

Newsletter

• TELECOMMUNICATIONS •

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2006

WBGU makes switch to digital

In an era filled with new and improved technology, Bowling Green State University's college radio station, WBGU, makes strides to improve listening quality.

WBGU is making the switch from analog to digital. The change will gradually take place over the next few years as the FCC is mandating that all forms of media be in digital format by 2009.

"The change will improve the station dramatically," Stephen Merrill, program director at WBGU, said.

The listening audience will hear a better quality of sound, and the listening range of the station will be increased. Also, with the new technology the listening audience will no longer notice a difference in AM and FM frequencies.

Everyone is going to benefit," David Moody, WBGU faculty adviser, said. "The station will benefit because of higher distribution quality."

The process will be long and expensive, but the change will create many new opportunities for WBGU.

"As of right now, it looks like WBGU is planning on making a slow conversion, paying for pieces of equipment every year until it has



Photo by Kate Schantz, '07

Kyle Gebhart, program director of WBGU 88.1 FM, works in the station's news room. The radio station is in the process of raising \$130,000 to make the switch to digital radio.

all of the necessary parts," Matthew Borgert, WBGU punk director, said.

A new audio board will be brought in along with a new transmitter, antenna and modulating equipment.

WBGU plans on raising funds for the conversion through their annual fund drive and from donations.

"The more involvement we get from alumni and administration, the smoother it will be," Merrill said.

These new advancements will enhance student participation.

"Students at BG will have access to the newest technology for practical experience," Borgert said. "Listeners will be able to receive a crystal clear signal, which will expand much further than the 20-mile broadcast radius we currently have."

"We will see a more technological quality within the station with the numerous capabilities to do new multiple jobs at once," Sean Ireton, hip-hop director at WBGU, said.

by Ken Rossler, '06

INSIDE

Department adds new courses

Faculty Profile: Jim Barnes

Alumni Profiles



Photo by Jim Barnes

David Hainline answers a student's question during a guest lecture in October.

Hainline inspires students to excel

With the same skill he demonstrates in business David Hainline communicates his appreciation for the school that gave him the knowledge he needed to excel by helping students who hope to mirror his success.

The alumnus serves

as president of Capitol Services Inc., an event planning company that recently worked on the 2004 Presidential Inauguration.

During a visit to the campus in October, he said he owed his success to the education he received.

"Being in telecommunications, I learned how to read, I learned how to write, and I learned how to speak," Hainline said. "I wouldn't be an effective organizer if I hadn't gone through the telecommunications program."

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New classes address changing world

After evaluating changes in the world and ever changing technology, the department is adding three new classes for fall 2006.

The classes include Gender, Media and Culture; Interactive Communication Technologies II; and Online Communities and Social Environments.

Gender, Media and Culture will be a collaboration with the women's studies program.

Gi Woong Yun, an assistant professor, who is heading the changes, said, "We are an inter-disciplinary department and it will help us to provide more diverse course work for our students." He said this could be the first of more cross collaborations with other departments.

Interactive Communication Technologies II was created to help students gain exposure to advanced digital media production skills.

Online Communities and Social Environments has been offered twice

under a generic TCOM issues course number and is now being assigned its own number.

Bloggers are posting their thoughts on the Internet and even more ambitious people are publishing articles and broadcasting radio and video shows on the Internet.

"It is hard to ignore those changes in the media industry," Yun wrote in the documents outlining the course changes.

The changes offer students hands-on experience earlier in the program. Currently, most students are not exposed to video and radio courses until the end of their sophomore year. The new system will give students access at the beginning of sophomore year.

"These new courses should help increase opportunity for students to get a job, not only in traditional areas, but also those that are rapidly expanding," Yun said.

by Brian Backur, '06

OAB holds statewide conference at BGSU

For the first time, the OAB broke their annual statewide conference down into four regional conferences in an attempt to reach more members. BGSU hosted the Northwestern conference and job fair on Oct. 21.

According to Louisa Ha, chair of the committee, BGSU was chosen because of the TCOM department is well known.

