Monitor Newsletter June 14, 2010

Bowling Green State University

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Shop like a Falcon

A new purchasing tool being introduced on campus will make buying goods and services much like shopping on Amazon, while also saving the University money. Called Falcon’s Purch, the new system removes the procurement component from the Financial Management Solution (FMS) system and will be much simpler to use, says Andy Grant, director of business operations.

“The new system simplifies and expedites purchasing and is more efficient and effective,” Grant said. “It will feel like making a purchase on Amazon, which is more familiar to most people than using the FMS system. Falcon’s Purch uses point-and-click technology and is very user-friendly.”

Training, which takes only about an hour, begins this month in Hayes Hall. As soon as employees are trained, they may begin using the new system. Users will log into Falcon’s Purch through the MyBGSU portal.

With Falcon’s Purch, “everybody is a shopper,” Grant said. The purchase-approval process will stay much the same as the current FMS structure but features several improvements to the business process. For example, the appropriate area budget administrators will need to approve requests ahead of time rather than after the fact.

So far, feedback on the new system has been positive. “Kudos to those in charge” for working the “bugs” out of the system before its going live, said Faith Olson, a fiscal officer for the College of Education and Human Development who participated in the pilot group. “The monetary savings . . . and the ability to shop, approve and track purchases in the system from computers anywhere in the world are huge pluses. The step-by-step processes for shopping, requesting and approving have been refined and will become second nature,” she said.

One of the best aspects of the new system is there will be no need for the “P-card” reconciliation process at the end of the month for those transactions that flow through Falcon’s Purch, Grant said.

Part of a statewide initiative, Falcon’s Purch teams BGSU with about half of the other Inter-University Council (IUC) members. It is estimated to save BGSU an estimated four and a half million dollars over the next five years, “with more savings down the road,” Grant said. Additional IUC institutions may join, which will further boost buying power and leverage with suppliers.

As of today, 20 out of 40 of the most popular vendors are on Falcons Purch, offering everything from office to scientific supplies to maintenance and repair products to information technology products.

A multi-university procurement team has researched the best contracts, Grant said. He strongly encourages campus offices to use the vendors on the list, noting that while lower prices might occasionally be found elsewhere, there is greater value in the time spent time focusing on core business.

“It’s a definite benefit to the daily work environment,” he said.
Huron Playhouse stages five weeks of theatre magic

From the end of this month through the end of July, theatergoers will be treated to a summer full of music, comedy and nostalgia at the Huron Playhouse.

All shows run Tuesday-Saturday, with performances at 8 p.m. nightly. Ohio's oldest continuing summer theatre and a division of the BGSU Department of Theatre and Film, the playhouse is in the old McCormick School on Ohio Street in Huron.

The season opens June 29 with "The Melody Lingers On," a celebration of the music of Irving Berlin. Through song and dance, this musical revue highlights the contributions to American culture of the prolific composer, known for such classics as "White Christmas" and "Alexander's Ragtime Band," along with his 62-year love affair with his wife, novelist Ellin MacKay.

From July 6-10, the playhouse troupe explores "The Importance of Being Earnest," Oscar Wilde's hilarious and ingenious tale of mistaken (and misrepresented) identity. Two English dandies who conveniently use imaginary friends and relatives to escape unwanted social obligations find their deceptive ways backfiring on them when they fall in love.

The world of the 1950s, as played out in a Catholic school, gets comedic treatment in "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" playing July 13-17. The musical tracks the growing pains and trying moments of the adolescence of eight children, as remembered by two, now adults.

July 20-24 brings "The Curious Savage," by playwright John Patrick. The lively story centers on the adventures of Mrs. Ethel Savage, who wants to make the best of the fortune left her by her husband, in spite of the efforts of her stepchildren to get their hands on it. Placed by them in a sanatorium, Mrs. Savage uses the help of her fellow inmates to establish a fund to help others.

The season ends with a flourish July 27-31 when Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein's "State Fair" comes to the playhouse. The duo's only musical originally written for the screen, the story follows the Frake family, who leave their Iowa farm for three days at the fair. As the parents pursue blue ribbons, the kids seek romance and adventure. The Academy Award-winning score and delightful story make "State Fair" ideal family entertainment.

Season passes are available for $65 each. Individual tickets are $16 for adults; $14 for students and senior citizens; $11 for children under 12, and $13 apiece for groups of 15 or more. All seats are reserved. The phone lines open Wednesday (June 16). Call 419-433-4744 for reservations. The ticket counter opens June 21.

Memorial service planned for Ray Browne

A memorial tribute to Dr. Ray B. Browne, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Popular Culture, will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday (June 18) in Prout Chapel.

A reception will follow, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the Dimling Family Lounge on the third floor of the Bowen-Thompson Student Union, for his family, friends, students and colleagues.

