Students Travel from the Far East to the Wild West

BGSU Geology Field Camp
Rio Grande, Colorado
May 27 - July 2, 2010

BGSU Peace Studies Trip
Hiroshima, Japan
July 31 - August 10, 2010
features

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BGSU Alumna and Hiroshima survivor, Hiroko Nakamoto (center), with BGSU and Hiroshima students, faculty and staff

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BGSU

Geology Field Camp, students and faculty participating in optional climb of 14,000’ peak, Monarch Pass, Colorado
Over the next several years, BGSU will continue to unveil its new general education curriculum that helps students to forge intentional connections among their courses, and between their general requirements and the needs of their major and minor fields of study. In our last edition of Dimensions, I featured stories on our co-curricular activities; student experiences in the field are the focus of our magazine for Winter 2011.

Opportunities for fieldwork are often the culminating or “capstone” experiences of students’ majors, a chance for students to travel off campus to unfamiliar (and sometimes challenging) environments and to test their knowledge and skills on real-world problems.

This summer I was fortunate to be able to follow two groups of students on their journeys beyond BGSU. In June, I joined a dozen geology students in Durango, Colorado, to learn about how they use Geographic Information System (GIS) technology. Eager to see the trip through our students’ eyes, I was kitted out with one of the ruggedized laptop computers you’ll read about later in the magazine, bottled water, sandwiches, raingear and mosquito repellent. I must admit that I struggled to keep up with a pair of geology majors as we spent a couple of days at 11,000 feet, using the laptops and GPS receivers to map an area of several square miles. I learned many things from my days in the field—not only that ruggedized laptops are heavy and that I need more aerobic exercise, but that BGSU students work proficiently with cutting-edge technologies, and can apply their skills to find practical solutions to problems they will face in their future careers.

In August, I followed students in BGSU’s Peace & Conflict Studies Program on a trip to Hiroshima, Japan, to collaborate with Hiroshima Jogakuin University on a Peace Studies Seminar. For most of us on the trip, this was our first visit to Japan, and we shared the common experience of negotiating a culture and language very different from our own. The 10-day trip was certainly intense. We heard the personal testimony of survivors of the A-Bomb attack in 1945, including BGSU alumna Hiroko Nakamoto; we learned about the impact of nuclear weapons then and now; we listened to the various perspectives surrounding the presence of a U.S. military base at Iwakuni. Most moving, however, was our participation in the Hiroshima Memorial Ceremony on August 6, when the city reminds us never to forget the impact of nuclear war. I was proud to see how our students threw themselves into the experience, facing the challenges of cross-cultural exchanges even as they brought the foundational knowledge and skills gathered from BGSU courses to bear on emotionally charged, international issues. Watching them all learn and grow during the trip was an experience I won’t soon forget.

I hope that you’ll get a sense of the transformative power of these field experiences—and others—in the articles that follow. But I would be remiss if I did not thank the faculty who made these learning experiences so rich for their students. I’m honoured to work with colleagues like Drs. Jim Evans, Kurt Panter, and Jeff Snyder from Geology; Akiko Jones from Asian Studies and Japanese, and Dr. Ellen Gorsevski from the School of Media and Communication. I’m reminded how the faculty in the College of Arts & Sciences give so much to provide our students with rewarding and challenging environments in which to learn skills that will see them through the rest of their lives—wherever in the world their futures take them. Please enjoy our Winter 2011 edition of Dimensions.
New technology gives BGSU geologists new foothold

Dennis Roder  ’70, Geology

Dennis Roder graduated from BGSU in 1970 with a B.S. in geology and he later earned an M.S. in geology from the University of Wisconsin in 1973. He was active in geological field trips during both his undergraduate and graduate education. As a student, he worked for Texaco (oil and gas) and Bear Creek Mining (copper). After graduation, Roder held various geological positions exploring for oil and gas at Enserch Exploration, Dallas, Texas. From 1998 to present, he has been a geological consultant, and recently an exploration geologist at MB Exploration, an independent company exploring for unconventional oil and gas reservoirs. He is originally from Port Clinton, Ohio, and currently lives in Dallas.

In 2005 Roder established the “Dennis L. Roder Geological Field Experience Scholarship” and has recently provided a matching challenge gift to raise funds for the Geology Field Experience. Roder’s generosity will double gifts by donors this year through his $10,000 matching gift.
BGSU geology majors have been learning through field experiences since the early 1940s. Though they still study rock formations dating back millions or even billions of years, today they record their observations in digital form using ruggedized tablet computers, a scenario very unlike that of the days when aspiring geologists plotted information with pencil and paper and the images could easily be smeared by dirt or damaged by the rain.

The current field experience blends traditional field methods with new technologies, including computers, GPS receivers, Geographic Information System (GIS) databases, and aerial photography. The newer technology BGSU employs in its field experience class attracts geology majors from across the United States—and during one summer trip even brought NASA to its camp.

Dr. Dean Eppler, a research scientist at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, spent a day with the BGSU summer geology field team in 2008 to learn more about its ruggedized tablet computers and their use in digital mapping. Eppler worked on designing spacesuits and field equipment for NASA’s mission to return to the moon in 2020 and land the first scientists on Mars in 2030. He wanted to study the tablet PC for its use as a mapping tool in demanding conditions and for its overall ease of use, particularly its stylus pen that is used to draw geological information on the device’s interactive screen.

“The ruggedized tablet computers are designed for ease of use in the field,” says Dr. Jeffrey Snyder, an associate professor of geology and field course co-director.

“Learning how to navigate with a paper map or an aerial photo makes you understand and really appreciate the ruggedized tablet,” adds Emily Freeman, a BGSU graduate student in geology, who completed the field study last summer. “With the computers and integrated GPS receivers, we were able to create maps more accurately using ArcGIS software.”

The students complete their field work in a variety of environments, ranging from desert to mountainous terrain at elevations up to 11,000 feet in areas such as the Basin and Range, Colorado Plateau and Rocky Mountain provinces. They examine geologic features from the Paleozoic and Mesozoic eras to Quaternary glacial deposits.

“Doing a mapping project in the field for the first time is difficult,” says geology graduate student Neal Cropper, who served as a camp manager last summer. “But the course is structured so that you start in a small area, where the geology is easy to see and understand. The faculty work with you to help you develop the patterns and techniques necessary to create an accurate geologic map and interpretation of history. By the end of the trip you are fully prepared to be in a large area, separate from everyone else, and produce a map and interpretation of the most difficult geologic features.”

