

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY | SPRING 2019

BGSU[®]

M A G A Z I N E

ON A MISSION TO MARS

PAGE 8



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Falcon Family,

Our learning community is accomplishing extraordinary endeavors. As an alumnus, I am so proud of who we are and what we do. We have come together to develop a new strategic plan, "Focus on the Future," outlining six objectives positioning us for ongoing success:

- **Redefining student success** by creating and enhancing an innovative learning experience through relevant and rigorous academic programs. We will help our students design their lives to be meaningful and productive. Our graduates will be prepared not only for their first job, but for their careers.
- **Increasing and connecting our research and creative activities for public good** by focusing our agenda on serving the public. From solving freshwater problems in the Great Lakes to developing biodegradable plastic (Page 22), our faculty's research directly addresses significant issues.
- **Empowering and supporting our people to achieve excellence** by building a learning community that fosters diversity, inclusion, collaboration and creativity. We must ensure our learning environment sets clear expectations, supports one another, intellectually engages students and provides assessment.
- **Advancing our impact through engagement** by expanding domestic and international partnerships to benefit our students, academic programs and research. We will engage our more than 183,000 living alumni, who are changing lives for the world.
- **Aligning for excellence and value** by developing an infrastructure and a learning environment that ensures success. We will reallocate resources and implement strategies that will best support our students.
- **Telling our story** by raising our profile as a national, comprehensive research university that drives the social, economic, educational and cultural vitality of our world. We must consistently define and articulate our mission to create public good.

We are excited to share our story with you. Thank you for your support of Bowling Green State University.

Regards,



Rodney K. Rogers, Ph.D. '81
President



Twitter:
[@Pres_Rogers](https://twitter.com/Pres_Rogers)

Facebook:
[Dr. Rodney K. Rogers – BGSU President](https://www.facebook.com/Dr.RodneyK.Rogers)

LinkedIn:
[Dr. Rodney Rogers](https://www.linkedin.com/in/Dr.RodneyK.Rogers)

Instagram:
[pres_rogers](https://www.instagram.com/pres_rogers)



2019 FALCON FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

FALCON FOOTBALL
1919 **100** 2019
YEARS

	THURSDAY, AUG. 29 MORGAN STATE HEROES DAY, COMMUNITY DAY
	SATURDAY, SEPT. 14 LOUISIANA TECH HOMECOMING
	SATURDAY, OCT. 12 BATTLE OF I-75 FAMILY WEEKEND, 100 TH ANNIVERSARY
	SATURDAY, OCT. 19 CENTRAL MICHIGAN PINK GAME, YOUTH SPORTS & SCOUTS DAY
	SATURDAY, NOV. 2 AKRON SENIOR DAY
	TUESDAY, NOV. 19 OHIO MEN'S HEALTH AWARENESS

FALCON FANS!
FOOTBALL SEASON TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW, STARTING AS LOW AS \$45!
To purchase your season tickets, call **877.BGSU.TICKET** or go to **BGSUFALCONS.COM/BUYTICKETS** and support your Falcons on their way to VICTORY!

No 1548040 799

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2 Falcon Happenings

4 Ray Marvin Inspires a New Generation of Leaders

The C. Raymond Marvin Center for Student Leadership recognizes his nearly decade-long support of his leadership mission.

6 Q&A with Dr. Joe Whitehead

Get to know the provost and senior vice president for academic affairs who joined BGSU in January.

8 Technology Student Is on a Mission

Matthew Burmeister has turned a series of co-ops into a bright future with NASA.

13 Club Sports Offer Students Chance to Compete

Men's Rugby Team wins national title.

14 An Exit Interview with the Class of 2019

Some highly successful members of this year's senior class look back on their four years at BGSU.

20 Sports Teams Make Their Mark in 2019

Hockey, men's basketball, women's soccer and volleyball teams find success.

22 Jayaraman Sivaguru Makes a Difference

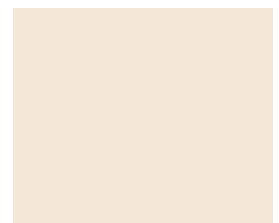
Groundbreaking research highlights impact of center for Photochemical Sciences.

26 Son Names Professorship in Honor of Father

BGSU Trustee David O'Brien names endowment after his father, Dr. Thomas O'Brien.

29 In Memoriam

30 Class Notes



Published by:
BGSU Office of Marketing
and Communications

504 Administration Building
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, OH 43403-0102
888-839-2586 | www.bgsu.edu

Editor: Bob Cunningham '18
Creative Director: Jeff Artz '92
Photography Director: Craig Bell

Contributors:
Bonnie Blankinship
Julie Carle '78
Hannah Cubberley
Marie Dunn-Harris '95
Matt Markey '76
Alex Solis '14
Amber Stark '99
Anne-Margaret Swary

Photographer: Brad Phalin '88, '10

President: Rodney Rogers, Ph.D. '81
Vice President for University Advancement:
Pam Conlin
Chief Marketing and Communications Officer:
Dave Kielemeyer '88, '92
Director of Marketing and Communications:
Sarah Bednarski '00

BGSU Magazine is published twice a year.
An online version is available at
bgsu.edu/magazine.

Comments and suggestions welcome at
bgmagazine@bgsu.edu.

THE CENTER FOR THE FUTURE OF FORENSIC SCIENCE MAKES ITS DEBUT



Construction is now complete on the Ohio Attorney General's Center for the Future of Forensic Science at Bowling Green State University. The \$1.2 million facility provides an unparalleled experiential learning environment for forensic science students and a gateway to advanced training and cutting-edge research for practicing forensic scientists, forensic science technicians, crime scene investigators and other law enforcement professionals.

The center was made possible through funding by the state of Ohio.

Central to the center is the most advanced learning laboratory in Ohio, which mirrors the lab used by professional forensic scientists within the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).

BGSU President Rodney K. Rogers; Ohio Attorney General David Yost; Randy Gardner, chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education; and Jon Sprague, director of the center, all spoke at the event that introduced the lab to the public in January at the University's Life Sciences Building.

BGSU's forensic science program was designed with input from BCI and offers engaging curricula for three distinct specializations: forensic biology, forensic chemistry and forensic examination. Students enrolled in the forensic science undergraduate degree program have access to crime scene training and experiential learning opportunities that prepare them for employment as forensic scientists upon graduation.

The Center for the Future of Forensic Science provides students with opportunities for innovative research collaboration and invaluable hands-on experiences that ensure BGSU graduates are competitive in the job market for forensic science.

"The Center for the Future of Forensic Science Center puts an emphasis on teaching and puts the State of Ohio at the forefront of forensic science," Sprague said.

The conference room in the center was named in honor of Vice-Chair for the Board of Trustees Betty D. Montgomery '70, the former Ohio Attorney General. Funding for the named room was provided by members of the Board of Trustees.



The conference room in the Center for the Future of Forensic Science is named for Betty Montgomery '70.

MAURER CENTER

NEW HOME OF COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The BGSU College of Business will have a new home in the fall of 2020 thanks to a transformational gift from Robert '65 and Patricia Maurer of Bowling Green. The Robert W. and Patricia A. Maurer Center will be the new state-of-the-art facility designed to encourage collaboration and foster innovation among College of Business students.

The formal groundbreaking ceremony took place Oct. 13, 2018, during Homecoming, and despite adverse winter conditions, the project is scheduled for completion in summer 2020, with the Maruer Center opening fall 2020.

The capital planning project includes a thorough renovation of Hanna Hall and a more than 50,000-square-foot addition that will feature active-learning classrooms and advanced technology to simulate a real-world corporate experience. Business students are looking forward to utilizing the new space; and students across campus are buzzing with talk of a new Starbucks in the Maurer Center. College of Business Dean Ray Braun highlighted the Centers and Institutes Suite that will feature the Paul J. Hooker



Esye Jones

Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, office and meeting space for the Business Analytics Center, the Risk Management Institute, the Supply Chain Institute and the Center for Regional Development.

BGSU's College of Business has been ranked among the top business programs by U.S. News and World Report, the Princeton Review and Bloomberg Business. With the opening of the Robert W. and Patricia A. Maurer Center, the College of Business will continue to attract potential students and launch the careers of entrepreneurs and business leaders.

BGSU ONE DAY BY THE NUMBERS

Thank you to all of our alumni, friends, faculty and staff, parents and students around the world who came together to make this year's day of giving such a huge success.



\$867,544
dollars raised

2,427 GIFTS

67
alumni classes made gifts
(1956-2019 all represented,
plus the class of 1953)

53
challenge gifts

50 STATES,
Washington, D.C., Germany, Canada, Italy and
United Kingdom had supporters who made gifts

4,575 MILES
from Asciano, Italy, to Bowling Green, Ohio
(gift made from the farthest distance)

150
BGSU funds received at least one gift

498 AMBASSADORS
promoted One Day to their Falcon Networks
resulting in 902 gifts and \$331,400 raised

C. RAYMOND MARVIN CENTER FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP



LEADING BY EXAMPLE

RAY MARVIN '60, '17 (HON.) INSPIRES A GENERATION OF FUTURE LEADERS WITH SUPPORT OF BGSU'S CENTER FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP

By Anne-Margaret Swary

Ray Marvin '60, '17 (Hon.) has dedicated his professional career to impacting communities through engaged citizenship.

Whether in public service, private practice or as an entrepreneur who led a disruption of the telecommunications industry, he exemplifies leading with integrity, fosters active engagement and invests in the success of others for the betterment of our global society.

These pillars are what he hopes to impart to BGSU students through the University's newly renamed C. Raymond Marvin Center for Student Leadership.

BGSU is a leader in providing holistic student experience and the center embodies a mission to work with students of all majors and interests to develop lifelong leadership skills. In recognition of his nearly decade-long support of this mission and a recent gift in

excess of \$1 million, the center was recently renamed in Marvin's honor. Through his support, the Marvin Center will ensure BGSU is developing the future generation of thought leaders who take the skills learned while students to impact their communities, propel change and pursue meaningful and productive lives.

"Ray's support of the Center for Student Leadership is a testament to his goodwill and sincere commitment to helping develop the next generation of social change leaders in the world," said Dr. Jacob Clemens, associate dean of students. "His support will mean that even more students will be able to have opportunities to engage in leadership development opportunities that are robust, intentional, impactful and innovative."

Marvin, who earned a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from BGSU in 1960, has been involved with the center as an alumnus since its creation in 2010. In its first year, he provided support to create and host a leadership summit and also established the Ray Marvin Leadership Awards, which recognize students' commitment to leadership development and contributions to their communities both on and off campus. These annual awards, which include a prize ranging from \$3,000-\$5,000 per student, have provided educational support to more than 30 BGSU students over the last 10 years.

Having the ability to provide financial support for current students is especially rewarding for Marvin, who worked multiple jobs to pay his way through college and nearly had to drop out at one point.

"When others went on trips for spring break, I stayed at the University buffing the floors," he said. "With hard work and the help of others, I have been fortunate to be successful in law and business, and I'm very happy to be able now to share some of my resources with an organization so closely aligned with my values. BGSU is a place I remember fondly and with great appreciation for its focus on preparing students to assume responsibility for the work of fulfilling the promise of their own potential and that of our nation."

For Marvin, the opportunity to come back to campus periodically to meet with students is reward enough for his support over the years.

"It is a great pleasure to interact with today's students and to learn of the depth of their values and principles," he said. "I want to have a feel for how the new generations are thinking about public policy issues and are thinking about their role involving a world that works for as many people as possible."

The Marvin Center for Student Leadership engages and teaches students to achieve true leadership abilities through a number of initiatives and programs, including workshops, classes, annual leadership academies and retreats, as well as certificate programs in various competency areas of student leadership.

"To me, Ray embodies many of the qualities of leadership we hope BGSU students are able to acquire and hone while at BGSU," Clemens said. "He's compassionate, humble, committed and has a sincere and authentic passion to help others."

After graduating from BGSU, Marvin went on to earn a law degree from the University of Michigan and embarked on a successful career that included serving as a captain in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate Corps, a law practice with a large Cleveland firm, Ohio assistant attorney general, assistant director of the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Competition and founding director of the

National Association of Attorneys General. In the late 1980s, Marvin transitioned from law into business ventures in the communications industry, where he became known as a visionary and entrepreneur in software and telecommunications. BGSU awarded him an honorary doctorate in 2017.