One of the benefits of having the conference is that students are able to learn from and network with professionals. "Instead of having to travel so far away, students can meet these people in their own backyard," Ha said.

Keynote speaker David Kennedy, president and CEO of Susquehanna Media Co. and an alumnus, discussed his support of diversity among professionals in the broadcasting industry.

"Diversity means taking people as they are and making them the best they can be," Kennedy said. He also stressed the importance of new ideas and new forms of technology.

Tiffany Tarpley, weekend anchor for Fox Toledo and an alumna, shared her college and career experiences. She encouraged students to start thinking about their careers early. "Don't be afraid to get your feet wet on campus," she said.

Richard Sullivan, director of Online Marketing for Cleveland's WKYC-TV, spoke on the changing tides of technology. He stressed that the future of broadcast will be more diverse and include new technology.

"There is so much growth in new media," Sullivan said. He encouraged broadcast students to take classes that would prepare them to be well-rounded in the future.

Matt Mnich, OAB board president, said that communication between OAB members and students will pay off for everyone when students find jobs and companies find employees.

"Just as students can benefit from talking to us, we can benefit from talking to students too," he said.

by Candice Jones, '07

ALUMNI Newsletter

• TELECOMMUNICATIONS •
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2006

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The Alumni Newsletter is an annual publication of the Department of Telecommunication and is mailed free to all graduates of the program. Its purpose is to keep everyone informed about happenings, achievements and other news of department faculty, students and alumni. If you have news, questions or comments, write us at the address below.

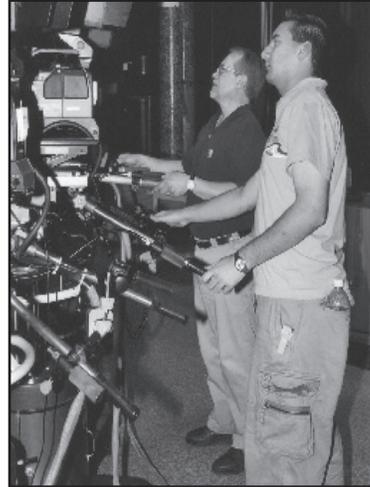
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communication
studies

Barnes is more than Mr. Fix-it



photos by Nick Snyder, '07



STANDBY.

Jim Barnes works with the video switcher at the BG24 News studio.

UNDER CONTROL.

Jim Barnes helps student Matt Pawuk with a camera while preparing for the BG24 News live broadcast.

Jim Barnes is known as the man who can fix anything.

When technical problems arise, students and faculty members immediately call on him.

And Barnes, chief engineer and technical coordinator, always remains calm and solves the problem quickly.

"He's not baffled by any piece of equipment. I haven't seen anything yet that he couldn't dig into or understand," Tom Mascaro, an assistant professor in telecommunications said.

But Barnes doesn't just fix technical problems; he devotes himself to teaching and assisting students.

Stephen Merrill, general manager for the university's WBGU-FM, said the station couldn't stay on-air without him.

"He's pretty much done everything for us," Merrill said, adding that Barnes sacrificed his summer vacation to help renovate the station.

Jim Foust, associate professor in journalism, also appreciates Barnes' dedication. "He really just goes above and beyond what you could describe in a job description," he said.

In his three years working as the school's technical coordinator,

Barnes has also found time to develop friendships with students.

Erika Smith, general manager at BG24 News, said he always asks students about their career plans and their hometowns.

"Many times I've sat in Jim's office and just talked to him because he's a great listener," she said.

Barnes also makes the time to teach students.

For example, he taught Jay Schell, a senior telecommunications major, how to install a radio transmitter.

Smith said, "He's been a role model to many students who are working in engineering. Jim is a great teacher and students enjoy learning from him."

Barnes said, "Students have enough of a challenge picking up and learning. It's important for me to make this part of it less stressful for them."

Mascaro admires Barnes' commitment to the university and the community as a whole.

To illustrate his point, Mascaro recounted an incident during Barnes' first year at BGSU.

The school had purchased new camera tripods, unaware they had a design flaw. When Barnes recognized the problem, he made a clay mold of

the inefficient part and created new, working parts for each camera. He then distributed a bulletin to students about how to use the new part and called the camera company to report the problem.