“BGSU’s geology department has high expectations for its students,” says Dr. Kurt Panter, an associate professor of geology and field course co-director. “After learning field methods using this technology, our students can go anywhere in the world and do field work.”

“This is a fully immersive experience,” says Dr. Simon Morgan-Russell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, who participated in part of the field experience with the teams. “The students live and work together for the duration of the trip, and so they have to be able to work through their differences to solve problems. It’s a head start on what will be expected of them after they graduate.”

The field excursion provides students with six credit hours. Students pitch camp and sleep in tents during part of the trip in New Mexico, and stay in dormitories at Fort Lewis College in Durango while working in Colorado. The geology department also periodically offers trips to the Appalachian Mountains, the upper peninsula of Michigan, and the Ohio-Indiana area.

“The field camp experience was a good capstone on the package of coursework that I did at BGSU,” says alumnus Ben Linzmeier ’09, now a graduate student in the Department of Geoscience at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. “The program brought ideas together and tested my ability to work in a higher stress environment than classes on campus. I also appreciated the team-building aspects of field camp and the necessity of being able to work with others quickly and efficiently. A good field program, like BGSU’s, expands and tests one’s ability to think on multiple spatial and temporal scales.”

If you are interested in supporting this geology experience for students, please visit http://givetobgsu.com/fieldcamp or call Julie Pontasch, Alumni & Development, at 419-372-7617.
When Bowling Green State University students in Peace and Conflict Studies stood at Ground Zero on Aug. 6, they were not in New York City. They were among throngs of Japanese at that country’s Ground Zero—Hiroshima—where the atomic bomb fell in 1945. Visiting as part of a field experience class, they stood at the Peace Memorial and offered flowers in honor of the victims of the bomb and in hope for world peace.

Though the students had read accounts of the bomb’s devastation and impact on the Japanese psyche, the actual visit brought their understanding of the horrific event to a new and profound level. That is the precise goal of out-of-classroom experiences such as this, and an important part of BGSU’s strategic plan, to create distinctive coherent undergraduate learning experiences that integrate curricular and co-curricular programs.

“The students were completely absorbed when they listened to the survivors speak and saw physical artifacts from the day the bomb fell. It is very humbling to see it firsthand,” says Dr. Simon Morgan-Russell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He accompanied the students on the trip, along with Akiko Kawano Jones, director of Asian Studies at BGSU, and Dr. Ellen Gorsevski, an assistant professor of communication.

“We saw clocks and watches from 1945 that had all stopped at 8:15, the time the bomb dropped,” he says.

“At the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, we got a very close look at exactly what transpired on Aug. 6, 1945,” recalls Shelby Kennedy, a senior majoring in Asian Studies. “They had actual pieces of stone and metal that had survived the bombing, and clothing that had been partially vaporized.”

Kennedy took part in the field experience “to understand how a city that had been devastated by war could be a thriving, vibrant city 65 years later,” adding she was surprised at how the people of Hiroshima were able to create something positive out of the war.

Kyle Kent, a BGSU senior majoring in Liberal Studies with a focus on International Relations, gained a better understanding of the Japanese perspective. “We learn about the war and nuclear atrocities in the United States, but never through a Japanese perspective,” he says.

One of the few Ohio universities to have an Asian Studies major, BGSU also offers a minor in Peace and Conflict Studies. BGSU students have visited Hiroshima every second year since 2006. The program is offered through a partnership with Hiroshima Jogakuin University, which provides lecturers and experts during the field experience and places students with host families during their visit.

The major emphasis of the whole experience was coming to understand how a city that faced mass destruction in a matter of moments became a signature city of peace.

The students heard the Secretary General of the United Nations speak at the Peace Memorial and witnessed the historic visit of John Roos, the United States Ambassador to Japan, who was the first U.S. representative to attend the annual ceremony.

“Although we talked about a lot of things that could really make a person believe that the world is a terrible place,” says Kennedy, “the people of Hiroshima made me believe that there was still hope for peace.”

If you are interested in supporting this peace studies experience for students, please visit http://givetobgsu.com/peacestudies or call Julie Pontasch, Alumni & Development, at 419-372-7617.
When opportunity came knocking, telecommunications junior Brad Woznicki was ready. For Woznicki, opportunity came when Jason Jackson ’95, radio/TV/film, TV host and courtside reporter for the Miami Heat basketball team, spoke about sports media on campus last spring.

“Immediately after he finished his presentation, I went up to him, introduced myself, explained what I wanted to do for my career, and asked him what I needed to do to get an internship with the Miami Heat,” says Woznicki, who plans to pursue a career in sports broadcasting.

His tenacity paid off. After five months of e-mails with Jackson and Ted Ballard, executive director of the Miami Heat broadcasting department, Woznicki was offered a summer internship with the NBA team.

“The job acquisition process in TV/radio is being able to show people what you can do before they invest in you,” says Jackson, who completed an internship at WCPO-TV in his hometown of Cincinnati while a student at BGSU.

“My internship was the sole reason I was able to secure my first on-air job. I’m not sure how talented I was on air, but in four years of working behind the scenes I learned to edit.” Internships in the communications field have taken on a new level of intensity as the market becomes more competitive and employers look for graduates with more than classroom knowledge.

“Field experiences are 100 percent necessary,” notes Dick Maxwell ’70, journalism, retired senior director of broadcasting for the NFL. “Today a person has to distinguish himself or herself to even be considered for an entry position. You cannot have enough field experience. It’s that simple.” Although internships weren’t formally offered while Maxwell was a student at BGSU, he had three internship-type positions.

While at a local radio station, Maxwell learned an important lesson—sports announcing was not something he wanted to pursue. “In my view, it’s just as important to know not to pursue a certain path at a young age. These experiences allowed me to concentrate on journalism and sports PR.”

Ashley Ward, a senior communication major, took an equally proactive approach to an internship position with Downtown Perrysburg, Inc., a nonprofit organization, and landed a Merchant Liaison marketing and communication internship. In October, she was offered the position of interim program manager, a job she holds as she completes her senior year at BGSU.

“My internship has given me worlds of experience that you can’t learn in a textbook,” she says. “It taught me how important communication and conflict resolution are, and to accomplish tasks as efficiently as possible.”

It’s exactly this kind of experience that BGSU’s departments of Communication, Journalism and Public Relations, and Telecommunications in the School of Media and Communication hope its students earn.

