter of the year will still be bad from a macroeconomic perspective, he said, the BGSU economist predicts improvement during the spring and growth by midsummer.

For that to happen, not only is improvement in the housing market needed, but also an increase in the sale of durable goods, such as vehicles and appliances, Fuerst said. To this point, he added, consumers have delayed their durable-goods purchases, but they will be forced to buy in the near future, so demand will go up. He also said unemployment will lag behind economic growth but expects the unemployment rate to "top out" in the fall of 2009.

Fuerst called the Federal Reserve's current monetary actions "sufficient." Low mortgage interest rates should stimulate refinancing, as the Fed has been hoping, he said.

With the Obama administration about to begin, a fiscal stimulus package and infrastructure projects are "a given," Fuerst noted. But concern is in order considering a debt explosion of more than $1 trillion and the question of whether the infrastructure projects make economic sense, he added, saying he's not certain if resources in the moribund housing construction sector will transfer into building roads and bridges and whether those can be timely. As for a stimulus package, he isn't keen on tax cuts but sees the low mortgage interest rates serving as a pseudo-tax cut that could stimulate growth.

Fuerst earned his Ph.D. and master's degrees in economics from the University of Chicago. He joined the BGSU faculty as an assistant professor in 1993 and was promoted to full professor in 2002. He has been honored in both research and teaching by BGSU's College of Business Administration.
**Bowling Green State University**

> Top Stories
- In Brief
- Calendar
- Job Postings
- Obituaries

### Campus marks historic year in black history

With the upcoming presidential inauguration of Barack Obama, the 2009 celebrations of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and in February of Black History Month, promise to be especially meaningful. This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the Black Student Union at BGSU and the 10th anniversary of the University's Black Issues Conference.

Students, faculty and staff will gather today (Jan. 20) in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the Bowen-Thompson Student Union to watch the inauguration and related events from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with viewing beginning at 10 a.m. A panel discussion will be held immediately after the inauguration ceremony.

On Wednesday (Jan. 21), the Office of Equity and Diversity will sponsor Readings in Diversity, from 9:30-11 a.m. in 207 Union. That evening, the Humanities Troupe will present "Times of Great Change: A Civil Rights Speech Montage," from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Union Theater.

"So What Now? A Panel Discussion of the Historic Events of 2008" will be held from 6-8 p.m. Thursday (Jan. 22) in 207 Union. The discussion is sponsored by the Women's Center, the Black Student Union and WBGU-PBS.

January events wrap up on the 30th with "An Evening of Excellence," beginning at 7:30 p.m. in 101 Olscamp Hall. The evening will include dinner and light entertainment.

Benefitting Project Excellence, which mentors and tutors Toledo inner-city youth, the money raised will go toward scholarships for two Libbey High School seniors.

Tickets are $10 for singles and $15 for couples and are available at the Union information desk. For more information, contact Bobby Steele at bdsteele@bgsu.edu or Tara Stamps at tstamps@bgsu.edu.

### Black History Month events

February will see several major Black History Month events at the University, including the Black Issues Conference and the ever-popular dinner theatre organized by the Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives (CMAI).

The theme for this year's conference, on Feb. 7, is "The Talented Tenth," based on a quote from African-American leader W.E.B. Dubois, who said "a tenth of the African-American population will rise above adversity to lead the remaining 90 percent to a better way of living."

The keynote speaker is James Jackson Jr., a founder of the conference and former CMAI staff member. The day's events will run from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom. The conference is sponsored by the CMAI.

Reservations are preferred; a limited number of tickets will be available at the door. Call Shevonne Nelson at 2-2642.

A conference kickoff will be held from 6-11 p.m. the previous evening, Feb. 6, in the union, sponsored by the Black Student Union, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Black Intellectuals Group and the CMAI.

A "Talented Tenth" display will be on view in the first-floor lobby of Jerome Library through Feb. 27.

The 21st annual dinner theatre, "Grease!" will be held Feb. 27 and 28, also in the ballroom. Featuring singing, dancing and skits performed by students, faculty and staff, the Friday evening performance, at 8 p.m., is $10 and includes a cash bar. Tickets for the Saturday performance, at 7 p.m., are $20 and include a buffet as well as cash bar. Table reservations are also available. For reservations, call Yolanda Flores in the CMAI at 2-2642.

The theatre and film department will present South African playwright Athol Fugard's "My Children! My Africa!" Shows are at 8 p.m. Feb. 12-14 and at 2 p.m. Feb. 14 and 15, in the
Eva Marie Saint Theatre in University Hall. Tickets are $5 for those 65 and older, $12 for other adults and $6 for children under 12. To reserve, call the theatre box office at 2-2719.

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Throughout the month, voice students of Myra Merritt, music performance studies, will share the history of African-American musical traditions with visits to elementary schools in Fremont, North Baltimore and Toledo. This marks the third year Merritt and her students have offered the program, named “Lift Every Voice and Sing” after the African-American anthem. The seven singers will present music and choreography encompassing the movement from Africa, slavery, black churches, the civil rights movement, jazz and Motown.