"Most anyone else, if they broke this, would've just ordered a new part," Mascaro said. "He's just very committed."

But Barnes's commitment to the community isn't just evident in his work at the university.

He serves as the economic development chair on Pemberville city council and has been on several other community boards.

Barnes is also owner and general manager of Pemtronics, an engineering consulting business that helps law and engineering firms keep their computer systems intact.

Barnes took his current job at BGSU because he wanted to take on the challenge of helping students focus on their studies rather than on equipment problems.

Students like Smith appreciate his efforts. "Jim leaves a lasting impression that shows students that life can be so much fun as long as you love what you are doing and enjoy the company around you."

by Lisa Halverstadt, '08

REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE

Telecommunications instructors are more than just teachers.

LORI LIGGETT

Before coming to BGSU, Lori Liggett, also the internship coordinator, was the director of marketing and new product development at a corporate publishing company.

In 1995, she left the company to pursue a graduate degree in American Culture Studies at BGSU.

Ten years after leaving the publishing industry, Liggett is still at the university helping students.

“What drives me is when I see first hand how students develop in their four years at BG,” she said.

In turn, Liggett’s students are motivated by her enthusiasm and dedication.

“Lori takes her passion for writing and transcends it into the classroom,” said David Hosmer, who has taken two of her courses.

As internship coordinator, Liggett works with up to 50 additional students each semester.

Although the students often find places to intern on their own, Liggett searches for potential opportunities during her free time and attempts to create openings for BGSU students.

“There are so many doors, so many opportunities available to TCOM students,” she said.

“Lori loves to see BGSU succeed,” Erika Smith, general manager at BG24 News, said.

DAVID MOODY

As a high school senior, David Moody represented his school in a local “Voice of Democracy” contest. When he recorded his speech at a hometown radio station, he realized that radio was his passion.

Today, Moody has immersed himself in that passion as the adviser of both of the university-sponsored radio stations.



photo by Barb Consiglio, '07

During his radio programming class, David Moody shows Stephanie Imirie and Seth Barlow how to use the audio equipment in West Hall. “I love teaching, and I love coming to class and seeing my students every day,” Moody said.

“We run the university stations just like they’re professional stations,” he said, noting that both are licensed by the FAA.

Before beginning his teaching career, he spent several years working at various Ohio radio stations, including a country music station and a news talk station. In 1986, he began working at a CBS-affiliated Cleveland television station. After several years working at the television station, he became the second African American sales manager in Cleveland.

When the station was sold in 1990, he started a media buying and consulting business. Soon after, he began teaching part time at Lakeland Community College in Cleveland.

Moody prides himself upon being available to his students year round. “[Students] know they can shoot me an e-mail anytime --- seven days a week, 12 months a year and I’ll respond,” he said.

Students also appreciate his willingness to discuss their personal career goals.

“He really takes an interest in what students plan to do with their education after they graduate,” said Matt Borgert, a senior who has taken two of Moody’s courses.

He said that Moody treats his students with a great deal of respect and considers them his peers. As a

result, students are forced to conduct themselves in a professional manner.

JOSE CARDENAS

Jose Cardenas never imagined himself as an instructor of any sort. He originally came to BGSU to work as a videographer at WBGU.

Department chair Ewart Skinner however, encouraged him to teach once he saw the good relationships Cardenas developed with students.

Despite his lack of experience as an instructor, Cardenas has impressed students with his willingness to do anything for them.

“He is, by his own admission not a teacher by profession. The ironic thing is he’s better than almost every teacher I’ve ever had,” Stephen Crompton, an exchange student from England who is majoring in TCOM, said.

Cardenas’ devotion to filmmaking alone makes him an experienced educator. He made his first film in the seventh grade and spent his high school years saving up for cameras and reading about movie making.

Today, he is grateful to be able to devote time to both of his passions -- filmmaking and students with big dreams.

“Hollywood is anywhere you want to make it,” he said.