“Each summer, we have about 45 students who are completing internships either locally or somewhere in the United States,” says Dr. Lori Liggett, internship coordinator in the Department of Telecommunications. Students receive one credit hour for every 100 hours of experience they earn. They are evaluated by their on-site supervisor and complete a self-evaluation.

Kate Noftsinger, a senior majoring in journalism, like Woznicki and Ward, vigorously pursued her “dream” internship with Ms. Magazine. “I wanted it badly,” she recalls. “I am a journalist—and a feminist. It just made sense.”

Noftsinger began her internship with Ms. in May 2010, working full time, fact-checking the magazine’s print and online publications, and writing for its blog and summer issue.

“My writing is more focused now, and I better understand how to structure it differently for newspapers, magazines or online,” says Noftsinger of her internship experience.
While earning a master’s degree in popular culture at BGSU, Eileen O’Neill ’90, interned at Discovery Communications. Twenty-one years later she has been named to the newly created position of group president, Discovery and TLC networks. O’Neill has also served as president and general manager of TLC since 2008, which earned record ratings under her watch. Under her direction, TLC has added a number of popular reality series including “Cake Boss” and “19 Kids and Counting.” O’Neill also was the original developer of “Jon & Kate Plus 8,” which broke cable ratings records in 2009.

O’Neill was back on campus in September 2010 to talk about her life “From Freddie and Frieda to the Cake Boss.” Her public lecture, part of BGSU’s Centennial series, was sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate College and the Department of Popular Culture. O’Neill discussed the launch of the Planet Green channel, which she is credited with accomplishing in less than a year, as well as how the University prepared her for her career and the leadership skills she relies on.

In 2004 she produced the first Discovery Health Channel Medical Honors, recognizing national health and medical pioneers. She also helped develop the National Body Challenge, which over five years has helped Americans lose an aggregate of nearly 500 tons.

The University recognized her remarkable achievements in April 2010 when she was welcomed back to campus as one of BGSU’s “100 Most Prominent Alumni.”

At the conclusion of her September lecture, O’Neill announced that she and her partner, Dr. Karen Stoddard ’75—also a BGSU popular culture M.A. degree graduate—were giving the University a $100,000 gift to establish “The Stoddard and O’Neill Endowment for Studies in Popular Culture,” as well as another $10,000 to the department that it can use immediately to assist students and faculty with their studies and scholarship.

“It will let us take advantage of opportunities for research that we wouldn’t otherwise be able to do,” said Dr. Marilyn Motz, popular culture chair. “We will also use some of it to fund conferences and speakers on campus. It gives us a lot of opportunity to plan things and take a leadership role to sponsor some cutting-edge research in popular culture.”

“There’s a direct correlation between BGSU and my job at Discovery,” O’Neill said. “The popular culture studies program, just as a broad-based discipline, allowed me to explore interests and what I liked and didn’t like. I can’t say enough about the program. This donation will allow students and faculty to further explore their interests.”
Grand Lake St. Mary’s in Celina is a tranquil spot, but forget about taking a cool dip in the water. The algae that gives the lake its blue-green cast could make you sick. A research team led by BGSU biologists Drs. Michael McKay and George Bullerjahn is studying why this type of algae is growing here and what can be done to encourage the growth of a less toxic form.

“Something is happening in the lake causing the growth of this particular algae,” said Ben Beall, a postdoctoral research associate from Alberta, Canada. “It causes a layer of scum to form on top of the water and even contains toxins, which led to a ban on swimming.”

The experiment is a collaboration between BGSU, the city of Celina and Algaeventure Systems. The company wants to know if a different type of algae called diatoms can be grown. Diatom algae can be used for biofuel and would also help improve fishing on the lake. The researchers are hoping they can manipulate the nutrient content of the water to stimulate diatom growth.

The site is marked with a large sign proclaiming it a “Grand Lake Ecosystem Experiment.” Several large containers with mesh tops float along the lakeshore, each containing a mini-lake environment. Two of them are control samples while the others contain different combinations of nitrates, phosphates and silica. Nitrate and phosphate are found naturally in the lake.

Katrina Thomas, a marine biology junior from St. Mary’s, heard about the project from McKay, who is her advisor. He asked her to join the project after learning she was from the area.

“It’s been a great experience, and I’ve learned a lot about how to use the lab,” Thomas said. “Plus, I never knew there was harmful algae out there that can cause serious damage to your body.”

Thomas is called the “master sampler.” Using a long stick with a cup attached to the end, she stirs the water inside the container before scooping up a sample and transferring it to a clear plastic jar.

She takes the sample across the street to a lab inside the Celina Water Treatment Plant, where she sends it through a microfilter, leaving the nutrients behind. Thomas freezes the filters, adds a chemical to the filtered water and then puts the sample in a refrigerator to be taken back to BGSU.

Once at BGSU, Beall and others analyze the samples for water chemistry. They see how much nutrient is left and if it changed any property of the water. They also look at the type of organisms that have grown and the number of them in the water.

Beall says the first stage of the experiment was successful and showed it is possible to manipulate the lake water. They are still analyzing the data to determine the nutrients’ effect.

Thomas remembers swimming in the lake when she was a child and says it wasn’t so bad. “Now I want to help turn it around to how it used to be.”
Just six miles outside Bowling Green, off Route 6, four wind turbines rise into the sky. They are the largest turbines in the state that feed into an electric grid, and the focus of a massive collaborative research project between BGSU and the University of Toledo. Faculty and students from both schools are looking at the effects of these turbines on bird and bat migration.

When the conditions are right, about 10 students and faculty members from both schools come to this location at dusk to set up thousands of dollars worth of equipment in the shadow of two turbines. The prime migrating period runs from the last two weeks of September to the first two weeks of October. According to Dr. Verner Bingman, Distinguished Research Professor of biology, the turbines are potentially more of a challenge for nocturnal migrants.

The team from UT is referred to as “research and development,” focusing on the automated detection of birds and bats using radar, thermal imagery and microphones that capture flight-call vocalizations to determine the types of birds in the area. BGSU’s emphasis is developing software within the context of automated detection, plus field deployment of the technology with the ultimate goal of creating a database of what these fliers are doing.

“We’ve been working for about a year and a half,” said Dr. Mohsin Jamali, a professor in the UT College of Engineering. “We have grant money to go for three years, but we will look at funding to continue past that. This will be a long-term project.”

Jamali hopes to eventually have remote sensors on the turbines that will send data wirelessly back to computers in their lab. He says what their research uncovers could go beyond wind turbines and also help monitor bird strikes on planes.

