BGSU Firelands dean pens book on 'Lean' higher education

In an environment of diminished resources, growing enrollment and increasing accountability, Dr. William Balzer, dean of BGSU Firelands, says there are ways to develop and sustain a Lean Higher Education transformation. He explains how in his new book, Lean Higher Education: Increasing the Value and Performance of University Processes. Lean is a term used to describe a simplified and streamlined approach to doing business.

Using many examples and step-by-step guidelines, Balzer introduces his "Lean interventions" and provides methods for uncovering and eliminating activities that overburden staff and provide little or no value to students. He also details standardized methods for correctly diagnosing workplace problems and implementing appropriate solutions.

"The success of Lean at other colleges and universities, and in pilot projects we completed here at BGSU, led me to write this first book that specifically addresses how to implement Lean in a higher education setting," Balzer explained. In one example from the book, the BGSU Student Counseling Center created an LHE team made up of center employees who applied these principles and practices and were able to reduce student waiting time for an appointment from 16 days to same-day appointments - without adding any staff.

"Lean principles and practices have been extremely effective in improving a wide variety of organizations from manufacturing to health care," Balzer said. "I felt that the extension of Lean principles and practices in higher education could offer a great opportunity to use the knowledge and talents of all university employees to help redesign critical university activities and processes to better serve our students."

Lean Higher Education: Increasing the Value and Performance of University Processes is available on Amazon and through Productivity Press.

IN BRIEF

Still time to donate to AAUW scholarship fund

Even if you did not attend the recent scholarship benefit concert for nontraditional women students in Wood County hosted by the Bowling Green chapter of the American Association of University Women, you can still donate to the cause.

Contact Adriene Knight, Educational Foundation chair, at knighta@bgsu.edu to contribute to the scholarship fund.

Dr. Deborah Wooldridge, director of the School of Family and Consumer Sciences, is president of the Bowling Green AAUW branch this year. While the event was a success, she said, there remains a great need.

BGSU retiree Diane Regan, past president of the Ohio chapter of the AAUW, spoke to the importance of the fund-raiser. Regan said, "If the recession taught us anything, it should've taught us the value of education—the unemployment rate among college graduates is significantly lower than high school grads. The AAUW remains committed to accessible education."
AUGUST 23, 2010

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

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CALENDAR

Monday, Aug. 23
Fall Semester Begins.

Wednesday, Aug. 25
Faculty Artist Series, featuring bass-baritone Sean Cooper, pianist Kevin Bylsma and soprano Jennifer Goode Cooper, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Friday, Aug. 27


Outdoor Concert, Firelands Symphony Orchestra, featuring Maestro Carl Topilow, 6 p.m., McBride Arboretum, BGSU Firelands. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. For more information call 419-621-4800.

Monday, Aug. 30
Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "CLA in the Classroom: Developing Critical Thinking and Analytical Writing Skills Using Performance Tasks," 2-3 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page69735.html.


Continuing Events
Aug. 23-Sept. 2
Art Exhibit, Robert McCann, paintings, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Saturday, Aug. 28
Men's Soccer vs. Indianapolis, scrimmage, 1 p.m., Cochrane Field.

Sunday, Aug. 29
Women's Soccer vs. Xavier, 1 p.m., Cochrane Field.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

Psychology. Assistant Professor. Call the department, 2-2301. Deadline: Oct. 15.

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 http://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

Raymond Endres, 85, a former associate professor of history, died Aug. 14 in California. After joining the University in 1965, he also directed the Upward Bound Program from 1966-68 and was dean of Summer Session and Extension at BGSU from 1970-73.

Francine Perry, 77, died Aug. 14 in Bowling Green. She worked at the University in various capacities beginning in 1970, including as a research associate and teaching fellow, until 1976.

Leota Neal, 58, died Aug. 18, died Aug. 18 in Wood County. A custodian with Campus Operations, she had worked at BGSU for eight years.