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photo from AEJMC Website

Comm Tech Division Head Sriram "Sri" Kalyanaraman, Comm Tech Midwinter Conference Chair Jimmy Ivory, BGSU Organizing Committee Chair Louisa Ha and an attendee talk at the AEJMC Midwinter conference held at BGSU from Feb. 24-26. About 200 people, including 150 registered attendees, guests and speakers from over 55 universities, attended.

Hensien to film GeoJourney program

Brian Hensien had such a great experience on his 2004 GeoJourney trip, he's going back for more. Hensien has been asked to be the videographer for the 2006 GeoJourney trip.

GeoJourney is a nine-week program that BGSU students can take for college credit.

"My first GeoJourney experience was the best experience of my life," Hensien said. "For this trip, my only responsibility will be to live through the lens, which will allow me to tell the best story I can."

The GeoJourney video is expected to be one hour long. Hensien sees this as a challenge, since the longest video he has ever produced was only a minute and a half long.

After his graduation in May, Hensien will travel with the GeoJourney group from August to October. He then plans to take a few months to edit and perfect the video.

Hensien aspires to one day write documentaries for National Geographic.

by Colleen Mahoney, '07

Shields take new jobs

Professors Peter and Vickie Shields left for new positions at Eastern Washington University, in Cheney, Wash. Vickie was hired as the Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences while Peter was hired as a professor in the Department of Communication Studies.

Both had come to BGSU in 1993 from Ohio State University.

by Sara Fortner, '07

Two students selected

The Toledo Professional chapter of the Association for Women in Communications awarded the 2005 Lee Z. Steele Communications Scholarship worth \$750 to junior Jazmyn Davis, an editor for BG 24 News.

"It's rewarding enough to come to college and do something you really want to do with the rest of your life, but to have someone else recognize you for a job well-done adds to the proud factor," Davis said.

Senior Erick Donley was a finalist in the top 5 percent in the 26th Annual Student Photography contest of Photographer's Forum. His pictures will be published in the Best of College Photography Annual 2006.

Students start sitcom

Telecommunications, film and visual communication technology students now have the opportunity to get television production experience. Junior Steve Hildreth has created a sitcom called "Gen Ed."

Hildreth said "Gen Ed" is several things. "At the top level it's a student organization designed to be a student production house to help more kids produce more things. It's also a TV show, which is a sitcom about four co-eds in the dorms."

Jose Cardenas, "Gen Ed" adviser, helped the students come up with the idea and format of the show.

"Jose always talked about the serial format and how great it was storytelling wise, so I decided to try that," Hildreth said.

Hildreth hopes to show "Gen Ed" on WRSA Channel 99, YouTube, Google Video, WBGU-PBS and hold a few screenings on campus.

by Colleen Verbus, '07

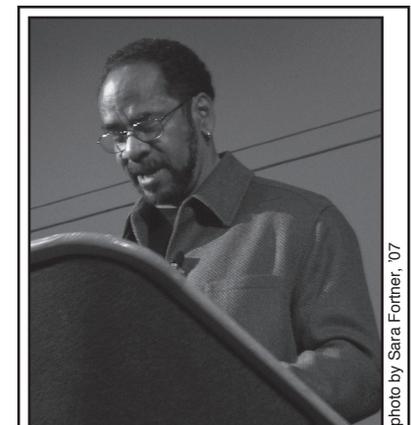


photo by Sara Fortner, '07

In his speech, "An Evening with Tim Reid," Reid talks about the power of media. Reid, who is best known for his starring role in the 1970s series "WKRP in Cincinnati" and the 1990s hit series "Sister, Sister," kicked off Communication Studies Week. The theme of the week was race issues in communication. An academic conference on the second day was organized by Tom Mascaro, associate professor. The conference focused on African Americans in film and television and included Michelle Duke, director of diversity for the National Association of Broadcasters Educational Foundation.