The multinational group features students and faculty from India, Canada, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey. The team is typically outside for several hours, monitoring the data. Inside a white trailer, a computer monitor shows the pictures coming from the infrared camera. If you watch closely enough, you can make out the flapping of wings.

A high-powered marine radar shows the migratory track of birds, bats and even insects. A yellow dot moving in a relatively straight path across the screen indicates a bird. Jeremy Ross, a BGSU Ph.D. student in biology from Manitoba, Canada, says they are working on improving how data from the radar are being collected and stored, with hopes of field testing in the fall and full deployment during the spring migration.

While looking underneath the turbines, Bingman’s students made a surprising discovery. They found dead bats that had obviously been hit by the turbines, while others were in perfect condition. “Those bats have been sent out for analysis,” noted Ross. “But it looks like a change in barometric pressure around the turbines caused their lungs to collapse, while birds are better equipped to handle pressure changes.”

Bingman says Ohio’s legislators are excited about the prospect of putting wind turbines just offshore in Lake Erie, but there are many environmental factors to consider. “We can’t just throw them up,” Bingman explained. “We’re in a major migrating area and it’s a big concern, especially in the western basin of Lake Erie. We need to know if these turbines are any more dangerous to birds than a new building going up in downtown Toledo.”

“Pre- and post-construction assessments of these turbines are necessary,” said Ross. “On a night with a high bird migration, these turbines could be turned off. We also need to look at ways to encourage birds and bats to avoid the turbines.”
Virtual Wolfe Center now complete

The Wolfe Center for the Arts, currently under construction, has a twin sister in the virtual world of Second Life. Construction on the virtual replica of the new building began during fall 2009 and is now complete. According to Bonnie Mitchell, co-facilitator of the BGSU Virtual Campus, “The campus community is very eager to see and experience being inside the new Wolfe Center. The replica on the BGSU Virtual Campus enables people to get a true spatial sense of walking around and being inside this amazing building.”

The team of 3-D modelers included Digital Arts majors Josh Treiber, Brandon Moore and Paul Woidke. The virtual navigation was programmed by computer science major, Chris Brown. The project coordinators were Bonnie Mitchell and Anthony Fontana, both from the School of Art, working in conjunction with Ryan Miller and Dan Lemmerbrock from design and construction.

The virtual Wolfe Center can be visited at any time in Second Life. The official grand opening took place in December during the ArtsXtravaganza celebration in the School of Art.

For more information, visit www.bgsu.edu/secondlife.

McMaster Visiting Scientist reveals ‘nano’ world

In the world of science, some of the tiniest matter holds the biggest promise. BGSU audiences learned more about advances in nanotechnology from a leader in the field in the Harold McMaster Visiting Scientist lecture. Last year’s speaker was Dr. Catherine J. Murphy of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Hosted by the College of Arts and Sciences, her talk, on “Nano Eco Art,” was held September 15 in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater. This was the first time a woman has been named BGSU’s McMaster Visiting Scientist. Murphy, the Peter C. and Gretchen Miller Markunas Professor of Chemistry at Illinois, took a look at current events in nanotechnology, from basic research in the lab, to the environment, and finally to nanotechnology-inspired art.

She explained, “The prefix ‘nano’ means one-billionth. ‘Nanotechnology’ refers, in general, to the study and use of matter on the 1-100 nanometer length scale. At these length scales, the fundamental properties of matter can change as a function of size. For example, gold appears gold on the bulk scale; but particles of gold that are 20 nanometers in diameter appear red.”

Murphy has been on the Illinois faculty since 2009. Research conducted by the Murphy Research Group is at the interface of materials chemistry, inorganic chemistry, biophysical chemistry and nanotechnology. The group’s primary goals are to develop inorganic nanomaterials for biological and energy-related applications, and to understand the chemical interactions of these nanomaterials with their surroundings.
BGSU students name Heath Diehl
Master Teacher

It is perhaps telling that Dr. Heath Diehl’s academic background is in not only English, but more specifically in theatre. “At its core, teaching constitutes an act of performance,” the Bowling Green State University faculty member said in his philosophy of teaching statement.

This emphasis on communication, on truly reaching an audience—his students—has earned him the Master Teacher Award, presented by the Student Alumni Connection and chosen by BGSU students. Diehl was honored at the Faculty Awards dinner in March 2010.

“He’s a really engaging teacher who seems to invite students into the ‘performance’ with him. It’s hard not to want to participate in his class,” said Claire McBroom, an English major who graduated in May 2010.

An instructor in General Studies Writing and the Honors Program, Diehl brings self-awareness and self-reflection along with a focus on students’ receptivity, level of preparation and interests. Also, he says, listening skills are important to being a teacher.

“As a profession, teaching is about sharing—and not just one-way sharing, either,” he said. “Certainly I share my knowledge and my expertise with my students on a daily basis, but my students also bring different types of knowledge and different fields of expertise to the table when they enroll in my classes and I fully expect them to share that . . . with their peers and me.”

“He is challenging and difficult but incredibly fun and passionate about what he’s doing,” McBroom said. “No matter what a student is researching, whether a play or a book or even an advertisement, he puts a lot of thought and effort into helping you work out your ideas. He sets a high level and a standard of what he expects from you, and there’s a lot of respect there. As seriously as he takes his teaching and learning, he is a lot of fun,” she said.

Diehl shared his own deepest beliefs when he participated in a writing exercise based on the “This I Believe” series on National Public Radio. He and other faculty collaborated with students in the Honors Program on a book of essays. That book, “Vision and Values,” was recently published by Honors.

Blair honored for connecting computers, writing

Dr. Kristine Blair, chair of the English department, is the recipient of the Computers and Composition Charles Moran Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Field.

Inaugurated in 2003 in honor of the 20th anniversary of the international journal Computers and Composition, the award recognizes exemplary scholarship and professional service to the field of computers and writing.

A specialist in online education, digital rhetoric and technological literacy, Blair received the award at the 2010 Computers and Writing Conference at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind. She was nominated by external colleagues who commended her “role in promoting the growth of the field by generously sharing her expertise with colleagues and by mentoring as well as collaborating with new scholars in the discipline.”
Journalism major gets opportunity of a lifetime

Alesia Hill still has two semesters to go at BGSU, but she already knows where she will work after graduation.

