Firelands master plan prepares for growth

Since it opened its doors in 1968, enrollment at the BGSU Firelands campus has grown significantly, reaching an all-time high this fall of more than 2,500 students, with more expected. To accommodate this growth and prepare for the future, the BGSU Board of Trustees at its Dec. 10 meeting approved a Master Plan for capital improvements for Firelands’ facilities needs over the next 15 years.

The plan projects the eventual need for up to three new, 60,000 square foot academic buildings, one of which will be an Allied Health Sciences building to accommodate the campus’s growing health-related degree programs and related laboratories. Also outlined is a “Learning Commons” to provide academic support services to students.

The campus now has four buildings on about 216 acres, serving the communities of Erie, Huron and Ottawa counties and beyond. The number of degree programs has expanded over the years, including several four-year degrees in conjunction with sister colleges on the main campus and a number of vocational degrees such as radiologic technology.

Firelands’ campus growth is planned in three phases, based on projected square-footage growth and renovation of existing space.

The first phase is aimed at accommodating an enrollment of about 3,000 students and the first of the new academic buildings, an allied health science/academic facility.

The campus will start fund-raising with the support of main campus. Beginning with the $2 million-$3 million Firelands already has in hand, it has a variety of funding options, from a public/private partnership similar to what main campus is using for residential and dining services to selling bonds.

Phase two of the master plan addresses the needs of the projected 3,000-4,000 students over 15 years and includes the second of the 60,000 square-foot buildings and more classroom upgrades.

The third phase represents the long-term growth strategy and prepares the campus for a total of 5,000 students, about 4,200 of whom are predicted to be on campus with the rest taking classes at current satellite locations in Sandusky and Norwalk as well as online degree classes. The third new building would be built during this phase along with additional parking areas.

Tsui Kobus, the master planning consulting firm that helped develop the master plan for the Bowling Green campus, assisted BGSU Firelands in assessing the adequacy of its existing academic and administrative facilities in relation to projected growth and the needs of the community.

Trustees approve changes to Academic Charter

At its Dec. 10 meeting, the BGSU Board of Trustees approved changes to the Academic Charter. The revised charter may be viewed on the provost’s website, at http://www.bgsu.edu/downloads/provost/file90021.pdf.

Below is a letter from President Carol Cartwright to the University community detailing the changes.
December 10, 2010

Faculty and Staff:

This afternoon, the University's Board of Trustees adopted a resolution amending several sections of our Academic Charter. These amendments were necessary to address a number of issues related to collective bargaining and the administration of the University. I think it is important that all members of the University community understand the reasons for these changes.

Under Ohio law, the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees has the ultimate authority and responsibility to administer the University. The Board, in turn, has delegated administrative authority to the president. Through the Academic Charter, the Board had also given the Faculty Senate and the faculty a substantial role in the day-to-day academic and administrative operations of the University.

With a unionized faculty, however, several of these delegations of authority now conflict with Ohio law. Other delegations no longer represent best or preferable practices.

For example, with the State Employment Relations Board's certification of the Bowling Green State University Faculty Association, the BGSU-FA is now the exclusive representative of the full-time faculty for all matters related to wages, hours, working conditions, and grievances. Since the BGSU-FA is now the exclusive representative of the full-time faculty for such matters, the senate committees can no longer have a representative role in those areas because it would conflict with the BGSU-FA's status as the exclusive representative of the faculty. Eliminating these types of conflicts was the focus of many of the amendments the board has adopted.

Other amendments were made to address the fact that the existing provisions empower various faculty committees to be actively involved in numerous matters that directly affect issues that are either permissive or mandatory subjects of collective bargaining.

As the BGSU-FA has now been certified as the exclusive representative of the faculty regarding these issues, it is necessary, as a matter of law, to ensure that faculty input into these matters occurs through their exclusive collective bargaining agent, the BGSU-FA. Thus, the changes have been made for the purpose of conforming the University decision-making process on matters that are either permissive or mandatory collective bargaining subjects to the single process authorized by law (i.e., collective bargaining) once an exclusive collective bargaining agent has been certified.

These changes will pave the way for collective bargaining, without the interference or disruption of a conflicting process for the resolution of collective bargaining subjects. In addition, the amendments will ensure that administrative authority is appropriately vested in the administration and will make clearer the distinctions and delegations of administrative and academic responsibility.

I want to make clear that the Board of Trustees has not in any substantive way altered the primary and critical role that the faculty has in academic governance at BGSU. Those sections of the Charter concerning the primacy of the faculty in determining such core academic functions as tenure, tenure review, the Graduate Council, the Undergraduate Council, and the design and implementation of curricula are unaffected by these Charter amendments. The revised Academic Charter can be found on the provost's website http://www.bgsu.edu/downloads/provost/file90021.pdf.

The amendments that were adopted today are in the best interest of Bowling Green State University and will provide the framework we need to move forward and successfully serve our students and other stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Carol A. Cartwright
President
IN BRIEF

Zickar named officer of professional society

Dr. Michael Zickar, chair of the psychology department, has been elected Communications Officer on the Society for Industrial-Organizational Psychology (SIOP) Executive Board.

Of the 12 officers on the board, three are from BGSU. In addition to Zickar, Dr. Milt Hakel, professor emeritus of psychology, is Instructional and Educational Officer, and Dr. Scott Highhouse, Ohio Eminent Scholar in psychology, is Publications Officer.

As defined by SIOP, "Industrial-organizational psychology is the scientific study of the workplace. Rigor and methods of psychology are applied to issues of critical relevance to business, including talent management, coaching, assessment, selection, training, organizational development, performance and work-life balance."

CALENDAR

Monday, Dec. 13
Final Exam Week Begins.

Continuing Events
Through Dec. 14
60th Annual Faculty/Staff Exhibition, Fine Arts Center Galleries. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday.

Dec. 17 and 18
Children's Theatre Production, "I'm Dreaming of a BROADWAY Christmas," by Eddie Carney, directed by Brian Marshall and performed by the Caryl Crane Children's Theatre, McBride Auditorium, BGSU Firelands. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Call 419-433-5560 for tickets.

Through Dec. 21
Planetarium Show, "Secret of the Star: A Show for Christmastime." Shows at 7:30 p.m. Sundays; 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, and 2 p.m. Saturdays. $1 donation suggested.

Through Jan. 8
Art Exhibit, featuring works by Katrina Niswander, 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


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

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/page1151.html

Off-campus classified:
http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/cl_staff/page1145.html

ADMINISTRATIVE

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page1137.html

OBITUARY

Raymond Barker, 81, a professor emeritus of marketing, died Dec. 8 in Perrysburg. He taught at the University from 1964-90.