Honors & Awards

Telecommunications Spring Award Winners

J. Douglas Beaudry Scholarship
Erika Smith

Joseph Black Memorial Scholarship
Ziggy Williamson

David S. & Jill Hainline Scholarship
Christopher Bowyer
Anetria Cook
Jasmine Davis

Black Scholarship
Katy Wolph

Outstanding Senior
Matt Borgert

Outstanding Junior
Shandrea Edwards

Outstanding Sophomore
Kate Murry

Outstanding Freshman
Matt Fishman

Talent Scholarship:
WBGU-FM: Keely Miller
WFAL-AM: Amy Webb

Young alumni successful in television

Hosmer promotes morning show

David Hosmer, a 2005 graduate, is already in the fast pace world of production. Days after graduation with a major in telecommunications and a minor in history, Hosmer received a job as a promotions producer for "The Daily Buzz."

"The Daily Buzz" is a nationally syndicated morning show that films in Orlando and airs on 150 WB and UPN stations.

"I was excited about my current position because it was an opportunity to write and edit commercials for a national television show that has a strong element of comedy and personality," Hosmer said.

While at BGSU Hosmer was vice president of the university film organization and helped organize film festivals.

Lori Liggett, one of Hosmer's instructors, said, "The outside work gave David something to bring to the table when interviewing after graduation. Not every student can say they have that."

Hosmer's work at Bowling Green was offbeat and comical. One show, "Meter Maid," has been fully completed in DVD form.

"I've had the privilege of working with David and I was very impressed with all of the talents that he brought to the table," former classmate Daniel Wasik said. "He acted as producer



David Hosmer

photo provided by Lori Liggett

and director of our project, along with editing a beginning product."

About his time at BGSU, Hosmer said the university's atmosphere helped him cultivate his skills. "I feel it provided the right atmosphere for me to achieve academically, but also to have a lot of fun and to never stress about school," he said.

Hosmer first became interested in film during high school.

"I was a high school sophomore, and I started a backyard wrestling league with my friends," Hosmer said. "That might sound pretty stupid, and it was, but it peaked my interests in video editing.

Currently Hosmer is working on a comedy titled "Summer Work."

"He is highly motivated and fearless on the page when writing. That makes him unique," Liggett said. "In my entire teaching career David is the only student I have ever taught who has been able to successfully bridge the gap from academic to artistic to technical."

While he enjoys his current position, Hosmer hopes to move to Los Angeles in the near future to fully devote himself to film and screenwriting.

by Megan Farley, '07

Ramos in television production for E!

Becoming a producer at a hit TV station is just a fantasy for most people. Because it seems like such a prestigious occupation, most students from a college campus in Ohio do not even consider it as a career goal.

Nick Ramos was such a student while he attended BGSU.

Today, however, the 2004 alumnus has worked his way up to becoming an associate producer at E!. He lives in Hollywood and is in charge of producing "The Vine," one of the shows at E!. He also produces elements of E! Online.

When Ramos first came to BGSU, he was undecided in terms of a major. He remained undecided through his sophomore year and then decided to

take two years off from college to figure out what he wanted to do with his life.

"So much for the fast track to success," he said.

Ramos re-enrolled and after meeting Ewart Skinner, the department chair, decided to be a TCOM major.

Ramos said of Skinner, "Even from our first meetings, he struck me as a person who held genuine interest in the department and the students' development."

Ramos' road to E! started with an internship. Lori Liggett, the internship coordinator, said she knew he was a shoe-in for the internship program BGSU has with E!

Entertainment's vice president Jeff Shoe, also an alumnus, has arranged for five to eight internship positions to be exclusively open to BGSU students each year.

The department selects the students, and Liggett is the one who ultimately decides who will go.

Though excited and proud for being selected, Ramos had a case of cold feet.

Liggett said he visited her office and explained that he did not think California was the place for him.

"He said it was 'too fluffy' and 'Hollywood' for him," she said. "But I told him, if you can afford it, you shouldn't pass up an opportunity like this. Even if you don't like it there, at least it will look outstanding on your resume."

Ramos went to California and experienced his first exposure to television production.

"I did not have the advantage of working at WBGU, Video Bank or any of the campus organizations. That continues to be a regret to this day," Ramos said. "I think more students should seize the opportunity to get involved. There is a tremendous pool of resources at their disposal."

Ramos' internship at E! lasted 10 weeks, but he returned a changed man.