Hill, a journalism major from Pickerington, was chosen to participate in the 2010 LIN Media Minority Scholar and Training Program. The prestigious national award is given to just one student each year. Winners receive a $20,000 scholarship for each of the next two years, paid summer internships at one of LIN’s television stations and a job after graduation. LIN also provides housing and a car during the internship.

Hill applied after learning about the scholarship through an e-mail sent by the journalism department. “I was in New York when I got the news,” she said. “I started crying and thanking them and I called my mom, who also started crying. I was just so excited and feel really blessed to get this opportunity.”

Despite the long hours and often low pay, Hill would like to be a reporter. She spent the summer at WDTN, the NBC affiliate in Dayton, where she received hands-on experience in all of the station’s departments.

“I really love people, interacting and talking with them, getting stories and investigative journalism. Watching the newscasts in Dayton, they really have it down to an art. It takes a lot of discipline.” Last fall, Hill was the editor of the Obsidian, a monthly campus publication covering minority communities and related issues.

BGSU dominates Toledo Area Artists show

BGSU School of Art faculty, students, alumni and former instructors blew away the competition at the 92nd Toledo Area Artists Exhibition taking home 12 of the 20 awards presented.

“We have a highly accomplished and dedicated faculty who give lots of personal attention to our students, in a culture of mutual respect,” Dr. Katerina Rüedi Ray, director of the School of Art, explained. “Our students have a strong work ethic and an endless openness and curiosity that leads to original and extremely well executed work.

There were over 800 entries, of which just over 100 were exhibited. The jurors were Kathryn Reeves, an art professor at Purdue University and Kitty McManus Zurko, director/curator of the College of Wooster Art Museum. The BGSU-affiliated winners are:

- Felicia Szorad, alumna, Athena Art Society Award
- Alison Parsons, alumna, Molly Morpeth Canaday Award
- Ross Roadrick, senior, UT Art Dept Award
- Kelly Sheehan, alumna, Dominick Labino Glass Award
- Michael Arrigo, associate professor, School of Art, Roulet Medal
- Tyler Benjamin, senior, ACGT Purchase Award
- Spencer Cunningham, alumnus and former instructor, Third Award
- Brandon Briggs, graduate student, Second Place
- Joseph Pintz, instructor, School of Art, Second Place
- Haik Avanian, former student, First Place
- Scott Darlington, visiting assistant professor, School of Art, First Place

Forsyth full scholarships awarded to top science students

It’s an extraordinary opportunity for extraordinary students, given in honor of an extraordinary faculty member. Five high school seniors were awarded the Forsyth Medal and, with it, full, four-year scholarships to major in one of the sciences at BGSU.

The program, which is in its first year, honors the accomplishments and memory of Dr. Jane Forsyth, a professor emerita of geology. Students were nominated by their high schools as being their top science student. A committee of BGSU science faculty selected the five recipients.

Winning were: Hannah Duffy of Cleveland; Natalie Northrup of Oregon; Sarah Scisson of Toledo; Lydia Thiel of Bucyrus, and Macy Weatherhead of Hicksville, all of Ohio.

“The program is part of a larger effort to increase the number of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) majors at BGSU,” said geologist Dr. Charles Onasch, director of the School of Earth, Environment and Society.

As a role model, students could ask for no better than Jane Forsyth. One of Ohio’s preeminent scientists and a pioneer in her field, she was recognized as a leading authority on the glacial geology of Ohio and co-authored the first glacial geologic map of the state.

She taught at BGSU for 27 years (1965-92), studying the interrelationships between geology, botany and ecology long before interdisciplinary research in the sciences was popular. She was best known as a dedicated teacher and mentor for many students, particularly women. It is in recognition of her many professional accomplishments as a woman scientist, her love and knowledge of the natural world, and her willingness to share it with others that BGSU awards the Forsyth Medal.

BGSU scholar examines roots of underdevelopment in Mexico

It is hard to imagine today that during the mid-18th century Mexico was in about the same state of economic and human development as today’s developed nations. What happened to hinder its development while others were surging ahead?

Dr. Amilcar Challu, an assistant professor of history at Bowling Green State University, received a $50,400 fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities to study the historical origins of Mexico’s underdevelopment from the vantage point of how the country coped with food crises in the decades preceding its independence. The funding for “The Political Economy of Hunger in Bourbon, Mexico, 1730-1820” will enable him to focus entirely on research and writing this academic year.

While there were many factors involved in Mexico’s failure to develop, Challu argues that a “major decline in accessibility to food” is a key element. This brought about a decline in living standards, an unprecedented rise in inequality and a “political and socioeconomic crisis” that still reverberates in today’s Mexico.

Historically, much land had been communally owned by indigenous people, and commercial, private agriculture was relatively marginal, Challu explained. But over the 18th century, this balance changed. Population grew, and so did mining and other economic activities that increased the demand for grain.

(Continued next page)
Corn was both the staple in the Mexican diet and the fodder of mules, which at that time virtually powered the entire economy, from grinding ore to extracting silver to moving freight across Mexico’s mountainous geography.

As a result, the growth in the demand for food outpaced supply. Prices went up and commercial agriculture became very profitable. Wealthy landowners grabbed the best lands, displacing self-sufficient, small producers. Markets developed to get food to consumers. This was good for relatively affluent consumers and commercial farmers, but put pressure on the impoverished people in rural areas who increasingly relied on the market to acquire the food to which they were traditionally entitled. When a threat to food security was perceived, such as a summer drought or a frost in October, regions tended to hold onto their food supplies, prices spiraled up and the entire supply network was affected. Food shortages led to disease and further deterioration of the population.

“This confluence of events increased inequality and restrained Mexico from capitalizing on the opportunities for development that other countries were starting to experience,” Challu said.

“Around 1800 and for the first time in its history,” he concluded, “Mexico had lower standards of living and higher inequality than Western Europe, and this story is intrinsically connected to dramatic changes in access to food in the 18th century.”

Challu sees parallels today with the effects of trade agreements such as NAFTA, which, while benefitting some sectors of a population, can be devastating to others. Similarly, the recent competition in the use of crops for food or energy use, and the rise in grain prices that has triggered, reverberates with the historical experience. “Present-day issues prompted me to talk about this in historical terms,” he said.

BGSU art ‘re-surges’ at Huntington Center

Colorful plastic roller skates, cups, baseball caps, ponies and sand shovels littered a wall and the floor of the Huntington Center, the new Lucas County ice arena, as three artists from BGSU installed “Re-surgence,” a sculpture of recycled, donated toys and kitchen utensils. The 50-foot-long piece forms a silhouette of the Maumee River. Visitors to the arena will “flow” along with it as they ride the escalator to the second floor. “Re-surgence” is at the Jefferson-Huron street entrance to the arena.