Other February events include:

• On Feb. 1, a video presentation and discussion of “Social Activism and the Millennial Student,” from 9:30-11 a.m. in 201 Union, sponsored by the Office of Equity and Diversity and the ethnic studies department.

• On Feb. 4, a brown-bag luncheon discussion on “To Be Young, Female and Black at BGSU,” by a panel of African-American student leaders. Sponsored by the Women’s Center, the event will be held from noon-1 p.m. in 107 Hanna Hall.

• On Feb. 11, “Love IS Blind: HIV/AIDS and STDs in the Black Community,” from 5-9 p.m. in 228 Union. The discussion is hosted by the Caribbean Association and sponsored by the Wellness Connection, Decreasing Discriminational Stereotypes, the National Council for Negro Woman and the Black Student Union.

• On Feb. 18, a brown-bag lunch on “The Shortage of African-American Men: What Do Women Think?” from noon-1 p.m. in 107 Hanna Hall, sponsored by the Women’s Center.

• On Feb. 19, a Diversity Dialogue on “Whites in Black History,” presented by Marshall Rose, director of the Office of Equity and Diversity, and Dr. Jack Taylor, retired ethnic studies faculty, and focusing on important figures such as those who helped in the Underground Railroad. The talk, from 2:30-4 p.m. in 201 Union, is sponsored by the equity and diversity office, the CMAI and the ethnic studies department.

University Dining Services will provide several campus dining experiences related to Black History Month and Martin Luther King Jr. Day. These include a Martin Luther King Jr. dinner from 4:30-8 p.m. Jan. 28 in Kreischer Dining Hall, a Jazz Lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 29 in the Falcon’s Nest of the Union, and a Black History Month Lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 5 in McDonald Dining Hall.

**Regional economic conference to address rural development, auto industry**

Rural economic development and the automotive industry will be among the topics discussed Jan. 28 during the seventh annual State of the Region conference in Perrysburg. The University’s Center for Regional Development (ORD) hosts the event, which is set for 8 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, 6165 Levis Commons Blvd. About 300 civic and business leaders from the 27-county northwest sector of Ohio are expected to attend.

Speakers will include Jack Schultz, author of *Boomtown USA: The 7½ Keys to Big Success in Small Towns*, and Dr. Thomas Klier, an economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and co-author of *Who Really Made Your Car?: Restructuring and Geographic Change in the Auto Industry*. 
Registration and continental breakfast are scheduled from 8-9 a.m., followed by an address by BGSU economist Dr. Michael Carroll, director of the CRD.

Speaking at 9:30 a.m. will be Schultz, the founder and CEO of Agracel Inc., an industrial development firm focusing on rural America. Since its first project in 1993, the firm has facilitated upwards of 4,500 jobs in 5 million square feet of industrial space in more than a dozen states.

Schultz's book, *BooMont USA*, was published in 2004 after more than three years of research that narrowed a list of 15,800 small U.S. towns to a group of 397 communities he calls “agurbs”. A speaking tour began shortly thereafter and, in 2006, Schultz founded Boomtown Institute as a mentor for American towns. His research has been featured in numerous publications, including USA Today, Forbes and Business Week.

Making presentations from 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. will be Klier, who will assess recent challenges in the auto industry, and Larry Dillin, who will address regional retail issues.

Klier, who holds a Ph.D. in economics from Michigan State University, is a senior economist in the economic research department at the Chicago Fed. Since joining the bank in 1992, he has written widely on the evolving geography of the auto industry, and his current research interests include its changing structure.

Dillin, the founder and president of Dillin Corp., is a leader in master-planned and mixed-use development projects. He is responsible for a number of local projects, including Levis Commons, the conference site.

There is no charge to attend the conference, but space is limited and advance registration is requested. To register, contact Pat Sherman at the CRD, at 2-8710. Online registration is also available at www.bgsu.edu/crd.

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Snohetta partner to share insights on architecture

The campus community will have an opportunity to hear from one of the creators of the University's Wolfe Center for the Arts when Craig Dykers, a principal in the award-winning architecture firm Snohetta, comes to campus as the next speaker in the architecture program's yearlong lecture series.

Dykers will speak at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 28 in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater. A reception will be held at 5:30 in the adjacent lounge area. His talk and the reception are free and open to the public.

The Wolfe Center will be the first American project to be completed by Snohetta, a Norwegian company with projects from Europe to the Middle East. A Snohetta-designed opera house recently opened in Oslo, and the firm has been chosen to design a new cultural center for the king of Saudi Arabia. To learn more about the company and view its designs, visit http://www.snoarc.no/ - /

The lecture series, organized by Jon M. Stevens, architecture, features leading professionals in the field. To view a listing of the other upcoming speakers, visit http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/mc/monitor/09-29-08/page55673.html.
Plan to attend

President Carol Cartwright will give the State of the University Address at 10 a.m. Jan. 30 in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. for refreshments.