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photo provided by Nick Ramos

Nick Ramos at the E! Christmas party with Kat Forcada, his producer, and talent Jason Feinberg.

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Young alumni

“It was definitely a turning point in my college career,” Ramos said. “No longer steering toward uncertainty, I knew it wouldn’t be long before I was calling those contacts in Los Angeles.”

During his last year at BGSU, Ramos worked at Fox Toledo in live television as a floor director, studio camera operator, editor, graphic artist and writer.

After graduation, he went to Los Angeles and two weeks after his arrival was offered a job working in E!’s New Media department [Short form Production And New media Content or SPANC].

There he created exclusive content and repackaged existing E! and Style content for E! Radio and Internet programming—the recently launched “The Vine.”

As associate producer of “The Vine” content, Ramos created small packages, attended junkets, served as a camera operator out in the field and edited his own video pieces.

He also created spots for Comcast’s On Demand division.

Recently, Ramos secured a promotion to assistant producer.

Ramos said he is happy as an assistant producer, but he is determined to rise even further on the corporate ladder.

“There’s so much I’ve learned, but even more laying ahead...pitfalls and detours included,” he said.

by Nicholas Maskey, '07

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Hainline gives back to the alma mater that inspired him

Hainline moved to Washington D.C. after graduation to test those organizing skills. There he began a 16 year career in the broadcasting industry. Hainline worked for Viacom, Emmis Broadcasting, ABC and Infinity CBS. As national sales manager for Infinity Broadcasting he managed accounts totaling more than \$12 million.

Hainline has committed resources to sharing the experience he gained throughout his career and at BGSU. He has donated two full scholarships to the department of telecommunications and offers a paid internship to BGSU students each semester.

The scholarships he offers take into consideration what a student is doing to attend school as well as how they are doing in the classroom.

“I don’t want to look at only a student’s g.p.a. because I didn’t do well in that aspect,” Hainline said. “The student who is working two jobs just to attend class, that’s the person I target the scholarships towards.”

That dedicated nature is also an important asset for the interns Hainline invites to work at CSI.

“They aren’t copying papers. They are taking on a full-time job with me,” Hainline said.

The experience of working as a

full-time intern at CSI helped Angela Bruns realize that a career in event planning was right for her.

During her internship, Hainline gave her a place to stay two miles from Capitol Hill, placing her at the core of Washington D.C. and the heart of his close-knit business.

“The greatest thing is that you aren’t treated like an intern; you’re treated like part of a family,” Bruns said.

Hainline said the most important thing about CSI is the people it employs. Often those positions are offered to BGSU students who make a good impression during their internship.

“I’ve been consistently impressed with the BGSU students,” he said.

While Hainline cites the importance of BGSU in helping him achieve his goals, those in the telecommunications department are equally thankful for his contributions to the School of Communication Studies.

“He’s what an alumnus is supposed to be,” said department of telecommunications chair Ewart Skinner. “He connects with the students, he connects with the program goals, and he’s become a friend.”

by Josh Comer, '07

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Instructors mentor students

After all, he made his Hollywood in Northwest Ohio when he and senior TCOM student Danny Patton founded Freshly Baked Films last year. The independent film and video production company works to create corporate films, commercials and documentaries.

Cardenas, who has worked as a cinematographer for over 20 years, also advises the student-run Video Bank, a university talk show that runs a few times a month, and helps with WBGU.

by Lisa Halverstadt, '07

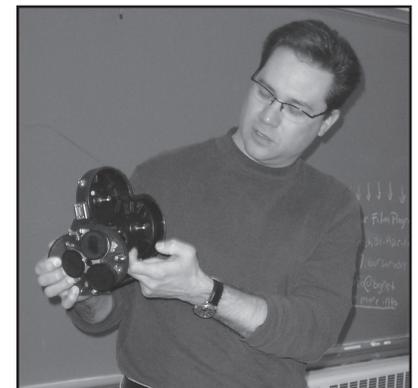


photo by Colleen Verbus, '07

Jose Cardenas shows an Arriflex 16MM film camera in his cinematography class.

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