BGSU sculpture instructor Greg Mueller and School of Art alumni Sayaka Ganz and Steve Williams’s proposal won a national competition sponsored by the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo. “We chose to make our sculpture out of recycled materials to be in tune with the building, which is LEED-certified,” Mueller said, adding that Ganz also frequently works with reclaimed plastic in her own art. “We wanted to capture the concepts of water, energy and movement to complement the hockey arena, and to celebrate the shape of the Maumee River as it flows from Maumee into Lake Erie.”

The sculpture was constructed at downtown Toledo’s Imagination Station, the interactive science museum. Ganz said her favorite aspect of working there was the “great energy from the kids—it rubs off on us.”

The most difficult part of the project was getting enough of the red, blue, green and purple plastic pieces. “The idea was to obtain linear shapes that would create a motion similar to the Maumee’s so that your eyes would flow from one end of the sculpture to the other,” Williams said. The project was part of an Art Walk event last summer in which kids could fasten parts to sections of the sculpture, in keeping with the community-ownership theme of the piece.

The artists agreed that the best parts about the project were being part of a team and having the support and involvement of community leaders and businesses. “I think what is unique about Toledo and Bowling Green is that people are accessible to help. It seems like people are willing to open their doors,” Mueller said. “Toledo is embracing the arts, and that is exciting to be part of.”
**Leading expert to speak on ‘nuclear alarmism’**

One of the preeminent experts in the field of political science delivered Bowling Green State University’s first Nakamoto Peace and Conflict Studies Lecture in April 2010. Dr. John Mueller presented “Nuclear Alarmism from Hiroshima to Al Qaeda.”

Mueller holds the Woody Hayes Chair of National Security Studies at the Mershon Center, and is a professor of political science, at Ohio State University. He has written extensively on public opinion and U.S. foreign policy, as well as warfare and terrorism. He is currently working on terrorism, particularly on the reactions (or over-reactions) it often inspires. His most recent book, Atomic Obsession: Nuclear Alarmism from Hiroshima to Al Qaeda, published in November 2009 by Oxford University Press, suggests that atomic terrorism is highly unlikely and that efforts to prevent nuclear proliferation frequently have damaging results. He has also written “Overblown: How Politicians and the Terrorism Industry Inflame National Security Threats, and Why We Believe Them,” published in 2006 by Free Press.

Mueller is the author of a multiple-prize-winning book analyzing public opinion during the Korean and Vietnam wars, “War, Presidents and Public Opinion,” deemed “a classic” by the American Political Science Review.

An award-winning teacher, Mueller has also appeared on such popular television shows as “The O’Reilly Factor,” “20/20” and “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart.” He has written two scripts for musicals, authored “Astaire Dancing,” and is the director of the Ohio State Dance Film Archive.

In addition to the lecture, the Peace and Conflict Studies program sponsored an essay contest on nuclear issues, with a $500 scholarship for the winner.

**Grant seeks to create a more ‘IDEAL’ place for women in STEM**

BSU is taking an important step toward improving prospects for women and underrepresented minority men in the fields of science, math and technology. It is a partner in the fünf (German: five) other northern Ohio universities in a three-year, nearly $1 million National Science Foundation (NSF) program called IDEAL—Institutions Developing Excellence in Academic Leadership.

Led by Case Western Reserve University, the partnership includes BGSU, Cleveland State and Kent State universities, the University of Akron and the University of Toledo. Dr. Deanne Snively, interim associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is co-director at BGSU.

The purpose of the program is to identify the factors responsible for the underrepresentation of tenure- and tenure-track women in science and engineering faculties, to implement change initiatives designed for each campus to reach gender equity, and assemble senior academic leadership in the universities to disseminate best practices from the participating universities. BGSU, like many universities, has few tenured and tenure-track women faculty in the sciences and would like to increase diversity in those disciplines.

Headng up the effort at Bowling Green are Change Leaders, Drs. Sheila Roberts, geology; Laura Leventhal, computer science; and Helen Michaels, biological sciences. They have been meeting regularly with members from the partner institutions.

“BGSU decided on ‘Build Intellectual Community and Collegiality’ to set the stage for surveying the campus climate and building leadership for women in the sciences,” said Snively.

“One of the first goals of IDEAL is get upper administration members involved to help insure that change will happen,” she added. When BGSU was invited by Case Western to become a partner, Dr. Kenneth Borland, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, was immediately on board, Snvely reported. He has been very supportive, as have Dr. Simon Morgan-Russell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Associate Dean Julie Barnes, say the change team.

For the first year of the three-year IDEAL program, the Change Leader team will identify the specific barriers to career advancement through surveys and focus groups, and will develop strategies for creating opportunities for collegial interactions.

The BGSU plan has three elements: To lend support to the proposed charter change, debated in the Faculty Senate, regarding conditions under which tenure-track faculty can stop their tenure clock without penalty; to understand the issues facing women faculty members in STEM areas at BGSU, and to begin to learn how existing strictures, specifically Title IX, relate to and can positively enhance the diversity of STEM areas at BGSU.

IDEAL builds on Case Western’s NSF ADVANCE Institutional Transformation Grant, awarded in 2003. Case Western established the program Academic Careers in Engineering and Science (ACES) and accomplished growth in the numbers women in science and engineering faculty and leadership positions. IDEAL promulgates the successful components of those ACES initiatives.

Kelly Mack, the NSF’s ADVANCE program director, said the new award is exciting partly because it focuses on the northern Ohio region. She said IDEAL’s coordinated and systematic approach would, ultimately, achieve greater results than if the six universities acted separately.

More information can be found on the IDEAL website at http://www.case.edu/provost/ideal/index.html
Leontis said.

“...but it’s not directly useful to biologists,” Leontis said, referring to the sequences that have been completed, describing how these sequences contribute to understanding what the organism is and how it functions.

“...twist, turn, fold and loop—that determines how the sequences of RNAs and proteins, which points out that “orientation can go so far in making freshmen feel connected.”

Bowling Green has recently renewed its commitment to creating an integrated experience through its newly designed undergraduate curriculum, which will carry the themes of critical thinking, exploration of values, problem solving and diversity through all four years of the undergraduate program. Essential to this “Bowling Green Experience” is connecting classroom learning to co-curricular activities in a meaningful way. Learning communities and first-year programs are among the many “high-impact practices” that provide the distinctive education for which BGSU is known.