Marvin's personal and professional work through the years — whether improving the communities in which he's been associated, impacting public policy or lending wisdom and support to BGSU students — reflects and bolsters the University's efforts to act in the public interest and create public good.

"Our intention is to prepare our students to have successful and fulfilled careers, but we also want our students to do good," BGSU President Rodney K. Rogers '81 said. "That means being leaders in their communities, striving to make a difference and pursuing a life of engaged citizenship."

"This center offers a co-curricular education that ensures they are ready to lead in their first job and the next. And because of Ray Marvin's support, we are better positioning our students for success."

BGSU students such as senior Hannah Cubberley couldn't agree more.

"My work with the Marvin Center for Student Leadership was the first time I actually thought about what it meant to be a leader and how to inspire leadership in others," said Cubberley, a Cleveland native who will graduate in May with degrees in political science, Spanish and communications.

Cubberley had the opportunity to serve as a student leadership assistant at the center — a role that provided interaction with many student organizations and hundreds of aspiring student leaders on campus through a variety of activities. As a result, she feels a strong connection to the BGSU community and her peers.

"My experiences profoundly affected how I view myself as a leader and what I aim to accomplish in life, and I'm grateful to the center for helping to foster my educational and leadership growth, creativity and confidence," she said. "I have been lucky to work with remarkable students who have inspired me to become a better person, a better leader and a better friend. This is the legacy that Ray Marvin inspires."



Ray Marvin shares a laugh with members of SICSIC. He was a member of the campus spirit group.



Q & A

DR. JOE WHITEHEAD

By Bonnie Blankinship

Q. Where did you grow up?

A. I grew up in Picayune, Mississippi, 50 miles north of New Orleans.

Q. When did you realize you wanted to be a scientist? Was there someone or something in your youth that inspired you?

A. I have always had an interest in science. Watching “Star Trek” as a young person piqued my interest in science.

Q. Please tell us a little bit about your academic background and how you chose physics as a major.

A. I have a bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree in physics. My bachelor’s degree is from Delta State University and my master’s and doctoral degrees are from Kent State University. My first college major was pre-engineering, which would have required a transfer from Delta State University to Mississippi State University as a junior. I switched to physics as a sophomore after a summer experience at Stennis Space Center and receiving an athletic scholarship in football. I chose physics because of my high school physics experience and because the physics requirements overlapped with pre-engineering.

Q. Was there one discovery or other moment during your research that you remember as being particularly satisfying?

A. Yes, I worked on polymer dispersed liquid crystal films that contained liquid crystal droplets one millionth of a meter in diameter dispersed in a polymer film. My “ah ha” moment was when the experimental data matched the predictions of a newly developed mathematical model.

Dr. Joe B. Whitehead Jr. joined Bowling Green State University as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs on January 22, bringing a wealth of administrative experience to the role.

He came to BGSU from his position as professor of physics at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NCAT) and senior adviser for research with the University of North Carolina System, North Carolina’s state office of higher education, where he managed an extensive portfolio of research initiatives. He served as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at NCAT, and as dean of the College of Science and Technology at the University of Southern Mississippi.

A physicist specializing in liquid crystal and polymer materials, Whitehead has a strong background in applied sciences and research and has held faculty appointments in physics and chemistry.

He and his wife, Sonia, have a daughter, Alyssa, who is the assistant women’s soccer coach at the University of California Davis, and a son, Nickolas, who will finish his master’s degree in chemistry at NCAT in May.

Q. As the provost of BGSU, what opportunities do you see to encourage other young people to go into science?

A. First, exposure to science and understanding its contributions to society through technological advances such as liquid crystal flat-panel displays used in cell phones and computers. Second, communicating the career opportunities and preparation required for success. Third, breaking down the stereotypes and misperceptions about scientists.

Q. As dean of the College of Science and Technology at the University of Southern Mississippi, you led the development of new programs in engineering, science and logistics, and innovative initiatives to support students and increase research, scholarship and creative activities. Do you think there are similar areas of growth for BGSU?

A. Yes, there are similar areas of opportunity at BGSU, and we are exploring areas of opportunity in health care and applied sciences.

Q. Have you seen a shift in the landscape in terms of support for the sciences?

A. Yes, I have seen a positive shift in the support of the sciences. A key factor in this shift is the society's enhanced understanding of the scientific underpinnings of the technology that improves our quality of life.

Q. How do you see the role of research fitting into the greater picture of university life?

A. Research and creative activity enrich society through enhanced quality of life through breakthroughs in medical care, cures for diseases, and understanding and predicting weather and climate patterns. University researchers have led the way and will continue to lead the way in scientific and technological breakthroughs, working with graduate and undergraduate researchers.

Q. How in your view do the humanities and the sciences complement one another?

A. They really do complement one another. A scientist must understand that the ethics and potential impact of their research on society is paramount. Therefore, scientists should understand humanities and individuals in the humanities should understand science. For example, science should inform policy-making decisions.

Q. You've held many administrative positions, including provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State College. Do you ever miss your days as a researcher in liquid crystal and polymer materials?

A. Yes, there are times when I miss the days of pursuing the next great life-changing discovery. However, there are rewarding aspects of administration. This is especially true during graduation ceremonies when celebrating student achievement.

Q. What achievement as an administrator has been most rewarding?

A. The most rewarding achievement is observing students who have overcome obstacles, graduate and go on to successful careers.

Q. This is not the first time in your career you've lived in Ohio. What drew you to Bowling Green?

A. Bowling Green is a special institution with a rich history of transforming lives.

Q. How do you view the role of provost in terms of service to faculty and the University?

A. Faculty are essential to the success of an institution fulfilling its mission of teaching, research and service. Therefore, it is essential the provost facilitates opportunities that support advancement in teaching, research/creative activities and service.

Q. What lessons of adulthood have you learned?

A. The lessons I am learning are listening carefully and patience.

Q. Do you have a personal philosophy of life? Of education?

A. My philosophy of life is respect for others regardless of real or perceived differences. We are more alike than different.

ON A MISSION TO MARS

By Bob Cunningham '18

Whenever the United States sends a manned mission to Mars, it will take 300 days to get there. Matthew Burmeister, who is majoring in electronics and computer engineering technology (ECET) with a minor in computer science at BGSU, spent almost as much time away from his family last year as an intern with NASA. Burmeister, a former Marine who is married with four young children, worked toward the goal of realizing a Mars mission in two different co-ops — at the Johnson Space Center in Houston and at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.





Matthew Burmeister next to modules the astronauts use for training at the International Space Station.

Matt Burmeister used to think that his chances of excelling as a nontraditional student were about the same as sending a man to Mars.

Now, neither of those scenarios seem so far fetched.

Not only is Burmeister on the cusp of graduating from Bowling Green State University, he very well may be employed by NASA by the end of summer. He is majoring in electronics and computer engineering technology (ECET), and has a minor in computer science.

And when NASA does send a manned mission to Mars, it will do so thanks to the important work he undertook during his two co-ops last year, one at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston and the other at Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

"All the work we did was to get ready for the next manned missions that are getting launched," Burmeister said. "The work that I've done in Texas and Florida will be used for the manned mission to Mars, which is really cool."

Cool indeed, but Burmeister's mission almost didn't take off at first.

In high school, he lost his passion for learning and dropped out. Burmeister then decided he wanted to join the Marine Corps, so he had to go back to school to get his diploma in order to enlist in the armed forces.

After serving in the Marine Corps, Burmeister, 30, decided to attend BGSU Firelands in his hometown of Huron, Ohio.

"At first, I thought I'd go for an associate degree, but after I got going I thought, why stop there?" he said. "I was going to school with the G.I. Bill, so I wanted to get as much as I can out of it."

Even then, he thought he might have missed his chance and maybe was too old to capitalize on his education. Burmeister's wife, Sarah, however, encouraged him to apply for internships that could help pave the path for his ECET degree.

"I always had an interest in space exploration, so I applied to Glenn Research Center in Cleveland and Plum Brook Station in Sandusky because they were close to home, as well as the others, but then when the Johnson Space Center said yes, I couldn't exactly say no," he said. "Getting accepted to that co-op made me realize I hadn't missed my chance and this is something I could really do for a profession."

Resmi Krishnankuttyrema, an instructor in the College of Technology, Architecture and Applied Engineering (CTAAE), can attest that Burmeister had the right stuff to intern at NASA.

"I noticed Matthew as an observing and hardworking student," said Krishnankuttyrema, who had him in two ECET courses. "He typically asked questions that went deep into the subject and into the real-world applications of the topic at hand. I believe that these analytical and problem-solving skills are what industries and institutions such as NASA expect out of our graduates."

Dr. Sri Kolla, an ECET professor, is Burmeister's faculty adviser. He interacted with him and his NASA supervisor during the co-op.

"Matthew is an excellent student in our ECET program," Kolla said. "He has taken several courses with me for his ECET degree and his performance has been outstanding in those courses. He participates very well during class lectures, always stepping forward with answers to questions. He has exceptional hands-on experience and works well independently and also with others in a group during our class lab experiments. It has been a delight to know him professionally."



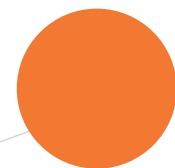
Burmeister hanging out with his fellow interns.



Burmeister next to the Orion test module for the mission to Mars.

“ALL THE WORK WE DID WAS TO GET READY FOR THE NEXT MANNED MISSIONS THAT ARE GETTING LAUNCHED,” BURMEISTER SAID. “THE WORK THAT I’VE DONE IN TEXAS AND FLORIDA WILL BE USED FOR THE MANNED MISSION TO MARS, WHICH IS REALLY COOL.”

Inside Mission Control Center in Houston.





Burmeister's official NASA photo.

During Burmeister's co-op in spring 2018 at the Johnson Space Center, he mostly used his computer science minor when he worked at the Risk and Reliability Analysis Branch within the Space Exploration Division. His co-op work involved completion and deployment of a central database to collect and categorize every component — more than 120,000 — of the International Space Station with relevant failure data, taxonomy map and material tags for the use in future crewed space missions.

After the spring semester, Burmeister was selected for NASA's Pathways Internship program at Kennedy Space Center in the summer, where he applied the skills and knowledge he has gained in the ECET program. It is a comprehensive study of diverse areas such as computer hardware and interfacing, computer-based instrumentation and process control, digital communication and networking, and electric motors and controls.

"At Kennedy, I worked on all of the networks, servers and switches — all that fun stuff that's involved in rocket launches," he said. "I worked in the server rooms and did all of the hardware components and running lines, creating new sets and fixing diagrams."

Through NASA Pathways, Burmeister also has been selected to complete another internship this summer at Kennedy, which, in all likelihood, will lead to a full-time job with NASA.

"The internships were a lot of work," he said. "In the Pathway program, it's more intense and I wanted to make a good impression. When I was in Texas, I got to meet a lot of astronauts. I attended their lectures, talked with them and even played kickball with them. I feel like it was an experience of a lifetime."

Still, even though Burmeister was gaining valuable experience that he couldn't get most anywhere else, he dearly missed his family. It was a tough time being away from his wife and four children, ages 7, 6, 3 and 2, at the time. From January 11 to May 22, 2018, he was in Texas; and then he stayed in Florida from May 28 until the end of summer. It was a long eight months to be isolated from his loved ones.

"It was really hard not being with my family," Burmeister said. "I mean I barely saw them for eight months. It was really tough, from being there for the kids their entire lives and then jumping away, and that made me feel bad for a little bit. But the whole time, my wife had my back. She said, 'It's totally worth it; you have to do this. It's rough now, but things will get better.'"

Now that Burmeister is near the end of his collegiate journey, and his career path appears to be aligned with the stars, all of his dedication and sacrifices are about to pay off.

"It's hard, especially when you have a life outside of school," he said. "You have to worry about work and family. I have four kids, so whenever I'm not here, I'm taking care of them. It was a lot of hard work, but now I can see all of the opportunities in front of me because I will have an ECET degree from BGSU. That makes it all totally worth it — especially for my family's future."



Kennedy Space Center in Florida.



A collection of moon rocks.

CLUB SPORTS OFFERS CHANCE TO COMPETE AT HIGH LEVELS



Photo by Isiah Vazquez

The BGSU men's rugby team won the Div. 1AA championship.

Students who join one of Bowling Green State University's 25 club sports teams are no strangers to winning.

The men's rugby team celebrated its 50th anniversary this school year in grand fashion by winning the fall 2018 Div. 1AA national championship. The Falcons defeated St. Joseph's University of Philadelphia 26-7 on Dec. 2, 2018, in Charlotte, North Carolina. The club has won 38 consecutive Mid-American Conference championships and has competed in the National Collegiate Championship 18 times.