Talk to examine impact of historical memory on art viewers

Dr. Allie Terry, art history, will present "Criminals and Tourists: Prison History and the Museum-Going Public in Florence" next week—an examination of what role historical memory plays in viewers' responses to beauty.

Her talk, which is free and open to the public, will be held at 1:30 p.m. Jan. 27 in 201 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Terry focuses on the 1865 decision to create and house the first National Museum of Italy in the Bargello, a former prison and infamous site of torture in Florence. While the visual arts have always been integral to the material fabric of the institution of the Bargello, the transition from criminal to cultural audiences in the 19th century signals a conscious transformation in the function of the site and the usefulness of the visual experience to further the agenda of the Italian government. Despite the Bargello's transformation to a cultural institution, violence remained integral to the visual encounter of its audience. The talk questions how the viewing process integrated the violence of the past into an aesthetics of redemption for the present, and examines the role of art and architecture to forge a self-fashioned identity for the new nation-state of Italy.

Terry's research and teaching focus on visual culture in early modern Italy. Concerned with the performative experience of viewing art and architecture, she has published on topics ranging from political strategies of art patronage to criminal experiences of torture and punishment. Her talk is part of a larger book manuscript, *Somaesthetics and the Renaissance: Medieval Torture to Aesthetic Redemption at the Bargello*, which she is researching and writing as an Institute for the Study of Culture and Society (ICS) Fellow this semester.

Her talk is part of the Artists and Scholars in Residence Series, organized and operated by the ICS.

CALENDAR

Tuesday, Jan. 20

**Inauguration Event**, live broadcast of the inauguration of President Barack Obama, Union Ballroom, 9 a.m.

**Community Partnership Series**, "Getting Involved with Nonprofits," 1-2 p.m., Center for Teaching and Learning, 201 University Hall. Register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page10718.html. Sponsored by the Office of Service-Learning.

**Faculty Senate**, 2:30 p.m., McFall Center Assembly Room.

**Tuesday Night Film Series**, "Cine-Posium," featuring short films and other work by students in recent film production courses. Screenings of individual and group projects by film majors will be accompanied by discussions that include feedback from members of the film faculty as well as question-and-answer periods between student filmmakers and audience members, 6 p.m., Gish Film Theater. Presented by the Culture Club and the Cultural Studies Scholars' Association, in conjunction with the Department of Theatre and Film and the Gish Film Theater Endowment.

**Men's Basketball** vs. Miami, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

**Presentation**, "Experiencing the 'Art of Possibility,'" with Benjamin Zander, acclaimed speaker and conductor of the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra, sharing his message of personal and professional growth, 8 p.m.,
Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Presented through the Dorothy E. and DuWayne H. Hansen Musical Arts Series and co-sponsored by the College of Musical Arts and the College of Business Administration. Admission is free, but a ticket is required. Call the center box office at 2-8171.

Wednesday, Jan. 21

Environmental Health and Safety Overview, 10-11 a.m., 2 College Park. Register at 2-2171 or www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page22440.html.

Classified Staff Council, 10:30 a.m., 315 Union. A presentation titled "Health Care Plan Changes" by Donna Wittwer, human resources, will precede the meeting at 10 a.m.

Center for Family and Demographic Research Spring Speaker Series, "Divorce as Risky Behavior," with Dr. Audrey Light, economics, Ohio State University, noon-1 p.m., 207 Union.

Brown Bag Luncheon, "Holistic Healing with Asherah’s Garden," with Lia Ricci-Sons, holistic health practitioner, noon-1 p.m., Women’s Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Biological Sciences Seminar Series, "Parasites, Proteomics, and Performance: Effects on Dragonfly Flight Muscle Composition and Function," with Dr. Ruud Schilder, Department of Cellular and Molecular Physiology, Hershey College of Medicine, Penn State University, 3:30-4:30 p.m., 112 Life Sciences Building. A social with the speaker will precede the lecture at 3 p.m.

Partners in Excellence (PIE) Meeting, Workshop No. 3 (Scholarships, Financial Aid, and Money Management), 4-6 p.m., 228 Union. Contact Shevonne Nelson at nelsons@bgsu.edu or Emily Monago at emonago@bgsu.edu for more information.

Continuing Events

Beginning Jan. 23

Planetarium Show, "Bad Astronomy," UFOs, astrology, moon hoax and more, showings at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. $1 donation suggested.

Through Jan. 26

Art Exhibit, "Nuestra Cultura," by the Latino Cultural and Arts group, Union Art Gallery. Hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

Through Feb. 17

Art Exhibit, "Graphic Design," by Deborah Thoreson, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands, Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.
JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

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

Larry Shaner Sr., 59, died Jan. 3 in Maumee. He had been a member of the BGSU transportation department for 11 years, and was a campus shuttle bus driver.

Betty Jo Triggs, 73, died Jan. 9 in Toledo. She was a secretary at the University in the early 1960s.