Browne died Oct. 22 at the age of 87. One of Bowling Green's most eminent scholars, he was known world wide as the founder of popular culture studies as a serious academic discipline. His influence on the field and on the development of a legion of scholars was huge, as was the attention he brought to the University. For many years, BGSU was synonymous with "popular culture."

Obituaries for Dr. Browne appeared in media around the country, from the New York Times to the Washington Post, and as far away as New Zealand.
BGSU police help out in tornado-stricken Lake Township

In the aftermath of the recent tornado, BGSU Police have been lending assistance to their colleagues in Lake Township. The officers are helping with traffic control, looters, security and patrol duties.

The department’s assistance will continue until the township is able to get back to normal, said Acting Police Chief Dave Weekley. “We coordinate with Lake Township police when we can be of the most help and have the manpower to spare an officer here so that we don’t drop below our minimum staffing requirement,” he said.

Public Safety staff have also been volunteering their time. One member is using previously approved vacation to work as an auxiliary officer with the Walbridge police. Others are helping with tasks such as debris removal and other non-police work.

IN BRIEF

Be alert, plan ahead when navigating construction

As campus construction activity moves into high gear, it is very important that the University community and our visitors be aware of safety precautions. Pedestrians and vehicles alike are affected, and everyone needs to give heightened attention to their surroundings and be sure to observe all directional and warning signs.

The project to widen Ridge Street got under way June 7. This impacts a large part of the northwest portion of campus including Moore Musical Arts Center, the Health Center, Memorial Hall. Access to Jerome Library, Olscamp Hall, Eppler Center and Hayes Hall will be affected as the project moves along.

In response to campus concerns, effective today (June 14) Parking Services has reallocated a portion of Lot 1 (the commuter lot on Willard, north of the Health Center) for faculty and staff parking for the remainder of the summer.

Other campus projects, such as the improvement to the South Tunnel, will also affect the Fine Arts Center and other buildings. Planning ahead can help avert delays and frustrations when navigating ourselves and our visitors around campus.

Please remember that with construction equipment in these areas, walkways could be affected and passage across streets, including Ridge, interrupted intermittently. The project managers will try to maintain access routes; please follow all directions when walking in those areas.

Pedestrians have been observed walking in the construction areas of the South Central Residence hall and the Northwest Residence hall. Please remember that although gates are open to allow construction vehicles and equipment to pass through, those areas are not safe for others.

It is important for affected individual departments and campus programs to help their vendors and suppliers find alternate delivery routes. Be sure to check the campus construction map frequently at http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/cap-plan/

The campus can keep abreast of activity by referring to the Construction Update site at http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/mc/page37873.html. This is also a banner and link on the BGSU home page. Updates will be sent through e-mail as well.

Summer is a time when the campus welcomes many visitors. Please be sure to advise them appropriately and check the campus construction map frequently for the latest information.
The Parking Services office will be happy to identify the best location for groups visiting—please give them advance notice when expecting visitors. Email them at parking@bgsu.edu.

CALENDAR

Monday, June 14
Eight-Week Summer Session Begins.
Blood Drive, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Multipurpose Room, Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Donors must present a photo ID with date of birth or American Red Cross donor card.
Summer Music Institute (SMI) Super Sax Camp Faculty Recital, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Wednesday, June 16
Bucket Truck Operator Training, with Scott Goodwin, 8 a.m. to noon, 1 College Park. Register online at http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page23277.html.
Classified Staff Council, 10 a.m. to noon, 136 Perry Field House.
Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "Learning 2.0 with Web 2.0 Tools," 2:30-3:30 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html

Thursday, June 17
SMI Super Sax Camp Duet Recital, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Friday, June 18
SMI Super Sax Camp Finale Concert, 1 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.
Memorial Service for Dr. Ray B. Browne, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Popular Culture, 1:30 p.m., Prout Chapel.

Saturday, June 19
SMI Musical Theater Camp Finale Concert, 1 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Sunday, June 20
SMI Piano and String Orchestra Camp Faculty Recital, 7 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Monday, June 21
Sundaes on Mondays, free ice cream, noon-1 p.m., Falcon's Nest, Bowen-Thompson Student Union.
Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "Active Learning and Problem-based Learning Strategies," 2-3 p.m., 201 University Hall.
SMI Piano Camp Guest Artist Recital, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Continuing Events
June 17 and 18
Ohio Staff Council of Higher Education Conference, "G.O.A.L.S. Growth of Active Leadership," second floor lobby, Union, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., $90 registration fee. Register online at http://www.bgsu.edu/organizations/csc/page49691.html.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY


Chemistry. Instructor (two positions). Call the department, 2-2031. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled.

Labor Postings
http://international.bgsu.edu/index.php?x=facinfohires

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

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 http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/.

OBITUARY

There were no obituaries this week.