"It's pretty good timing. It's been an amazing year with the 50th anniversary. It was a good way to cap it off, obviously," Head Coach Tony Mazzarella said on the team winning its first fall championship. "We had everyone healthy, and we were playing at the top of our game.

"I told the team to just play the same game we had played in the semis. Play a disciplined game and play simple rugby — don't do anything fancy and just do the basics. I said it was their time — just go out and take it."

Flanker Ryan Steinmatz said, "It was unreal. We had our ups and downs all season, but we knew we were good. It was about time for all of it to come together."

In the fall, more than 300 alumni gathered to celebrate the team's golden anniversary with a weekend full of festivities, including a series of rugby matches against Ohio State University. Three alumni teams faced off at varying degrees of intensity and the current teams from both universities also played of College Park Rugby Field. BGSU and OSU first faced off 50 years ago in the University's inaugural season of 1968.

The women's bowling team won its first National Collegiate Club Championship tournament April 8, 2018, in Smyrna, Tennessee, and both the women's and men's bowling teams claimed the top spots in their respective divisions at the Siena Heights University Halo Classic in the fall. The men's club hockey team won its first American Heartland Conference title for the 2018-19 season when senior Austin Murphy led the team to victory at the Gary Baldwin Memorial Tournament in Newark, Ohio. The dodgeball team beat seven other schools to win the 2019 Ohio Dodgeball Cup while under the leadership of team captain Reid Manger, who has plans to compete nationally.

Before graduating in December 2018, water ski team member Ali Mollet represented BGSU and competed at the Ohio Water Ski Association State Championship. Mollet was recognized for her leadership on the team and was awarded Female Outstanding Leader of the Year by the National Collegiate Water Ski Association.

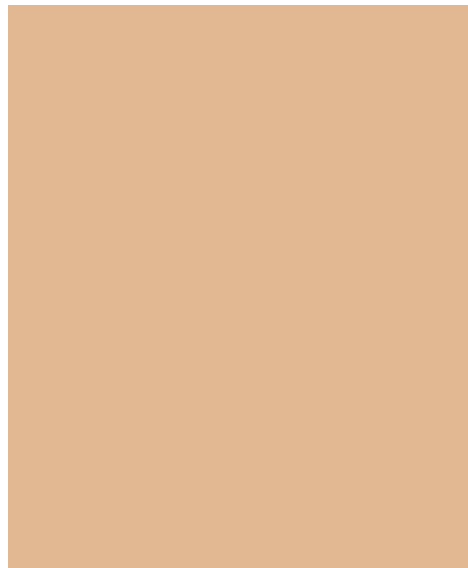


The BGSU Waterski and Wakeboard Team at a recent regional competition.



THE CLASS OF 2019

By Amber Stark '99

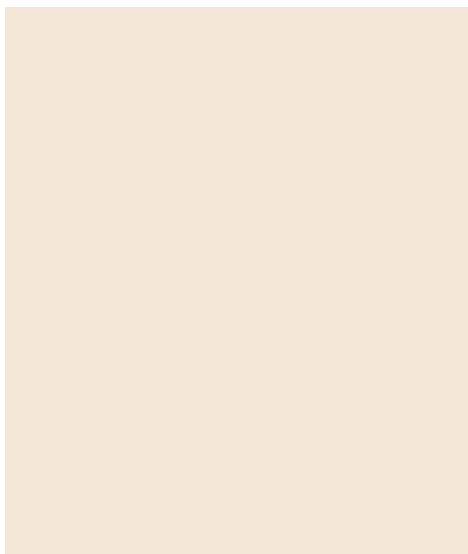


The price of milk hasn't changed much since 2015. Neither has a gallon of gas. But the lives of the 4,000-plus students expected to graduate from Bowling Green State University this year have changed dramatically in the last four years.

They've made lifelong friends, tried new activities, visited new countries and developed skills to take into the workforce or the next phase of their education.

We recently checked in with five students we first met in August of 2015 as they prepare for May's commencement. Read on to learn about their educational and personal journeys.

Continued next page >



HANNAH CUBBERLEY

Hannah Cubberley can pinpoint the exact moment she knew BGSU wanted her to be a Falcon.

"As soon as I stepped onto the Bowling Green campus, I felt immediately welcomed and the feeling was truly unique and unlike my previous visits to other colleges," she said. "The admissions staff met me with warm smiles and enthusiastic greetings as though they knew I was home before I even knew for myself. I had found the university that would foster my education, creativity, leadership skills and offer countless remarkable opportunities for personal growth."

That moment made such an impact on Cubberley that she became an Honors College Ambassador, welcoming future Falcons to their new home.

"The thing that sets BGSU apart is that people care deeply about our Falcon Family, and there is always someone there to offer support and make you feel like you belong," she said.

In some ways, Cubberley has always belonged at BGSU. Her parents are Falcon Flames and some of her childhood memories include visits to campus.

"I fondly remember attending BGSU hockey games with my parents and running around Anderson Arena looking for Frieda Falcon so I could give her a huge hug," she said.

In her various roles on campus, Cubberley has since taken many photos with Freddie and Frieda Falcon. She joined Delta Zeta sorority, participated in or led four BG Alternative Break trips and she and her best friend, Samantha Steirer, were on the 2018 Homecoming Court.



Mary Fleck

Elsye Jones



Hannah Cubberley

"But my key involvements have been with the Center for Student Leadership and Undergraduate Student Government," she said. "I was so humbled and excited to have been selected to be the voice of undergraduate students at BGSU."

"Because of my involvement, I have felt connected to the University and I have been able to make a positive difference in the lives of my peers through advocacy and student leadership development."

Despite being involved in so many University activities, Cubberley will graduate with not one, or even two degrees in May. Instead, she will take her education in political science, Spanish and communication with her as she pursues a career influencing public policy in politics.

"I would love to move to Washington, D.C., after I graduate to gain some experience with think tanks or a political consulting agency," she said. "I also have plans to further my education by either pursuing a Master of Public Policy or attending law school."

"I have learned so much both inside and outside of the classroom that I am confident I will one day have the career of my dreams, thanks to BGSU."

Cubberley highlighted several University resources and employees for fostering her growth and drive, including the C. Raymond Marvin Center for Student Leadership, the Honors College and the Learning Commons.

MARY FLECK

In 2015, as she was touring college campuses, Mary Fleck was considering a major in journalism. But acceptance into the STEM scholarship program Academic Investment in Math and Science (AIMS) changed her trajectory toward mathematics.

Luckily, the change in major didn't change her decision to come to BGSU. If anything, it solidified it.

"AIMS encouraged me to get involved in undergraduate research, and after discovering data science applications for an astronomy research project my freshman year, I decided to pick up the data science specialization," said Fleck, who has a minor in Spanish.

Fleck will continue this path in graduate school.

"I was accepted to study data science for public policy in a highly competitive and top-ranked master's program next year with the intention of leveraging my computational knowledge and passion for service to others to affect data-driven social justice," she said. "If not for the well-rounded education I received at BGSU and through the Honors College, I wouldn't be the robust thinker that I am today, and that is so powerful."

Fleck's experiences at BGSU included involvement in a number of service-based organizations such as the Student Alumni Ambassadors and Omega Phi Alpha National Service Sorority. She also received an Alumni Laureate Scholarship, which connects students who are driven to become effective leaders and make the world a better place.

"Through these organizations and other campus experiences, I was able to make a difference in my community while forming a community of my own," she said. "My BGSU community has

encouraged me to live with purpose and develop my passions, which has led to countless exciting and unique opportunities from singing the national anthem at BGSU sporting events to taking classes on poverty, rock music and ice skating to pursuing nationally competitive research opportunities.

"The University's investment in my personhood has shaped who I am and how I will influence the world."



SCOTT KNAPKE

People might not know his name, but mention "the guy with the orange shoes" and many can picture him. Van Wright, assistant to the vice president for enrollment management, has encouraged hundreds of students to choose BGSU, including senior Scott Knapke.

"My siblings, all four of whom attended and graduated from BGSU, were great resources for finding out information about BGSU, but I have to credit Van Wright for showcasing all that BGSU has to offer and for acting as a direct contact to the University," Knapke said.

Knapke said one of the many highlights of his first visit to campus was meeting mathematics education faculty, many of whom he said he's grown close to during his time at BGSU. An adolescence to young adult integrated mathematics education major, he is well on his way to reaching his career goal of becoming a math educator. He is currently student teaching at Liberty-Benton High School in Findlay.

"BGSU's coursework and field-based experiences throughout various schools in the area enabled me to continue to grow fond of and maintain a passion for mathematics education," he said. "While my overall career goal is to become a math educator, this goal comes with many other goals that pertain to the way in which my students learn in my classroom. I will strive to always have the highest belief in their own abilities. I will aim to act as a support system and mentor for every one of my students, just as I was provided with countless support systems throughout my time at BGSU."

Knapke's time at BGSU included being an Alumni Laureate Scholar, participating in the Science and Math Education in ACTION Program and being a member and leadership member of the Bowling Green Council of Teachers of Mathematics (BGCTM).

"My involvement that stands out the most to me, however, is with BGSU's student-led Math Camp, where we strive to instill in students a growth mindset when engaging in mathematical learning and working through problem solving and team-building activities," Knapke said. "This organization provided me with countless leadership opportunities and a family-like community of individuals with whom I have established lasting bonds.

"Additionally, this organization took me to places across the country and around the world, including Thailand, China, Oklahoma, and numerous schools throughout Ohio, so we were able to share our passions and ideas with diverse individuals."

Knapke will begin BGSU's Master's Degree in Curriculum and Teaching in the fall.



Scott Knapke



Alisa Sledge

ALISA SLEDGE

It is not uncommon for first-generation college students to have unique fears as they navigate higher education. But after finding a welcoming and supportive community at BGSU, Detroit native Alisa Sledge jumped into college and never looked back.

"My first real interaction with students on BGSU's campus was during the BGSU Detroit overnight stay during my senior year of high school," she said. "I was surrounded by a group of other Detroit students also interested in BGSU. We toured campus, stayed in residence halls for the night, and ate in the dining halls. I was totally immersed into the college life for a day and I loved it."

An invitation to participate in the Sidney A. Ribeau President's Leadership Academy, a four-year leadership development program that engages scholars in classes, workshops, experiential learning and community service activities, was part of the reason Sledge chose BGSU, but not the only reason.

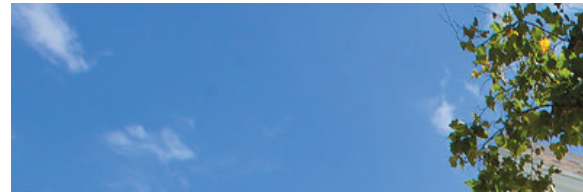
"BGSU has a very welcoming community, which was one of my main reasons for choosing this school. Every time I came to visit I was always greeted with smiling faces," she said. "And the amount of resources offered here is exceptional. There is always someone that can help you in any situation you may be in. Never be afraid to ask for help or where to find help because someone can always direct you to an answer or resource."

A business major with a specialization in international business, Sledge had heard about the College of Business's reputation before ever stepping foot on campus.

"My life goal is to be a successful business woman," she said. "I also hope to start a nonprofit to mentor young girls from inner cities such as Detroit. I want to be able to inspire young ladies to reach their goals and encourage them to go to college."

During her time here, Sledge was a mentee and mentor of SMART (Students of Color Mentoring, Aiding, Retaining, and Teaching) and a member of the National Association of Black Accountants and the Student Budget Committee.

"Being a part of all of these organizations and programs helped me to become the leader that I am today," she said. "They all challenged me in different ways to help me grow as an individual and as a leader. I am grateful to have been a part of these organizations and to have been able to give back to the BGSU community."





Phillip Zulli

PHILLIP ZULLI

Buy a windbreaker.

That's the advice Phillip Zulli wishes someone had given him in the fall of 2015, when he set foot on campus as a freshman.

"Luckily for me, the constant wind wasn't enough to deter me," he said.

Zulli, a public relations major from Cincinnati with a black windbreaker, has had an active four years at BGSU. It began with an invitation to participate in the Sidney A. Ribeau President's Leadership Academy, a four-year leadership development program that engages scholars in classes, workshops, experiential learning and community service activities. He has also managed marketing and social media efforts for Falcon eSports and University Activities Organization, and is assistant firm director for Falcon Communications, a student public relations firm on campus.