BGSU has been at the forefront of the learning community movement in the country and has been noted for its communities in the U.S. News report multiple times, beginning in 2003. U.S. News notes that “in learning communities, students typically take two or more linked courses as a group and get to know one another and their professors well. Some learning communities are also residential.” BGSU has a number of these communities, ranging from those in which students share a common major, such as health science or urban education, to those in which they share a commitment to an area of interest, such as global connections or appreciation of the arts.

$1.3 million grant boosts BGSU RNA research

A group of BGSU researchers is immersed in a project that expands our knowledge base about genes. Their work translates existing information into a form that tells biologists more about the organisms they study.

Funded by a four-year, $1.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Neocles Leontis, chemistry; Dr. Craig Zirbel, mathematics and statistics; bioinformatics doctoral student Anton Petrov; and statistics doctoral student James Roll are creating tools that will enable biomedical researchers to use the new knowledge for drug development and gene therapy, among many other applications.

They are collaborating with the international Protein Data Bank (PDB) and the Nucleic Acid Database (NDB), and with colleagues at Rutgers University.

Though the NIH funding is new, Zirbel has been collaborating with Leontis and Leontis has been collaborating for about 10 years on the effort. Students have made significant contributions over that time; many are now in teaching and research positions at prestigious universities.

“Our research collaboration is training new scientist/scholar/teachers for the U.S. STEM work force—a top priority of the state of Ohio and the nation,” Leontis said.

It is now possible to “sequence” the DNA of a bacterium in a day, and a human being in a week, he said. But while those long chains of nucleotide bases contain the chemical “recipe” for each organism, they do not paint a three-dimensional picture of its actual structure. And it is the structure—how the sequences of RNAs and proteins twist, turn, fold and loop—that determines what the organism is and how it functions.

“There is a huge repository of gene sequences that have been completed, but it’s not directly useful to biologists,” Leontis said.

The BGSU team is focusing on ribonucleic acid (RNA). Leontis describes RNA molecules as “the software controlling how the genes are expressed to make proteins.”

“We’re developing software and data-mining tools that can be used to look for 3-D motifs, or repeating patterns, in 3-D structures and in sequences. Identifying and classifying these motifs will enable researchers to begin to predict their functions,” Leontis said.

With the assistance of previous students, Zirbel has written the code for searching RNA structures and sequences for motifs. “We plan to integrate these 3-D motifs into the PDB/NDB so that researchers can search any way they want to, and quickly,” he explained. “By observing commonalities, we can make predictions for structures and how they function.”

Petrov, a third-year Ph.D. student from St. Petersburg, Russia, is using the code to search for these motifs, which will be analyzed to determine if they are similar enough to reliably predict what function they control. “It becomes more precise as we accumulate more data,” Zirbel said.

The team will make the “motif atlas” available online through the Nucleic Acid Database and also provide interactive Web tools that researchers can use to search for and predict functions of RNA motifs.

BGSU lauded again in U.S. News ‘America’s Best Colleges’

The undergraduate experience is a primary focus for Bowling Green State University, and once again its efforts have been recognized in U.S. News and World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges.”

The 2011 edition cites BGSU for excellence in first-year experience programs and learning communities.

The two rankings are listed under the “Strong Focus on Student Success” category, which lists “schools with outstanding examples” of these programs. Says the report, “Some schools are much more determined than others to provide freshmen and all undergrads with the best possible experience, recognizing that certain enriched offerings, from service learning to learning communities to study abroad, are linked to student success.”

BGSU has been at the forefront of the learning community movement in the country and has been noted for its communities in the U.S. News report...
**Marina City: Bertrand Goldberg’s Urban Vision**, published by Princeton Architectural Press and included on their top 15 bestselling volume list in November 2010, tells how one man’s singular vision for urban revitalization was achieved through unprecedented collaboration with labor leaders, politicians and business leaders.

“Bertrand Goldberg had a strong commitment to improving society and was a thorough blend of idealism and pragmatism,” Ray said. “He was a great model for architectural practice and for creating beautiful buildings that contribute to the life of a city. Marina Center is also an example of how the fate of buildings is subject to larger forces beyond anyone’s control.”

At a time, in the late 1950s, when Chicagoans were fleeing the city and federal mortgage insurance was aimed largely at suburban development, Goldberg devised his plan for a unique complex of apartments, offices, commercial businesses, recreation and public spaces. This required convincing the city to rezone the area for mixed-use structures, which then had an encouraging effect on the neighborhood. To enable funding for the project, Goldberg went to Washington, D.C., to persuade the Federal Housing Authority to allow federal mortgage insurance for investors.

He partnered with the leader of the powerful Building Service Employees International Union, who invested union pension funds; with real estate developer Chuck Swibel (future leader of the Chicago Housing Authority), and the first Mayor Daley to get the project off the ground.

When the 60-story buildings rose, they embodied a number of “firsts”: built on the first piece of land to have legal status in Chicago, they were the largest real estate deal in the Midwest and the tallest housing structure and largest concrete structure in the U.S. They were also the first all-electric housing structure: General Electric provided all the appliances for the apartments.

An architect’s delight, Marina City’s ingenious curvilinear design enabled the foundation to be much lighter than usual, saving considerably on materials and construction costs. “It is very efficient structurally,” said Ray, who lived in the building for three years. The glass fronts of the small, wedge-shaped apartments provide sight lines out to the lake while deflecting Chicago’s notorious winds. With large balconies and individual boat ramps, its middle-class residents could enjoy a quality of life usually reserved for the better off, and today Marina City is the home of many architects, Ray noted.

However, even visionary developments are subject to the fortunes of the day, and as its champions fell out of power, Marina City eventually was sold and then became a virtual “ward of the court,” said Ray, during the savings and loan crisis of the 1980s, until its revival in the late 1990s.

She and Marjanović have unearthed a trove of information about the remarkable project, finally giving it its due.

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**Researcher achieves first view of cell nuclear process**

When Dr. Weidong Yang, biological sciences, showed a movie at a conference of a single molecule passing through the nuclear pore complex of a cell, the audience of biologists, chemists and photochemical scientists gasped and exclaimed in surprise and recognition of the importance of what they had just witnessed. “This is something they had never seen before,” Yang said, smiling.

