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Monitor Newsletter December 21, 2009

Bowling Green State University

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Achievement, zeal earn Moses state award

Question: If one math educator works for 30 years at a steady rate of speed to improve the teaching of mathematics, touching innumerable students and teachers each year, what is the result?

Answer: *Dr. Barbara Moses wins the 2009 Kenneth Cummins Award, presented by the Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics to the top college-level math teacher in Ohio.*

Like the Kent State University math professor for whom the award is named, Moses is known for her deep love of mathematics—a love she has felt since she was in middle school and that has inspired her to help students learn, and teachers teach, math better. Moses has had an impact on individual students in the classroom and on the teaching of math nationally, as well as on the recruitment and preparation of the next generation of middle- and high-school math teachers.

On the individual level, her approach is based on her philosophy that “all students can be successful in mathematics,” “math is useful, beautiful and enjoyable,” and that “math lesson planning needs to have flexibility and spontaneity,” she said. Her emphasis is on teaching students to ask powerful questions.

“Every student is unique and comes to my class with their own learning style and their own math background,” Moses said. “It is my job to work with these students as *they are*, and not as I wish they were. I encourage risk-taking during the class period.”

On the broader level, she is the principal investigator and director of Science and Mathematics Education in Action, funded by a five-year, \$3 million grant from the Ohio Board of Regents. The program awards scholarships to incoming freshmen who show the potential to become excellent teachers of middle-school math and science.

Moses and her teams have received more than \$5 million in external funding. Moses' research focuses on visualization in algebraic thinking, and she is co-author, with retired faculty member Dr. Alice Calderonello, of *Algebra for Teachers* and editor of the 1999 book *Algebraic Thinking, Grades K-12*.

Moses was the founding director, in 2002, of COSMOS (Center of Excellence in Science and Mathematics: Opportunities for Success) at BGSU. The collaborative center is designed to help produce more and better-prepared math and science teachers. More than 200 K-12 teachers and university faculty participate each month in inquiry-based teaching presentations and activities. COSMOS has also attracted attention outside northwest Ohio. Moses was asked by the Mathematical Association of America to lead a Preparing Mathematicians to Educate Teachers workshop at BGSU, which was attended by mathematics faculty from universities throughout the country to learn about appropriate curriculum for the preparation of middle school math teachers.

A talk by Moses on the importance to society of math education and teacher preparation—and of countering the disturbing decline in interest in math and science—helped shape the direction of a \$1 million gift to BGSU in 2004 and resulted in Moses being named the first recipient of the Bailey Family Endowed Professorship in Mathematics.

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IN BRIEF

Campus communications holiday schedule announced

This is the last issue of Monitor until Jan. 11. Campus Update will also be on hiatus after today (Dec. 21) until Jan. 11.

Marketing and Communications will alert the University if there is information to be communicated in the interim.

Bowl ticket donation program helps BGSU, needy youth

Even if you can't go to Boise to cheer the Falcons as they play the Idaho Vandals in the Dec. 30 Humanitarian Bowl, you can still support BGSU through the ticket donation program. Falcon fans may purchase game tickets that will be donated to charitable youth organizations in Boise.

The program helps defray the cost of going to the game, to which Bowling Green is taking about 200 athletes and spirit group members, while providing a tax deduction for the University and the donor.

To buy tickets and learn more about the program, visit <http://ev12.venue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/SEGetEventInfo?ticketCode=GS%3ABGSU%3AF09%3ABOWLD%3A&linkID=bgsu&shopperContext=&caller=&appCode=>

CALENDAR

Wednesday, Dec. 23

Women's Basketball vs. Appalachian State, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Thursday, Dec. 24

Christmas Eve, Offices closed.

Friday, Dec. 25

Christmas, Offices closed.

Friday, Jan. 1

New Year's Day, Offices closed.

Saturday, Jan. 2

Women's Basketball vs. SIU-Edwardsville, 2 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Men's Basketball vs. St. Louis, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Monday, Jan. 4

Instructional Design Discussion, "Developing the 'Promising Syllabus,'" 10-11 a.m., 201 University Hall. Register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page10718.html.

Professional Development Conference

Session, "The Socratic Method in the Classroom," 1:30-3 p.m., 201 University Hall. This is the first of 16 teaching sessions for faculty this week. Session descriptions are available at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html; register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page10718.html. Hosted by the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Wednesday, Jan. 6

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

Sunday, Jan. 10

Centennial Kickoff Concert, featuring Gavin DeGraw, with special guest Michelle Branch, doors open at 7 p.m. and show starts at 8 p.m., Anderson Arena. Student tickets are \$20 each (limit of two tickets per student ID) and may be purchased in person at the Office of Campus Activities (OCA), 401 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. General public tickets are \$30 each and may be purchased at the OCA or online at www.bgsu.edu/offices/sa/getinvolved/index.html.



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Sponsored by the University Activities Organization and the Centennial Student Events Subcommittee.

Monday, Jan. 11

Spring Semester Begins.

**Continuing Events
Through Dec. 24**

Planetarium Show, "Secret of the Star: A Show for Christmastime," showings at 8 p.m. Tuesday and 2 p.m. Thursday. \$1 donation suggested.

Jan. 4-8

Professional Development Conference, with 16 teaching sessions for faculty, 201 University Hall. Session descriptions are available at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html; register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/

page10718.html. Hosted by the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Through Jan. 6

Art Exhibit, "Synthetic Space," Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

Beginning Jan. 9

Art Exhibit, "Character Project," Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

Through Jan. 10

Winter Recess.

Beginning Jan. 11

Art Exhibit, monoprints by Michael Beuglass, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

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/.

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

There were no obituaries this week.