"All of these experiences have prepared me academically and professionally," he said. "I probably could not have found these awesome opportunities anywhere else, and even if I could, it wouldn't be with the same awesome people I met here at BGSU.

"BGSU is definitely a good standard for what a university experience should be like. It has set me up for success; I'm ready to put it all to good use."

One of Zulli's most memorable experiences was a two-week study abroad trip to Paris with the Department of Journalism and Public Relations.

"We had the opportunity to meet a lot of individuals who have made a significant mark on journalism or public relations all around the world," he said. "We also had a lot of time to explore Paris and all of its sights. It was a lot of fun and I learned a lot from all of the speakers."





SPORTS TEAMS MAKE THEIR MARK IN 2018-19

By Matt Markey '76

With excellence as their mutually expressed goal, the type of playing surface did not seem to matter. Several Falcon teams achieved exceptional success recently, and they did so on the ice, on the grass and a couple on the hardwood.

The Falcon hockey, men's basketball, women's soccer and volleyball teams all played at a championship level, making their mark in conference action — and in the postseason.

Bowling Green Hockey returned to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in nearly three decades, after advancing to the title game of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association conference tournament for the second time in three years.

"I think that with the accomplishments of the past season, and the progress the program has made in recent years, Bowling Green Hockey has some very positive momentum going right now," booster Scott

Slater '73 said. "It is very encouraging to see what's taken place here."

The Falcons, who finished 25-11-5, lost a heartbreaking 2-1 overtime decision to defending national champion Minnesota-Duluth in the NCAA Tournament. Duluth is the same school BGSU defeated 5-4 in four overtimes to give the Falcons the 1984 National Championship.

"When I came to Bowling Green, I thought I knew how important hockey



was to this place; I didn't know, but I found out," Coach Chris Bergeron said before accepting the same position at his alma mater, Miami University, after the team's NCAA Tournament appearance. "From the students on campus, the community, the boosters, the former players and all of the NHL guys — the support BGSU hockey receives is tremendous. This is a place where hockey really, really matters, and that's due to the depth of the commitment from everyone involved."

Bowling Green swept past Michigan Tech and Northern Michigan to reach the WCHA conference tournament championship game, before dropping the title contest to Minnesota State 3-2 in overtime. Slater said reaching the elite field for the NCAA Tournament was a significant milestone, and after posting a 20-win season for the fifth year in a row, BGSU had the rest of the country taking notice.

"I think the greater hockey community considers us relevant again, and that is very important," he said. "I would say we are considered by many as one of the top 15 programs in the country again. We haven't gotten all of the way yet, but the program is in good shape and it kind of gives you chills to see the level of support it receives."

Men's Basketball didn't just shrug off the reduced expectations of a preseason poll that put the Falcons at the bottom of the Mid-American Conference's East Division, they flipped the script and charged out to a league-leading 7-1 start in the MAC, the best

conference start since the Nate Thurmond-Howard Komives team in 1961-62.

"It took a while, but eventually I knew we had something special going here," coach and former Falcon standout Michael Huger said. "The players showed that they were willing to stick together when times got hard. They didn't quit on each other, and that allowed us to be successful."

One of the highlights of the season was a 92-88 win over No. 18 Buffalo in front of a raucous, record-breaking, standing-room only Stroh Center crowd of 5,000 fans. It was BGSU's first win over a Top 25 team since the 2008 season.

The Falcons would advance to the championship game of the MAC Tournament before falling to Buffalo by an 87-73 score. They finished the season 22-12 overall and went 12-6 in the MAC. Huger said that it was very gratifying to reach the MAC Tournament final, and with that success comes the hunger for more.

"It was a long, hard road to get to where we are, but also so much fun to see what we are capable of accomplishing," he said. "We did something we weren't supposed to do, and now with that comes expectations, and we have to embrace that with a sense of urgency, now that we know what it takes."

The women's soccer team had one of the best seasons in program history, winning both the MAC regular season and tournament titles, posting a 10-1-0 conference record, a 14-5-3 overall mark, and advancing to the NCAA Tournament. A school record five Falcons were first-team

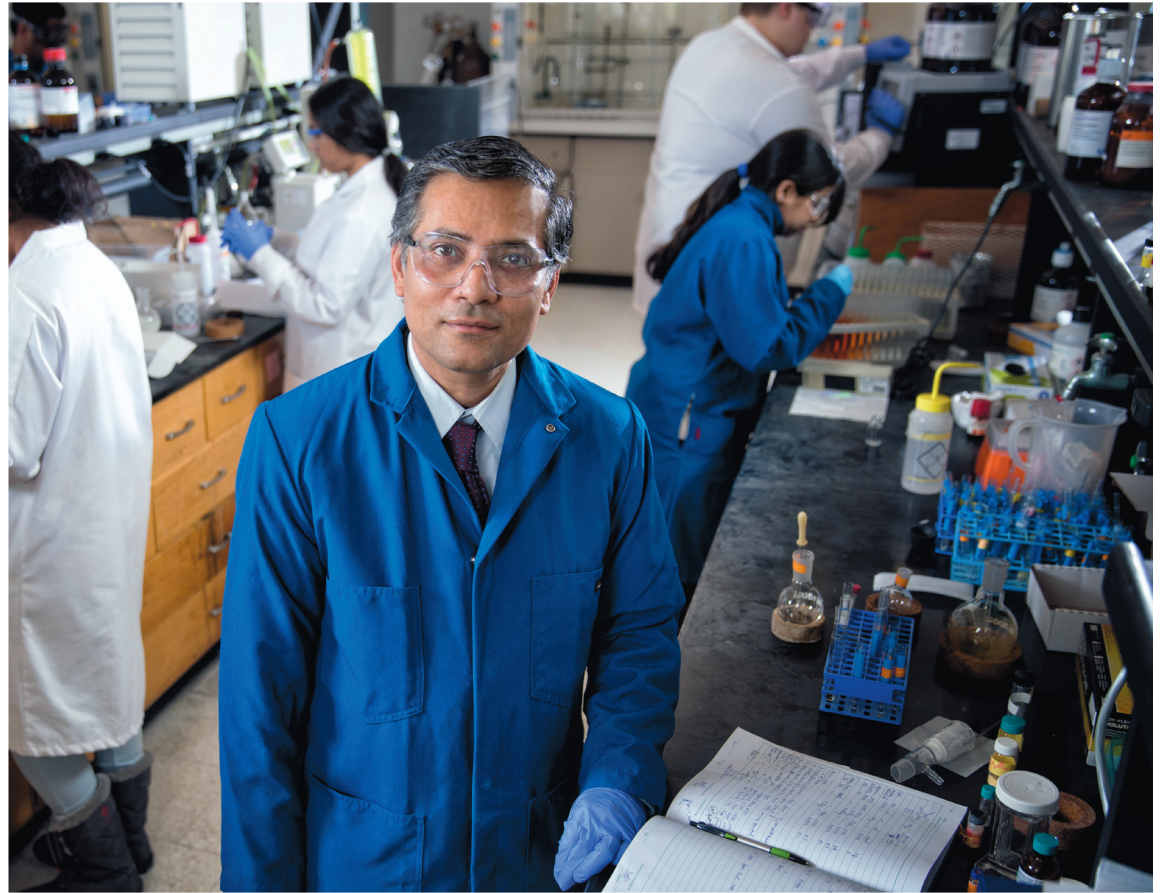
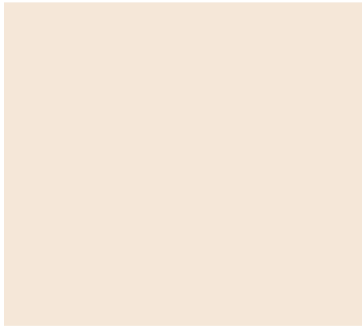
All-MAC, senior Erica Hubert was named the MAC Offensive Player of the Year and junior Maureen Kennedy was the MAC Defensive Player of the Year, and Matt Fannon was the MAC Coach of the Year for the second consecutive season.

"One of the reasons I think we were successful is that the only thing that ever really mattered was the next game," Fannon said. "We made a point of just concentrating on what was at stake on that particular day. We wanted to hit the very specific things that would make a difference, and we kept working on having that winning mentality."

The volleyball team went 19-12 overall, and 13-3 in the conference while winning its second straight MAC regular-season crown. The Falcons advanced to the National Invitational Volleyball Championship before losing an extremely close five-set match to Bradley.

Senior libero Kallie Seimet became the first player in MAC history to be named the MAC Player of the Year and MAC Defensive Player of the Year in two consecutive seasons. Head Coach Danijela Tomic said a championship environment is responsible for the program's success.

"We have a special team culture here, where individuals have surrendered 'I' for 'we', where our players play for each other, and for something bigger than themselves," she said. "When you have all that, you know you've created a championship culture and mindset."



SIVAGURU MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN LAB, CLASSROOM

GROUNDBREAKING RESEARCH SHINES
LIGHT ON IMPACT OF CENTER FOR
PHOTOCHEMICAL SCIENCES

By Julie Carle '78

When Jayaraman Sivaguru was in college in his native India, he envisioned a career working with computers.

His academic performance during his first year of college was remarkable and caught the attention of a university professor. When the professor met with Sivaguru, he encouraged the undergraduate student to pursue chemistry rather than computers.

"Honestly, I didn't even know chemistry was a path I could take," Sivaguru said. "I believe that one piece of advice and that action really changed what I was going to do."

Since that time, his ascent in the world of chemistry and photochemistry has been rapid. He is the Antonia and Marshall Wilson Professor of Chemistry and associate director of the Center for Photochemical Sciences at Bowling Green State University.

During his academic journey, with each passage — from bachelor's to master's to doctoral degrees — he received guidance from dedicated educators and chemistry/photochemistry experts, each one shepherding him to the next mentor.

His Ph.D. adviser at Tulane University, Dr. V. Ramamurthy, praised Sivaguru for his intelligence, cooperation and work ethic, ranking him in the top 5 percent of the students he has taught in 40 years.

"He worked very hard, published a lot and helped put our program at the forefront with our chiral chemistry research," Ramamurthy said.

When Sivaguru went from Tulane to Columbia University for post-doctoral work, he trained with the late Nicholas Turro of the National Academy of Science. Under the tutelage of Turro and Ramamurthy, who co-authored "Modern Molecular Photochemistry," the book that is considered the bible for the field, Sivaguru learned from two of the world's leading experts in photochemistry.

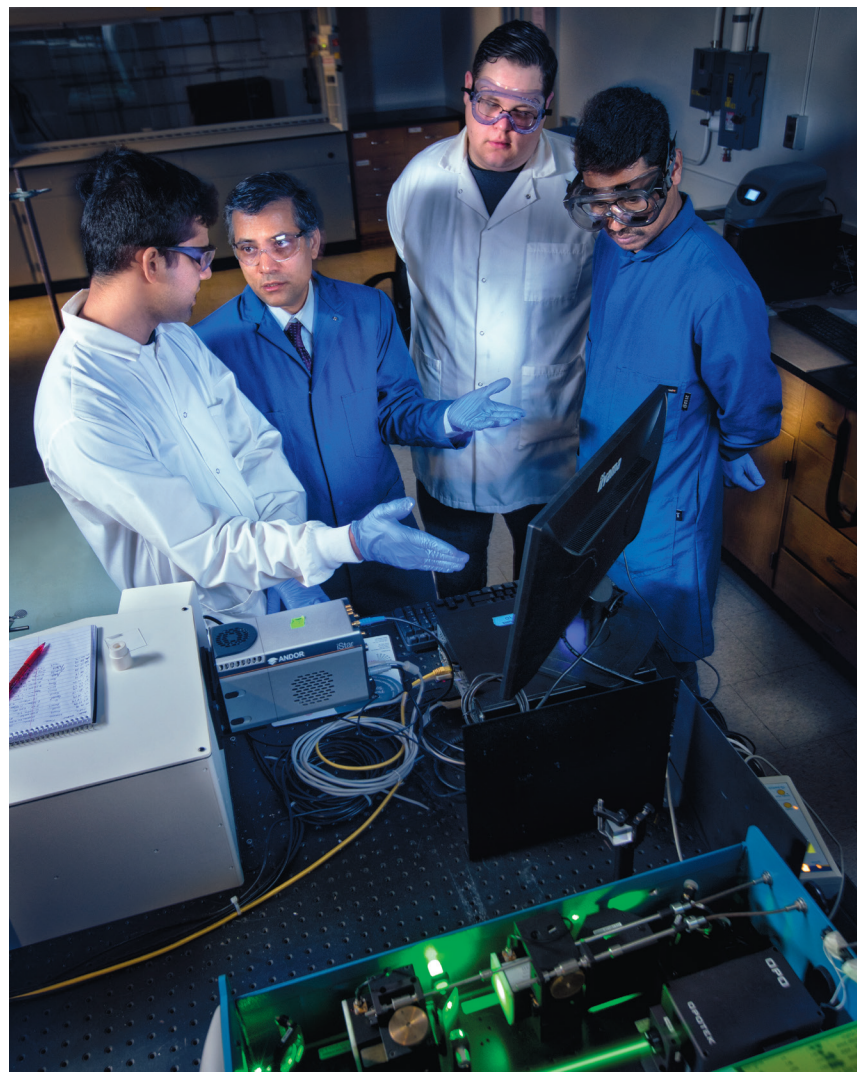
His research today, which reflects that influence, is based on how light interacts with matter.