What he and his research team at BGSU have accomplished is indeed groundbreaking. Before they captured a moving, three-dimensional image of this critical transit through the cell’s gateway into the nucleus, it was unknown both how the nuclear transport system worked and what path materials and information took as they passed through the five-nanometer-wide opening.

Using single molecules of proteins they have rendered fluorescent with lasers and organic dyes, the team tracks the protein’s progress with a powerful microscope and high-speed, super-resolution camera.

“These innovative techniques need strong support,” said Yang, who has a joint appointment in photochemical sciences. His research is funded by a National Institutes of Health grant of $400,000 over three years. The funding has paid for major upgrades to his cell-biology and microscopy-imaging laboratories and the purchase of specialized equipment. The Ohio Board of Regents has also contributed to the study.

Graduate and undergraduate students in the lab are benefiting from the opportunity to work in this promising field. “Some of them have had offers to go to other schools when they graduate, but they don’t want to leave. They want to learn these new techniques. It makes them more competitive in finding jobs compared with those in pure physics or biology,” Yang said.

Yang’s work is gaining international attention. It appeared in five scientific journals, and the prestigious journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences featured Yang and his post doctoral student Jiong Ma’s article on their work as its lead story in the April 2010 edition. Yang has been an invited speaker at several high-level conferences on single-molecule research, a leading new discipline that blends biology, chemistry and physics.

“We can provide evidence to show we can do something other people can’t do. It’s new, it’s exciting, and we can do it,” he said enthusiastically.

The outside attention is coming because the discoveries are vitally important to research into the causes and treatment of disease. If the nuclear pore is not functioning properly, it can permit potentially dangerous materials into the nucleus. Dysfunctions of the nuclear transport system are linked to numerous human diseases including leukemias, cancers and liver cirrhosis.

“It’s a trafficking problem,” Yang said. “We want to control what the pore is letting in. These are problems that traditional biomedical measures cannot conquer. Now that we can capture the molecule in a pore, we can compare a normal cell to a cancer cell to see what changed, what’s different. Advances expected from this work will directly impact our understanding and development of therapies.”
Dear Alumni & Friends:

I hope that you’ve enjoyed this issue of Dimensions on field experiences. Another way in which our students learn to synthesise what they have learned in their courses at BGSU is through internships that allow them to see in the most direct way how to apply their skills in practical, real-world, and professional contexts. Would you be interested in helping our students by letting us know if you have internship opportunities available in your field? It’s especially meaningful for our current students to connect with alumni and see the possibilities for their own future development as professionals.

If you would consider beginning a conversation about internships for BGSU students in your company or profession, please contact Jasmine Gordon Schulz at jgordo@bgsu.edu. It’s a great way to make an enormous difference in the education of our students.

With best wishes,

Simon Morgan-Russell    Dean

1960s
Robert A. Rice ’64, philosophy, received his Ph.D. in 1969 from Brandeis University and recently retired from teaching at Burlington College in Vermont where he also served as Academic Dean from 2000-2005 and Acting President from 2003-2004. Robert was ordained as a Zen Buddhist priest in March 2009 after having practiced Zen for 21 years in the lineage of Roshi Philip Kapleau. Robert resides in Westford, Vt.

1970s
Rod Ebright ’74, fine arts, is now the COO/Executive Director of First Community Church in Columbus, Ohio. Rod resides in Upper Arlington, Ohio.

Judith Belsan Hudson ’74, English, retired in 2009 from Bowling Green City Schools after teaching for 33 years. Judith resides in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Julie Carle ’78, interpersonal communication, Communications Manager for Bowling Green State University, received the Michael R. Ferrari Award from Administrative Staff Council for her exceptional range of contributions to the life and success of the University.

1980s
Jonathan Clark ’81, biology, was named the College of Science Endowed Scholar at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, for 2010-2013. He is a professor in the Department of Zoology at Weber State University. Jonathan resides in Salt Lake City, Utah.

1990s
Tricia Fellinger-Reyes ’92, German, was awarded the International Educator of the Year Award in Central Ohio. Tricia resides in Columbus, Ohio.

Jeff Allen ’99, biology, received his Ph.D. from Georgetown in 2004 and works for Friends of Cancer Research in Washington, D.C., and recently testified at a Congressional hearing. Jeff resides in Washington, D.C.

Stephen P. Anway ’99, political science, was elected a partner of the global law firm Squire, Sanders & Dempsey LLP where he has been an attorney for the past six years. Stephen has focused on international arbitration representing sovereign nations and foreign companies around the world. Stephen resides in Olmsted Falls, Ohio.

2000s
Walter Behrnes ’00, ’02, two-dimensional studies/computer art, a prolific artist, visited the BGSU campus to discuss his artwork as well as how his philosophical investigation directly affects the art he creates. Walter is a special effects supervisor working at ReelFX in Texas.

Corinne Staggs Tagliarina ’08, English and political science, is currently in graduate school at the University of Connecticut working on a Ph.D. in political science. Corinne resides in Manchester, Conn.

Send us your accomplishments

Keep your classmates and the University current on your achievements, career, honors and activities by submitting information for inclusion in Classnotes. Visit http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/as/page44805.html.
Support BGSU in 2011

A total of $91,786 in gifts and pledges was given by College of Arts and Sciences alumni and friends during the 2010 annual appeal. Your generosity helped fund numerous activities that contributed to advancing our students, faculty and the programs mentioned in this issue of Dimensions. And thanks to the matching challenge gift from the College of Arts and Sciences Advocates last year, the college received over $17,000 in gifts from new donors. We are thankful to our new supporters for helping to make this challenge so successful!

One of our students will be calling you soon to ask for your support of the College of Arts and Sciences in 2011. Thank you for your continued confidence and support.

For more information about giving opportunities, please contact Julie Pontasch, Director of Planned Giving and Development Liaison to the College of Arts and Sciences, Alumni & Development, 419-372-7617.
In concert with BGSU’s ongoing leadership in sustainability, we have made the following changes to Dimensions Magazine:

Readers can choose to receive each issue online only. If you want to go green and receive the magazine’s complete online version instead of a printed copy, simply email us at ayziggy@bgsu.edu and include Go Green Dimensions Magazine in the subject line. Include your name, graduation year and current mailing address. We will remove your name from our postal mailing list and send you an e-mail when the next issue is posted.

We are using less paper by incorporating a smaller page than the average magazine. The magazine is printed on recycled paper certified by the Forest Stewardship Council using ink that is environmentally friendly.