BGSU looking to launch research into the marketplace

Great ideas sometimes need a little help to become reality. The Commercialization Catalyst (CC) Award at BGSU aims to give that boost by providing the funding necessary to bring the results of faculty and student research and creative activity to the marketplace.

The CC Award program is a collaborative effort between BGSU's Dallas-Hamilton Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation and Office of the Vice Provost for Research and the Regional Growth Partnership (RGP). It's designed to provide the initial resources to assist in commercialization of intellectual property developed at and previously disclosed to BGSU.

Two awards are available in amounts up to $25,000 each. Awards will be made for a 12-month period, but may be extended and/or renewed. Funding will be contingent on successful progression of the project toward two key factors: achieving commercialization potential and progressing along the projected timelines.

"The award will support entrepreneurial faculty members at BGSU who want their ideas and research to have an economic impact. This award will bring together the expertise at BGSU and of our partners at the Regional Growth Partnership to commercialize inventions developed by the students, faculty and staff of the University. Our economic times demand that we become pro-active in this area," said Dr. Deanne Snavely, interim vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate College.

Pre-proposal concept papers will be reviewed in September. Based on this review, a submission of full proposals will be invited. The CC Advisory Board will review those proposals and select three to five finalists. Finalists will be announced in October. They will present a proposal to the board that shows the commercialization potential of the project. Awards will be announced in November.

Priority will be given to proposals paralleling the Ohio Third Frontier focus areas and aligning with the investment criteria of the RGP.

The project period runs from January-December 2011. The RGP and Rocket Ventures will act as a resource to BGSU faculty, providing communication, guidance and leadership.

BGSU alumna was 'direct line' to Title IX

Though things have changed tremendously since the late 1960s, there remains much inequity in academia, particularly in the STEM (science, math, engineering and technology) disciplines.

Dr. Bernice Sandler, who has devoted her career to changing that scenario through the implementation of Title IX, recently visited campus to offer guidance on how to help promote women in science. "The more prestigious the field, the school or the department, the fewer the women," she observed.

A fact that has not been known until recently is BGSU's connection to the landmark legislation that decreed that educational institutions receiving federal funding may not discriminate on the basis of gender.

When Sandler first began suing more than 250 American colleges and universities over gender equity issues, using Title IX as the basis, she did so with the backing of the Women's
Equity Action League (WEAL), whose founder was BGSU alumna Elizabeth Boyer. A politically astute attorney, Boyer saw that the media was depicting and discrediting groups such as the National Organization for Women as radical, Sandler said. By convincing women in Congress and professions to join WEAL, Boyer created a dignified image that lent more credibility to its efforts. Sandler said she read about WEAL in the Washington Post and immediately contacted Boyer.

“She was a remarkable woman, an incredible mover and shaker,” Sandler said. “The line from Title IX begins directly with her.”

Today, Boyer’s niece, Pat Bliss-Egan, is head of WEAL. Bliss-Egan and her sister Mary Bliss (another BGSU alumna) came to BGSU to meet with their aunt’s compatriot. “Our aunt introduced the concept of an organized resistance. Before, each woman had to resist discrimination as best she could in her own circle—which was about 99 percent ineffective,” Bliss-Egan said.

All agreed there has been “slippage” since the early days of the women’s movement, with young women not realizing they are part of a living history.

Sandler met with women faculty in the STEM disciplines on May 4. Their conversation revealed ongoing gender disparities. Dr. Laura Leventhal, computer science, recalled how, as a student at the Georgia Institute of Technology, there was not a women’s bathroom in the mathematics building. Mathematics professor Dr. Barbara Moses, director of BGSU’s Action program, recounted a recent incident that reminded her that old prejudices still exist.

Nevertheless, Sandler said, “this is probably the best time in history to be a woman. We now have very good laws. The overt discrimination is gone, but the subtle discrimination continues. Women’s starting salaries are now equal, but the disparity grows over time. We find men get promoted faster, with bigger raises and proportionately larger increases.”

Sandler said that when she began pushing for gender equity, “I very naïvely thought it would take a year. But now I see it will take hundreds of years to change the culture. We’re not at all finished. However, our goals are much bigger now, and it’s happening all over the world. There have been tremendous benefits from the women’s movement.”

IN BRIEF

Possible arson destroys construction trailer at former Rodgers site

The BGSU police are working with city police and Bowling Green firefighters to investigate the early morning destruction by fire Saturday of a construction trailer on the former site of Rodgers residence hall on East Wooster Street.

Arson is suspected in the incident, which was captured on video. An individual is seen entering several trailers, followed by the outbreak of fire in one, which was owned by Gardner Corp., the concrete contractor for the project.

Free hearing/speech screenings offered

The BGSU Speech and Hearing Clinic will conduct free speech/hearing screenings and/or hearing-aid cleanings from 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. today (May 24), and again on Wednesday (May 26).

The screenings are open to adults and children from both on- and off-campus. Appointments are required; call 2-2515 to reserve a time.

The BGSU Speech and Hearing Clinic is located in 200 Health Center Building.
House of Representatives passes College Fire Prevention Act

In Ohio, 13 deaths have been attributed to student housing fires since 2000. A new bill created to reduce the cost of updating fire prevention and sprinkler systems in student housing is now making its way through Congress.

CALENDAR

Monday, May 24


Radiation Safety Training, with George Bullerjahn, 1-3 p.m., 2 College Park. Register online at www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page23277.html.

Tuesday, May 25

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, “Manage Yourself and Your Info!” 1-2:15 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html.

Wednesday, May 26

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, “Manage Yourself and Your Info!” 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html.

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, “Using Audacity and Podcasting to Extend the Classroom,” 1-2:15 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html.

Thursday, May 27

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, “Learning 2.0 with Web 2.0 Tools,” 3-4 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html.

Laser Safety Training, with George Bullerjahn, 9-11 a.m., 2 College Park. Register online at www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page23277.html.

Reception for the new home of Nontraditional and Transfer Student Services, 4-6 p.m. outside the College Park office building. Remarks begin at 4:30. For more information, call 2-8136.

Monday, May 31

Memorial Day observed, Classes canceled, offices closed.

Continuing Events

Through June 8

Art Exhibit, “Grids,” Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

Philosophy. Instructor (two positions). Call the department, 2-2117. Deadline: June 7.

Theatre and Film. Instructor. Call Ron Shields, 2-2222. Deadline: June 14.

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 website 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.
OBITUARY

There were no obituaries this week.