"We have a diverse set of projects, but the central theme is you take light, see how it interacts with matter, whether it is molecules or material, and study their properties," Sivaguru said. "Once you understand their properties, essentially, you can tailor them and make them responsive."

One of the areas involves building chiral molecules, which make up the majority of the drugs taken. While chemists have used strategies for the last hundred years to generate chiral molecules, in Sivaguru's lab, they have developed technology to utilize light to enrich or access chiral molecules very effectively. They also can use a photocatalyst to generate a chiral molecule, he said.

The third strategy utilized in the lab involves a biometric reaction.

"Similar to how enzymes can sequester molecules to do chemistry in your body, we use nano-containers that are soluble in water to sequester or encapsulate molecules that are not soluble in water and make them water soluble," Sivaguru said. "Using environmentally benign chemistry, the chemical reaction in the water occurs using light, just like with enzymes. When a molecule goes inside this nano-cavity, it will change shape so that the other molecule can be



Dr. Jayaraman Sivaguru exposes high school students to research in the chemical sciences and stimulates their interest in science and math.

incorporated and then you can do catalysis."

This process, which mimics nature, is called supramolecular photochemistry, which his group is using to find ways to create plastics from plants instead of fossil fuels.

Plastics are part of everyday life, from the toothbrush used first thing in the morning to the bag used to take out the garbage at night. That means the fossil fuel that enables energy-intensive tasks such as driving an automobile and many items used in day-to-day life will become more scarce or difficult to access.

Continued next page >



Sivaguru is the Antonia and Marshall Wilson Professor of Chemistry and associate director of the Center for Photochemical Sciences at Bowling Green State University.

Thus, among the issues Sivaguru's group is addressing is developing plant-based plastics that can be used to replace those made with fossil fuels that won't clog landfills while they degrade or create toxic chemicals once they do degrade.

When they started to work on the project, the idea was to supplement fossil fuels inside of a biomass, plant-derived material and to make sure it could be recycled rather than continuing to use plants.

"If there is competition between using plants for food or for plastics, nobody will say, 'I'm going to make this plastic rather than use the plant for food,'" Sivaguru said.

The idea is to use a plant to make a simple, small organic molecule, called a monomer. Comparing the monomer to a Lego® piece, Sivaguru explained that a polymer would be a big Lego® set designed by incorporating each individual piece and determining where it will be sensitive to light.

"You can design that Lego piece to be sensitive to a specific wavelength of light and once you make use of the set, you can take it apart, or degrade the polymer completely to get back to the original piece or monomer, making it completely recyclable."

One of the keys to success in research goes beyond the scientific contribution, Sivaguru said. Though he chose to be a photochemist and focus his research on polymers to be able to contribute to the public good, he knows anything he creates has to be affordable.

"It is great to have an environmentally benign strategy that will work, but it doesn't make sense to continue if it is not economically viable," he said.

Ultimately, he would like to generate research-based products and develop a company, create jobs and address environmental problems.

"That's a long-term goal I really want to do," though he laughed when he admitted that he will stick with his chemist job rather than running the company as a CEO.

Companies are curious about in the work he and his students are doing. Johnson & Johnson has become interested in the lab's polymer research and has been working with him on a contact lens project. He also works on water remediation initiatives using photochemistry, a project that started during his 11 years as a scientist and academic at North Dakota State University, prior to coming to BGSU in 2017.

According to Dr. Mukund Sibi, a professor and organic chemist at North Dakota State, Sivaguru was "an outstanding colleague and a really bright star in photochemistry." They worked on many projects together and have continued their partnerships in research and the classroom.

Dr. Malcolm Forbes, director of the Center for Photochemical Sciences, recognized that Sivaguru's 11 years at NDSU were "well spent in establishing his reputation as an internationally recognized leader in his field.

"I had him in mind for a senior hire for the center and chemistry faculty at BGSU," Forbes said. "He is friendly, outgoing and very active. He teaches, manages his research group and helps me channel ideas for the growth and increased external funding on which our center heavily relies."

Sivaguru's dedication to his research is second to his commitment to educating young scientists. He has assumed the role of shepherd and mentor to his students in the lab and the classroom.

It is a badge he wears with pride.

"Looking back at every stage in my career, I had a professor or teacher who really gave me direction," he said.

As much as he enjoyed the science and the research, he also knew he wanted to go into academics because of the teachers he had encountered in his career.

"I was able to see what influence they had and I wanted to do the same," Sivaguru said.

He tries to share on similar lessons and practices that his mentors taught him — lessons such as the importance of exploration on their own.

"You have to develop an attitude of being uncomfortable and pursuing things that are a little bit uncomfortable," he said. "That was very important for me, and my professors gave me the freedom to explore and do things on my own."

The focus should always be on "doing the best job you can" rather than worrying about the consequences of it, such as where the research will be published, his mentors advised him. One of his professors was among the first to incorporate computers in the classroom, explaining to Sivaguru that "if a new technology has the promise of educating people better, it is worth the trouble of learning it."

At BGSU, he introduced software that draws chemical structures on the board and allows students to see them. The students liked it so much, he shared it with other faculty members who now are using it in their classrooms.

Seth Smith, a junior chemistry major from Clyde, Ohio, met the professor during a chemistry club meeting and was immediately



Sivaguru tries to share similar lessons and practices that his mentors taught him.

impressed with his enthusiasm for chemistry. Sivaguru helped Smith successfully apply for a Center for an Undergraduate Research and Scholarship grant last summer. And when Smith sat in on a research meeting, “Dr. Siva would draw out something when I did not understand and explain point by point the reaction mechanism.

“I believe his research is crucial for the future as the world reconciles its dependence on fossil fuels with oceans full of plastic. By designing plastics in a way which allows them to be photodegradable, the polymer can be turned back into a monomer, which can be shaped into a new container.”

Sivaguru’s commitment to students is also evidenced by his introduction of a program called PICNICS, or Parents Involvement with Children Nurturing Intellectual Curiosity in Science. He introduced the program at NDSU, where it was very successful, and decided to continue it at BGSU.

This summer marks the second year for the BGSU program that exposes high school students to research in the chemical sciences and

stimulates their interest in science and math. During the inaugural year, eight students from four area schools participated. He hopes to increase the numbers this year when the program runs from mid-June to late July.

Among his most prized awards during his career thus far is a teaching award he received.

“It is something I cherish because it acknowledges that so many people have been influenced in the classroom,” he said.

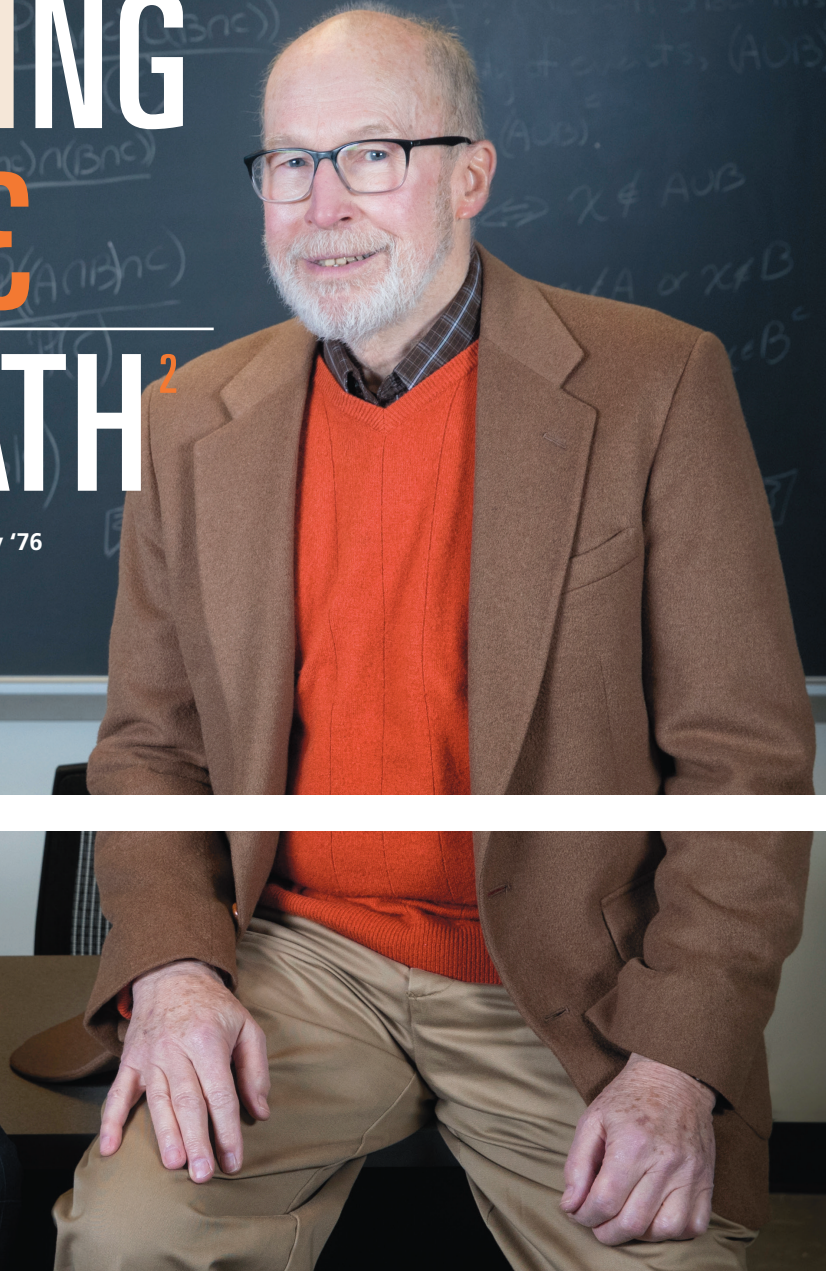
He also received a 2008 National Science Foundation CAREER award, the 2010 Grammaticakis-Neumann Prize from the Swiss Chemical Society for outstanding independent research by a faculty member under the age of 40 in the fields of photochemistry, photophysics or molecular photobiology, and young investigator awards from the Inter-American Photochemical Society and Sigma-Xi.

He recently was named a Fellow of the Chinese Science Academy and traveled to China in April 2019 to work with scientists there.

O'BRIEN PROFESSORSHIP THE PRODUCT OF LESSONS LEARNED

DOING THE MATH²

By Matt Markey '76



IT WAS MORE THAN 45 YEARS AGO

that a Bowling Green State University freshman walked into calculus class in his first fall term on campus, and sat down to listen to an instructor whose knowledge, delivery and zest for the subject would leave a lasting impression on the young student.

Dr. Thomas O'Brien presented mathematics in an interesting, oftentimes exciting, and always passionate manner, and that unique approach had considerable staying power with Rob Armstrong, who would go on to become a 1977 graduate with a degree in accounting.

"An excellent instructor to us silly freshmen coming in," is how Armstrong characterized his impression of Dr. O'Brien. "Patient, mild-mannered and really able to connect. I remember his smile because it was not a big smile and it arrived slowly when it came. He and I got along very well."

David O'Brien was all of 7 years old at the time his father was taking Rob Armstrong and that collection of "silly" freshmen through the foundational nuances of calculus. But that note from one of the multitude of students who toured the world of mathematics in his father's classes, and David O'Brien's personal observations of his father's lifelong commitment to education and unravelling the myriad mysteries of numbers, leave the son filled with pride and respect for that unwavering devotion to teaching others.

Today, David O'Brien serves on the BGSU Board of Trustees and has endowed a professorship in the math department in his father's name. He fondly recalls the email message that arrived from Armstrong at the time David was appointed to the board.

"I remember receiving that note, from someone I didn't know, but he had been in my dad's class more than 40 years ago and he still felt strongly enough about the experience that he had to write to me," David O'Brien said. "I think that speaks to the impact that a college professor can have on a student, and a lot of times it is likely something the student won't realize until many years later. That said a lot to me about what kind of instructor my dad was."

Tom O'Brien taught mathematics at BGSU for 30 years, impacting the lives of many students as he brought them math with enthusiasm, and with the fervor of an evangelist of differential equations.

"He loved math and he was a very serious guy who wanted serious students," David O'Brien said of his father. "He was tough, as most math professors are, but that was because he cared a great deal about teaching and having the students learn."

David O'Brien said it was clear to him early on that his father loved what he did, and he wanted to share that enthusiasm for

mathematics with these students who took his classes. Sometimes their appreciation surfaced after much time had passed, but Tom O'Brien said he didn't mind the delayed reaction.

"I really enjoyed the classroom and academic life," he said. "And it certainly was rewarding having successful students — those students who maybe didn't appear to appreciate you as much at the time, but then you would get notes from them years later. It doesn't take a lot of those to make you feel good about the work you did."

Tom O'Brien was quite familiar with the impact a great teacher could have on students, since it was just such an association that put him on the path to his career as an instructor of mathematics. He was a high school freshman getting his first concentrated dose of algebra when that light came on.

"I think my interest in mathematics very much traces to my high school algebra teacher, who was not only a very good teacher, but also a very personable individual," he said. "Besides being an excellent teacher, he was an interesting guy who spoke French and Latin, he was a good athlete and a charming individual. His classroom was a comfortable place to learn, and that got me interested in mathematics, and I've been interested ever since."

Continued next page >



David O'Brien, with his father, Dr. Thomas O'Brien, would go on to graduate from BGSU in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science in business administration.

Professor O'Brien's fascination with math and physics only grew from that ignition point, and he went on to attend Xavier University for his undergraduate work in those areas of specialized study. He was encouraged by his instructors at Xavier to pursue graduate work, and, after graduation, he received a master's in math. O'Brien went to Syracuse for his doctoral studies and completed that degree while a visiting student at Northwestern.

After spending five years on the faculty at Marquette, Tom O'Brien was considering several options to advance his career, including a position at BGSU, which turned out to be the most appealing. He arrived on the Bowling Green campus in 1969, and after two years as an assistant professor he was promoted to associate professor.

When he came up for consideration for a full professorship, an internal document created at the time by his superiors recommended him for the post, citing what they called "the relaxed and spontaneous atmosphere" in his classroom. They also noted that his "contribution to the teaching function of the department is commendable."

Tom O'Brien was also lauded for his work in actuarial mathematics, and for providing the basis for graduate and undergraduate studies for those students interested in the actuarial profession. His research and work in actuarial mathematics was cited in several highly respected professional journals and referred to as "ground-breaking" as it had "attracted a considerable amount of attention in the field," his recommendation for promotion said.

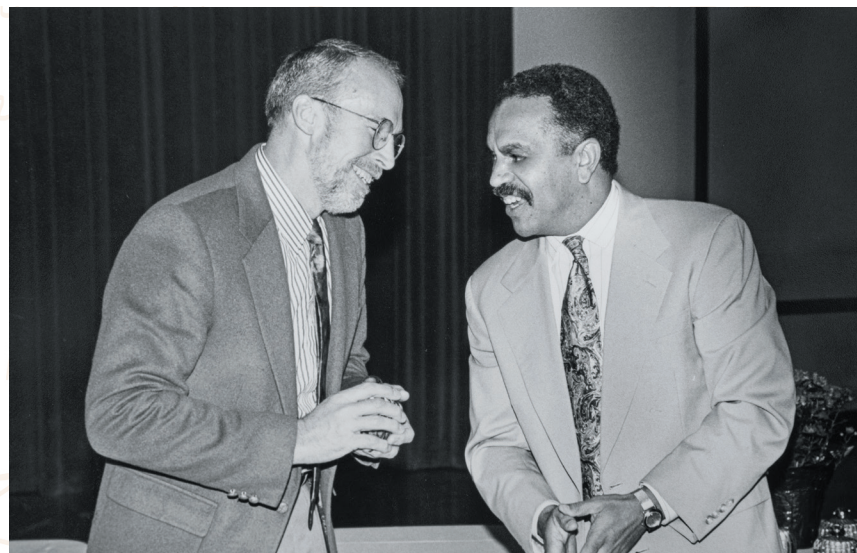
The teaching post that will carry his name remains true to that core area of Tom O'Brien's expertise. It will be called the "Dr. Thomas V. O'Brien Distinguished Professorship of Actuarial Mathematics." The actuarial program at BGSU has been very successful since its inception, and the endowed professorship will guarantee that this success will continue.

"We are grateful for Dr. Thomas O'Brien's faculty service for three decades. Through his teaching and research, he has impacted the lives of thousands of our students," BGSU President Rodney K. Rogers said. "Trustee David O'Brien's endowment of a professorship in his father's honor showcases our promise to our current and future students to attract and retain the same caliber of world-class faculty. It is endowed professorships that position BGSU to educate and prepare our students to live meaningful and productive lives."

Dr. Raymond Craig, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, sees the endowed position as having a far-reaching impact.

"The Dr. Thomas V. O'Brien Distinguished Professorship not only honors Dr. O'Brien, but also honors the tradition of strong engagement between faculty and students that helps our students succeed," Craig said. "This professorship ensures that our faculty will continue to provide the strong theoretical foundation for students who will immediately transition into a changing workplace. The collaboration with the College of Business required of the distinguished professor in this position also ensures that the theoretical and practical meet — that too will lead to student success."

David O'Brien also relishes the dual role the professorship carries, paying tribute to his father and at the same time strengthening the faculty.



Dr. Thomas O'Brien with former BGSU President Sidney Ribeau.

"I wanted to do something to honor him and formally let him know that I was impressed with the work he did," David O'Brien said. "I also wanted to give back to the University and honor what my dad accomplished while he was on the faculty. I'm extremely proud of how seriously he took his job."

David O'Brien is chairman of the board of Ohio-based Risk International Holdings, which comprises Risk International Services, Risk International Benefits Advisory and Risk International Actuarial Consulting.

He earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration from the University in 1989, with a double major in finance and risk management/insurance.

"His actuarial math program is essentially what got me into this business," David O'Brien said of his father's cutting-edge studies. "His efforts and accomplishments served as a springboard for my life's work."

Tom O'Brien said that from the beginning of his time on campus, he thrived in the active learning environment at BGSU.

"I think I was fortunate to come to Bowling Green at a very good time," he said. "There were quite a few young people who came into the math department at about the same time, so it was growing and there was a lot of energy — a lot of social energy in addition to mathematical energy. I also had the luxury of working with colleagues that I really enjoyed."

Tom O'Brien said he hopes so see the endowed professorship help keep the mathematics department at BGSU on an upward trajectory. He and his wife, Barbara, have continued to live in Bowling Green following his retirement, and he regularly meets with his fellow retirees from the University.

"I didn't come here with the intention of staying for 50 years, but this turned out to be a great place to raise a family, and to teach," he said. "We like Bowling Green, that's why we are still here."

ALUMNI

Mary (Bair) Clayton '42, '44
 Mary (Herman) Kohout '44
 Ruth (Hankish) Badertscher '46, '48
 Robert Ferrell '46, '47
 Robert Bredbeck '47
 Marjorie (Armstrong) Bureau '47
 Walter Glaws '47
 Lee Miesle '47
 Ruth (Gruetter) Wagoner '47
 Robert Burns '48
 Fannie (Smaltz) Dauterman '48
 Elizabeth (Roulet) Edgington '48
 Clara (Mitchell) Hoffman '48
 Lowell Weller '48
 Lois (Lee) Grasser '49
 Robert Heiman '49
 Ralph Hose '49
 Patricia (Wiggins) Houser '49
 Betty (Steele) Kleopfer '49
 Fred Moon '49
 Don Speck '49
 Gerald Carrier '50
 Robert Clemons '50
 John Framiglio '50
 Nan (Sutton) Heininger '50
 David Jamison '50
 George Johoske '50
 Peter Jones '50
 William Neff '50
 Donald Stevenson '50
 Harold Taylor '50
 Tom Thompson '50
 Anna (McGuigan) Biggins '51
 Helen (Tsarones) Cromling '51
 Mary (Carty) Ditmar '51
 Patricia (Backe) Obendorf '51
 Dean Rogers '51
 Bon Russell '51, '53
 Raymond Sell '51, '52
 Doris (Wurster) Smith '51
 Evelyn (Hopperton) Stroud '51
 Richard Tesar '51
 Jack Galvin '52
 David Hawley '52
 Bob Lambrecht '52
 James Miller '52
 Marian (Miller) Momany '52
 Harold Schafer '52
 Norbert Billig '53
 William English '53
 Neal Frame '53
 Terrence Gillespie '53
 Sue (Wyndham) Hesson '53
 Vaughn James '53
 Robert Netz '53
 Edward Wolfram '53
 Betty Gorsuch '54
 Ruth (Hyland) Hall '54
 Carol (Harriman) James '54
 Marilyn (Mawhorter) Perry '54
 Patricia (Baker) Binninger '55
 Robert Blum '55
 William Bradley '55
 Nancy (Weaver) Di Paola '55
 James Haman '55
 Dick Humphrey '55
 Thelma (Newlove) Kerwin '55
 Harold Martin '55, '57
 Kathryn Metz '55
 Philip Mulvey '55
 Donna (Beckett) Myers '55
 Donald Percy '55, '71 (Hon.)
 Margaret (Lyndon) Schilsky '55
 Ken VanderWiel '55
 Sandy Wilson '55
 Joseph Zullo '55
 John Curtain '56
 Paul Dressel '56

Donald Dunham '56
 Joyce (Shields) England '56
 Judith (Stanfield) Kinney '56
 James Millar '56
 James O'Connor '56
 Frederick Price '56
 Michael Scholler '56
 John Taylor '56
 Mitzi (Kohring) DeLuca '57
 Reginald Eden '57
 Ronald Fulgenzi '57
 George Harruff '57
 LaMar Hoffman '57
 Carl Kokor '57
 William Scalzulli '57
 Ronald Fessler '58
 Leonard Ford '58
 Shirley (Clark) Hildebrand '58
 Richard Kamieniecki '58
 Janet (Ayers) Peoples '58
 Don Suter '58
 Donald Tyree '58
 Jim Wheeler '58
 Lucy Harris '59
 Carol (Couch) McNulty '59
 Sue (Kamerer) Shrader '59
 Patsy (Tongate) Simmons '59
 Lois Bizak '60, '61
 Richard Gullo '60
 Donald Kindler '60
 Donald McFadyen '60
 Martha Potter '60
 Nancy (Sidaway) Stirn '60
 Lane Anderson '61
 Esther (Bendik) Bendik '61
 Jerry Brown '61
 Alfred Carrino '61
 Ronald Dewulf '61
 Martha Maxwell '61
 Arlene (Kallios) Mizeres '61
 James Routson '61
 Janet (Ladeau) Spray
 Lois (Simon) Bates '62
 Ronald Burgher '62, '63
 Richard Dargo '62
 Marilyn (Fries) Donaldson '62, '64
 Paul Enderle '62
 Joyce (Huber) Hite '62
 Dorothy Lemieux '62
 Barbara (Garlough) Mattern '62
 Bessie (Waggoner) Miller '62
 Marilyn (Smith) Mulligan '62
 Frank Reinheimer '62
 Richard Roberts '62
 Gael (Tideman) Self '62
 Tom Stellers '62
 Cliff Waugh '62, '64
 Thomas Bryant '63
 Thomas Cavinee '63
 Milton Cooper '63
 Cletus Dreher '63
 Paul Keller '63
 Carol (Churpek) Langham '63
 Donald Lisbon '63
 Ronald Mong '63
 Ann Randolph '63, '73, '82
 Sue (Schafer) Wagner '63
 Gary Kimmel '64
 Anthony Perrine '64
 Joan (McBride) Smith '64
 Linda (Berger) Couch '65
 Allan Davis '65
 Laureen (Lucansky) Debord '65
 James French '65
 Frank Giganti '65, '67
 Ronald Lessentine '65
 Robert Taylor '65
 Jack Baker '66
 David Bell '66
 Sue (Rohrs) Brown '66
 John Cusher '66

Charlene (Phillips) Hughes '66
 Eugene Kontak '66
 Wilma (Imbrock) Robinson '66, '73
 Edgar Ross '66
 Glenn Sprague '66, '68
 Carol Strausburg '66
 Wallace Eberhard '67
 Susan Hull '67
 James Jackson '67
 Genevieve (Simmons) James '65, '67
 Mostafa Nagi '67
 John Polanc '67
 Daniel Rudolph '67
 Carol (Pacchini) Seamon '67
 Alan Volin '67
 Carl Baldwin '68
 Jerry Barth '68
 Gerald Giles '68
 Philip Hinesman '68
 Sharon (Stevens) Johnson '68
 Betsy (Bie) Miller '68
 Muriel (Essinger) Musgrave '68
 Doris (Cole) O'Brien '68
 Margaret O'Brien '68
 Marlene Salmans '68
 Edward Schilman '68
 Steven Sutermeister '68
 Gary Weaver '68
 Morris Williamson '68
 Jeffrey Capell '69
 Jerry MacHovina '69
 Gary Thompson '69
 Carol (Ilg) Carver '70
 Gerald King '70
 Charles Rodden '70
 Randal Schuck '70, '72
 Jerry Wasserman '70
 Dennis Bolin '71
 Timothy Kardatzke '71
 Ronald Kazmer '71
 Jane (Shull) McKee '71, '73
 Phyllis (Hammon) Shadle '71
 James Snow '71
 Linda Woody '71
 John Abrams '72
 Donald Andersen '72
 Sandra (Dirda) Dodson '72
 Lee Hamel '72
 Beverly Little '72
 Ronald Nixon '72
 Jo (Miller) Russell '72
 Timothy Savage '72
 Michael Slough '72
 Ruthie (Eshleman) Tisher '72
 Bonnie (Micklos) Christman '73
 Vuokko (Kallio) Cornett '73
 Mark Cover '73
 John Feldman '73
 Raymond Frick '73
 Barbara Gehri '73
 Kathleen Giffen '73
 Susan (Bauderer) Gioiella '73, '99
 Mary (Seiler) Goodenow '73
 Bill Gulczynski '73
 Anthony Guzzo '73
 Lucie Heint-Lukasik '73
 Louis Scarpellini '73
 Thomas Whalen '73
 Earllene (Patterson) Bond '74, '87
 Mary (Diorio) Conrad '74
 Delbert Gladrow '74
 Gary Heiman '74, '76
 Robert Helm '74
 Marilyn Marksburly '74
 Scott Morgan '74, '76
 William Morgan '74
 Joann Norton '74
 John Sankey '74
 Kevin Christy '75
 Denis Collins '75
 James Cowgill '75

Jeune Eddy '75
 Susan Loucks '75
 Bill Sarver '75
 Greg Wesche '75
 Carol Balduff '76
 James Gardner '76
 Elizabeth (Parsons) McMurtrie '76
 Richard Sherman '76
 Robin (Balzer) Stastny '76
 Bruce Young '76
 Stephen Bordenkircher '77
 Stephen Dilucca '77, '79
 William Forsberg '77
 Marilyn Spiegel '77
 Victoria (Wallace) Bailey '78
 Valerie (Spangler) Campbell '78
 Mark Hurst '78
 James Redd '78
 Kevin Keyes '79
 Jody (West) Miller '88
 Natalie (Heck) Ramer '79
 Jeffrey Rothgerly '79
 Charlene (Noon) Bauer '80
 Laurie (Moses) Kunigel '80
 Teresa (Cox) Lonsbury '80
 Julie (Hahn) Wherry '80
 Victoria (Brent) Adams '81
 Maria Bibler '81, '91
 Thomas Knapke '81
 Patricia (Comstock) Striker '81
 Kim Krawczynsyzyn '82
 James Pinchak '82
 Ann Whithaus '82
 Constance (Gainok) Kelly '83
 Mark Pence '83
 Jamie Pribanic '83
 Theresa (Schoenlein) Stevens '83
 Roger Becker '85
 Keith Crane '85
 Leonard Crosley '85
 Pamela Heidel '86
 Robert Peterson '86
 Gregory MacVarish '88
 Tammy Nock '88
 Dianne (Woggon) Dibling '89
 Anne (Chamberlain) Tuite '89
 Allen Dubois '89, '90
 Rich Schlitter '90
 Mary Shurts '90
 Keith Weldy '90
 Karol Dickmann '91
 Jean (Law) Romans '91
 Craig Varady '91
 Audra (Asplin) Asplin '92
 Myrl Den Besten '92
 Lynda Jones '92
 Rita (Pratt) Neyhart '92
 Pamela Smitherman '92, '94
 Joyce Longo '93
 Elizabeth (Printki) Koproski '94
 Craig Wood '94
 John Derby '96, '98
 Jon Kwiatkowski '96
 Cory Miller '96
 Christopher Newsom '97
 Philip Stuart '00
 Erin (Picklesimer) Andrews '01
 Kathleen Kosik '01
 Nathan Soto '01
 Jason Swartz '02
 Michael Behn '03
 Mary Wade-Jones '07, '08, '09, '10
 Amanda (Miller) Ross '08
 Penny Blake '10
 Chad Buchanan '10
 Mark Marentette '10
 Bernice Sandler '12 (Hon.)
 Brian Trocchia '13
 Judi (Burkhart) Lanciaux '14
 John Meadows '18
 Madison Brenton *

Harold Arrowsmith *
 David Barnes *
 Marcia (Mutton) Berry *
 Cody Dayringer *
 Ashley Doonan *
 Mary (Kinsey) Haley *
 Katelyn Martin *
 Harold Richmond *
 Barry Rider *
 Mary (Gill) Snider *
 David Spears *
 Joshua Stover *
 Jeffrey Zaslow *

FACULTY/STAFF

Sylvia Anderson, Faculty
 Shirley Baker, Facilities/Custodian
 Richard Bowers, Assistant VP of
 Student Affairs/Director of Rec
 Sports
 Sally Copus, Facilities/Custodian
 Edmund Danziger Jr., Distinguished
 Teaching Professor Emeritus,
 History
 Nathan "Bill" Easterly, Professor
 Emeritus, Biology
 David Hampshire, Instructional Media
 Services
 Anne Hermler, Senior Secretary,
 Computer Science Department
 Ann Householder, Police Dispatcher
 J. Frederick Leetch II, Professor
 Emeritus, Mathematics/Statistics
 Stanley Maas, Facilities/Maintenance
 Frank "Lee" Miesle, Professor
 Emeritus, Speech
 Theresa Milne, Emeritus/Faculty
 Mostafa Nagi, Professor Emeritus,
 Sociology
 Virginia Nungester, Secretary, College
 of Musical Arts
 Otis Sonnenberg, Assistant Director,
 Bookstore
 Robert Stinson, Professor Emeritus,
 Art
 Wahstella Sybert, Classified Staff
 Ina Temple, Associate Professor
 Emeritus/Health, Physical
 Education and Recreation

* Denotes an alumnus/alumna who
 attended but did not earn a degree
 from BGSU.

CLASSES NOTES

60s

Gerald L. Baker '65 recently was recognized by the Ohio State Bar Association for 50 years of service. Baker, who was very active with the Kappa Sigma fraternity while at BGSU, previously served on the board of advocates for the College of Arts and Sciences and the Presidents Club. A former vice president of the alumni board, he received the Alumni Service award in 2007. Baker practiced at Amerman, Burt and Jones in Canton, Ohio, from 1968-1981. Since 1981, he has run his own firm, Law Offices of Gerald L. Baker. He has been a member of the Stark County Bar Association and Ohio Bar Association for 50 years. Baker also serves on the Stark County Bar Association Judiciary Board.

Dr. Anthony Tarasenko '65 of Summit, New Jersey, recently was selected to the Board of Trustees of the Medical Society of New Jersey. Tarasenko also received the Outstanding Service Award for 2018 for extraordinary medical work, pro-bono medical service for the homeless and needy. He majored in biology at BGSU.

Dr. John K. "Jack" Hartman '67, '77, '86 of Liberty Township, Ohio, was inducted into the Central Michigan University Journalism Hall of Fame on Nov. 3. Hartman, who lived in Bowling Green from 1974-2008, published two books on journalism: "The USA Today Way" (1992) and "USA Today Way 2 The Future" (2000). Named an emeritus professor of journalism in 2015, Hartman retired from CMU after 31 years. He earned a bachelor's in journalism, a master's in radio-TV-film and a doctorate in communication from BGSU.

Gerald "Jerry" Chase '68 of Parma Heights, Ohio, recently was inducted into the Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame. Chase, who also is a member of the Cleveland Central Catholic Athletic, Chanel High School and Northeast Ohio High School Baseball Coaches halls of fame, retired after 48 years teaching math and business and coaching high school baseball. He also coached baseball at Cuyahoga Community College.

William Seaton '69, provost and vice president of Thomas Edison State University, was honored by the university with the renaming of its center for learning and technology, as "The W. J. Seaton Center for Learning and Technology," for his 37-year commitment to the school.

70s

Donald S. Scherzer '71, who majored in education at BGSU, was named among the best lawyers in the United States for 2019. A shareholder for the law firm Roetzel & Andress LPA of Cleveland, Scherzer was recognized in the areas of commercial litigation, antitrust litigation, securities litigation and white collar criminal defense.

Robert W. Stein '72 began serving his third term Sept. 1, 2018, as chairman of the board of the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) of Ohio, a \$75 billion pension fund that serves more than 500,000 educators in the state. Stein, who has been on the STRS Ohio board and active in the global institutional trustee community since 2009, is in his sixth consecutive year of board leadership.

Charles Ely '73, who majored in journalism at BGSU, recently retired as a news anchor after 46 years working in the industry. Ely spent the last 35 years at KTUL-TV, News Channel 8 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The TV station named the newsroom at KTUL in his honor March 1.

Dennis Wilson '73 of Wheeling, Illinois, recently published his first novel, "The Grand," with Water Street Press. The book is a political crime thriller available on Amazon and other online booksellers.

Cathy Burke Flament '74 was named the 2018 Citizen of the Year for Bay Village, Ohio. She retired from North Olmsted City Schools after teaching family and consumer science at the high school and middle school levels. President of the Bay Village Historical Society, she has implemented a number of initiatives. Active with Frontline Services, she organizes programs assisting families and individuals transitioning out of homelessness.

The Hon. John W. Wise '74 of Canton, Ohio, was elected chairman by the Ohio Board of Professional Conduct. Wise has served on the board since 2013 and recently was reappointed to his third three-year term. Wise is a judge on the Fifth District Court of Appeals, where he has served since 1994. He earned a Bachelor of Science in education from BGSU.

Ken Hart '75 of Richmond, Virginia, was inducted into the University of Richmond Sports Hall of Fame on Nov. 2, 2018. After working at Ashland University, Southern Methodist University and the University of Richmond, he retired from being an athletic equipment manager after 39 years in June 2015. He worked for four years in BGSU's equipment room as a student while acquiring a bachelor's degree in education.

Donald Levering '78, who earned Master of Fine Arts at BGSU, recently published his 14th book of poetry, "Previous Lives." He also won the Tor House Foundation Robinson Jeffers Prize in 2017. His book is available from Red Mountain Press.

80s

Tamra (Zinn) Cantore '80 hosted her 15th and final Sherwin-Williams Countrified Rock for Research Parkinson's Fundraiser in October 2018 in Atlanta. Nashville songwriter Jeffrey Steele performed again, as he has for all 15 years of the event. He helped raise more than \$190,000 in the final event for the Michael J. Fox Foundation, bringing the total funds raised by Cantore's events to more than \$1 million.

David E. Rohr '80 had his book, "The United States of Ohio: One American State and Its Impact on the Other Forty-Nine," published by Trillium Books at the Ohio State University Press on Jan. 14. The book focuses on the history, politics and development of the state, from its geographical position to its cultural mix and economic development.

Jim Gebhart '81 is celebrating the fifth anniversary of On the Fly Magazine, the eJournal of fly fishing and wing shooting. Gebhart founded the magazine in 2015. It focuses on fly fishing, bird hunting and associated lifestyle topics such as art, book reviews, travel destinations and spirits/beer reviews. He earned a Bachelor of Science from BGSU.

Ernest Auciello '82 recently was named to the 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers list. Super Lawyers is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. Auciello works at the Tucker Ellis LLP law firm in Cleveland.

Shannon David Hamons '82 released his first novel, "Releasing Trophies," available on Amazon Books in Kindle and paperback formats. The book is an account of a small-

town newspaper publisher who is dealing with a life-threatening disease and making unsettling discoveries about his father and others in his small hometown of Le Fleur, Ohio.

Patricia A. Wise '82 of Holland, Ohio, was elected vice chair by the Ohio Board of Professional Conduct. Wise has served on the board since 2014 and has chaired the budget and personnel committees. She is a partner with the Toledo firm of Spengler Nathanson PLL, where her practice focuses on labor and employment law. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication.

Susan Pohle '84 of Solon, Ohio, recently was honored as a "Mom on a Mission" at the 2019 Northeast Ohio Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Dream Gala. Since her son, Eric, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes 22 years ago, she has been an active advocate for helping find a cure for the disease.

Sharon (Hurley) Short '84 of Centerville, Ohio, had her latest novel, "The Widows," published by Minotaur Books Jan. 8 under the pen name Jess Montgomery. The book is a literary historical mystery inspired by Ohio's true first female sheriff in 1925. Set in the Appalachian foothills of Ohio, against the backdrop of coal mining, Prohibition and women's rights, "The Widows" is about two women whose lives collide when the man they both love is murdered.

Duane Pohlman '87 was named Best TV Reporter in Ohio by the Ohio Society of Professional Journalists. The award honors Pohlman's reporting at WKRC-TV, Local 12 in Cincinnati. In addition, Pohlman, who graduated from BGSU with a Bachelor of Science in journalism, was honored with first-place awards for investigations the previous year.

Stephen Tomasko '88 of Akron, Ohio, had his visual project "Loyal to the Lot" show at the inaugural exhibition of the Paul Brown Museum in Massillon, Ohio. Tomasko's stories of the tailgating experience at Cleveland Browns Municipal Lot opened on Oct. 26, 2018. The exhibition is made up of 34 brown-

and-orange photographs of the massive tailgating party starting at 7 a.m. before every Browns home game. Tomasko majored in art history and philosophy at BGSU.

90s

Melissa Azallion '92 was named to the National Law Journal's list of Employment Law Trailblazers. The award annually recognizes legal professionals who have made significant marks on the practice, policy and technological advancements in their sector through new types of strategies. Azallion is a partner with Burr Forman McNair in Hilton Head, South Carolina, where she leads the immigration team and serves as a partner in the labor and employment group.

Angela M. Haas '92, '97 recently published a new book, "Key Theoretical Frameworks: Teaching Technical Communication in the Twenty-First Century," with the Utah State University Press. Drawing on social justice methodologies and cultural studies scholarship, the book offers new curricular and pedagogical approaches to teaching technical communication. Haas earned bachelor's and master's degrees from BGSU.

Greg Githens '95 will have his book "How to Think Strategically: Sharpen Your Mind. Develop Your Competency. Contribute to Success." published by Maven House on July 9. "How to Think Strategically" is a primer for those who want to develop their mental acumen and make strategic impact. Githens earned a Master of Business Administration from BGSU.

Bill Balderaz '97 was honored by his company being named best place to work in central Ohio on Nov. 6, 2018. Futurety, a Columbus-based firm started by Balderaz, was named No. 1 in Columbus Business First's Best Places to Work program. The program recognizes companies that are changing the landscape of work by fostering a high-impact team environment and raising the level of employee satisfaction.

Jodi Spencer Johnson '97 of Akron was named a co-chair of the business law firm Brouse McDowell's insurance recovery practice group. Johnson has practiced in the area of insurance recovery for more than 15 years, advising and representing corporate policyholders in liability and first-party insurance matters. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from BGSU.

Dr. Jennifer Meyers Pickard '99 joined the executive search firm Witt/Kieffer of Oak Brook, Illinois, as a consultant in its education practice department. Prior to Witt/Kieffer, Pickard served as the assistant vice president for divisional initiatives and planning at the University of Arizona. She earned a Bachelor of Science in psychology with a minor in biology from BGSU.

00s

Andrew Bartholomew '00 recently was named chief financial officer of the Sarasota, Florida, startup Omeza, where he will oversee finance and support corporate strategy and operations. Bartholomew earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration in finance from BGSU. During a five-year assignment at Ernst & Young, he served middle market and Fortune 500 companies, providing assurance and advisory services and tax consulting and incentives solutions.

Doug Whitmire '01 received his sixth News Emmy in Chicago on Nov. 10, 2018. Whitmire is the executive producer of the 10 p.m. "Evening News" at the ABC affiliate, WLS, Channel 7. He received a Bachelor of Science in journalism from BGSU.

Scott Edgar '02, who earned a Bachelor of Music from BGSU, is an associate professor of music education at Lake Forest College (Illinois). He recently was named an educational clinician by Conn-Selmer, joining a team of more than 75 speakers, educators and artists from around the globe who provide arts advocacy, strategic planning, artistic development and leadership training for students, teachers and art administrators nationwide.

Dr. George Timmons '02 of Schenectady, New York, was appointed vice president and dean of academic affairs at Columbia-Greene Community College. Prior to accepting the position, Timmons served in several capacities at Excelsior College in Albany, New York. He earned a doctorate in higher education Administration from BGSU.

Lindsay Martinko McKinney '04 was promoted to vice president of client services at the marketing communications agency Meyers + Partners in Chicago. McKinney will continue to head the account management group and will assume expanded responsibilities for integrating marketing, creative and digital development efforts to deliver consistently high quality work and to enhance the overall success of clients' marketing communications programs. She majored in designed studies at BGSU.

Rob Krain '06, executive director of Black Swamp Conservancy in Pemberville, Ohio, received a 2018 20 Under 40 Leadership Recognition Award on Sept. 24, 2018, at the 23rd annual 20 Under 40 ceremony in Toledo. Krain earned a Bachelor of Arts in environmental policy and analysis.

Dr. Suzanne Ondrus '06, who earned a Master of Fine Arts in poetry at BGSU, recently took her craft to West Africa. Ondrus is a Fulbright Scholar in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. She first connected with Burkina Faso while studying in Ouagadougou in 2005 with BGSU. Ondrus teaches creative writing, American poetry and drama, literary theory and American civilization to graduate and undergraduate students at the Department of Anglophone Studies at the University of Ouagadougou.

Dr. Christie A. Cruise '09 of Swansea, Illinois, recently released a new book, "It Don't Hurt Now: My Journey of Self-Love & Self-Acceptance." Cruise, who advocates for women and girls of all shapes to use fitness as a tool to develop positive body image, earned a Ph.D in higher education at BGSU.

Kate Sommerfeld '09, president, social determinants of health at ProMedica in Toledo, received a 2018 20 Under 40 Leadership Recognition Award on

Sept. 24, 2018, at the 23rd annual 20 Under 40 ceremony in Toledo. Sommerfeld earned a Master of Public Administration from BGSU.

10s

Dr. John T. Haman '11 recently joined the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) in Alexandria, Virginia, as a research staff member in IDA's Operational Evaluation Division. IDA is a not-for-profit corporation that operates three federally funded research and development centers in the public interest. Haman earned a doctoral degree in statistics from BGSU.

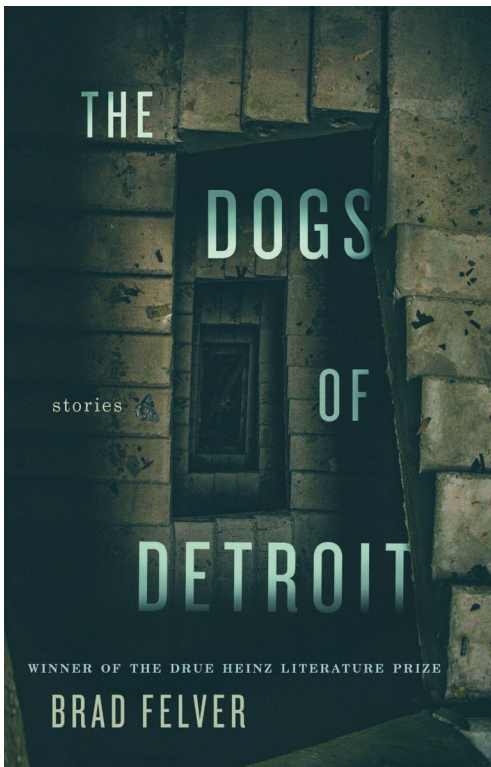
Dave Zenk '11, executive director of Metroparks Toledo, received a 2018 20 Under 40 Leadership Recognition Award on Sept. 24, 2018, at the 23rd annual 20 Under 40 ceremony in Toledo. Zenk earned a Master of Public Administration from BGSU.

Michael Schmitt '12 received the Silent Star Award for 2018 from the PACE Organization of Rhode Island, a health plan serving older adults who wish to maintain their independence and live in the community. Schmitt, a marketing project lead who has been with PACE since 2015, earned a Bachelor of Science in visual communication technologies from BGSU.

Robert L. McEvoy '13 recently joined the law firm Buckley King in Cleveland. McEvoy, formerly a law clerk with the firm, was sworn in before the Ohio Supreme Court in November 2018, and has joined the firm as an associate. He earned a Bachelor of Science in accounting from BGSU.

Brett Creamer '14, who majored in sport management at BGSU and received the M. Joy Sidwell award during his senior year, was named Executive Manager of the Year for 2018 by the Pacific Association of Professional Baseball Clubs. At the time of the award, Creamer was the youngest GM in all of professional baseball at 25 for the Sonoma (California) Stompers.

CREATIVE CORNER



Bowling Green State University lecturer Brad Felver '11 had quite the year in 2018, winning two major awards: the Drue Heinz Literary Prize and O. Henry Prize Story.

"In the fiction writing world, especially when you're a fairly young writer like I still am, the Heinz Prize is this vaguely ludicrous prize that nobody ever expects to win," said Felver, associate chair and undergraduate coordinator in the Department of English "But, every now and then, lightning strikes."

Felver won the Heinz Prize, which includes a \$15,000 cash award along with publication by the University of Pittsburgh Press, for his 14-story collection "The Dogs of Detroit." One of the stories also won an O. Henry Prize, an annual showcase of the year's 20 best stories published in American and Canadian magazines. "Queen Elizabeth" was originally published in the literary magazine One Story.

His life has been a roller coaster ever since winning the Heinz Prize, with promotional tours and talks and having his book reviewed by several publications, including the New York Times.

"The stories in 'The Dogs of Detroit' are frequently about people discovering empathy, and sometimes that's a difficult journey," said Dr. Raymond Craig, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "Brad's writing and compassion is first-rate, and he certainly deserves the recognition that this book is bringing. As an alumnus, he represents our University and the creative writing program well."

Felver earned a Master of Fine Arts from BGSU and was hired as full-time faculty immediately upon graduation.

**BGSU English
lecturer
Brad Felver
wins two
literary awards**

By Bob Cunningham '18



BG CHAT.

A. officialbgsu

10 BGSU students are studying abroad in China over winter session! #bgsu #bgsuwinter #flatfreddie #studyabroad

B. edabroadbgsu

Check out these photos submitted to us by @lkellergk from the Spanish Wonderment Winter Session trip! Eager to say ¡viva á España! ? Visit our website to start your journey today! #falconsabroad #internationaleducation #studyabroad #travel #travelgram #spain #españa #europa #europa

C. edabroadbgsu

@bgsunewzealand is having a great time during their #wintersession! Check out some of their beautiful photos! Want to see New Zealand's stunning landscapes yourself? Visit our website to start your journey today! #falconsabroad #studyabroad #internationaleducation #travel #travelgram #spreadyourwings #newzealand

D. edabroadbgsu

Check out this photo from @sabrinasmyke! Sabrina took in the beauty of the #acropolis while spending her winter term abroad in #athens#greece with @aifsabroad @aifs_greece! Want to explore the ancient ruins of the Mediterranean? Visit our website to start your journey today! #falconsabroad #internationaleducation #studyabroad #educationabroad #winterterm #spreadyourwings #travel #travelgram #europa #mediterranean #templeofposeidon #ancient

E. Gabriel Matney @DoctorMathHney

These BGSU students and I are ready to learn about Mathematics Education in China. We will be at Hunan Normal University for the next couple weeks! #Lovemath #MathEd @edhdbgsu @BGSU_CTM

