

ALUMNI Newsletter

• TELECOMMUNICATIONS •

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2007

Radio celebrates 60th anniversary

The year was 1947 and a group of Bowling Green State University students started an endeavor that has had a far reaching impact on the current university and local community.

These catalytic individuals set up a P.A. system that broadcast a basketball game between BGSU and City College of New York.

Listeners to this historic game paid a small fee, and shortly thereafter this radio station became registered with the FCC and a part of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System.

Initially called WRSM-FM, the station eventually adopted WBGU-FM 88.1, the call letters today.

The non-commercial, college radio station broadcasts numerous genres including but not limited to indie rock, jazz, hip hop and blues.

WBGU-FM continues to be a centerpiece of the community because of its devotion to delivering the greatest of what radio has to offer. "This station touches the minds and hearts of the people in the community," Richard Ehrbar, fund drive director and a disc jockey at WBGU-FM, said.

Graduate assistant and Underwriting Director Stephen Merrill said: "This station is a vital part of the Bowling Green Campus and community with the alternative programming we provide as an outlet for alternative voices. We are fortunate to still have the flagship home of women's basketball and men's hockey."

New York Islanders Radio announcer Steve Mears is a former BGSU broadcaster. Mears worked with WBGU-FM from 1998-2002. "I



photo by Aaron Williams, '07

WBGU-FM 88.1's Mikelle Smith cues another song for her Monday afternoon broadcast. The station is operated solely by students, continuing a tradition that has lasted for six decades.

really enjoyed the time I spent with the hockey team. It was great to be a part of the games," he said.

General Manager Keely Miller finds the station to be of a unique variety. "The fact that the station is completely student run reflects the college spirit of independence and its the pride of BGSU."

The station's 60th anniversary was marked by an event that included music, cake and celebration.

Another component of the celebration was a bar hop. Revelers paid one fee for access to all the bars and clubs in town the night of the hop.

Miller said this event mixed the campus and community. She said they wanted to have one night when

everyone got together and enjoyed how far the station had come.

Ehrbar said the celebration helped the station gain visibility in the community, develop strong relationships between the campus and community and raise money for the station.

"We are doing well, but we really need to get to the point where we are thriving," he said.

Spring semester was only the start of the celebration. Merrill said more events and enhanced programming are in the works for summer and fall.

The station has come a long way from the initial broadcast in 1947, and students and community members are looking forward to being a part of what is to come.

by Robert Walbom, '09

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Sauers's STORY

*TCOM graduate recounts
memorable moments of
TV news career*

A lot of people would consider the most exciting time in their life to be meeting the President of the United States or the top basketball player in the world.

However, for 1996 TCOM graduate, Brandi Sauers [Rucinski], those experiences do not compare to the opportunities she has had to touch people's lives or to be by their side while their wishes come true.

Sauers gave an example of going to a circus with a little girl who had been diagnosed with cancer because that was what the girl had asked for from the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

To Sauers, being by that little girl's side was more memorable than meeting any prominent figure in today's society.



photo courtesy of Brandi Sauers

Brandi Sauers [Rucinski] with husband, Jeff; daughter, Raina; and son, Ryan, at home.

The former news anchor from Walton Hills, Ohio, Sauers described her career as an adventure.

Her passion for reporting began at BG24. After graduating she started working in a small news station in Victoria, Texas.

It was there that she learned the basics of this competitive industry and the struggles that she would have to face as she pursued her dreams.

"I moved 27 hours away, with no

one at all," Sauers said.

Although being away from her family and friends was a difficult transition, it quickly made her realize how much she wanted to come back to northeast Ohio to be close to the people she loved.

After traveling across the United States and working in cities such as Chattanooga, Tenn., and Charlottesville, Va., Sauers landed a position near her birthplace at Cleveland's Fox 8.

Sauers quickly gained a positive reputation at the station.

Greg Easterly, the vice president of WJW-TV Fox 8, described Sauers as a solid journalist, respected by her colleagues.

While working at that station she also had the opportunity to cover stories for CNN, including a shooting at a Cleveland university.

Although reporting for CNN and having such success in her career definitely puts a smile on her face, those experiences do not compare to those in which she has had the opportunity to make a difference in someone's life, she said.

"The most rewarding story is the kind that touches people," she said.

It may come as no surprise then that this kind-hearted newscaster stepped down from her position at Fox 8 to start a family with her former high school sweetheart.

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Newsletter

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Oliver Boyd Barrett
PUBLISHER

Breyana Lowe '07
Matt Maynard '08
EDITOR

Samantha Fouts '08
Aaron Williams '07
NEWSLETTER STAFF

Kelly Taylor
ADVISER

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.

School of Communication Studies
Department of Telecommunications
Bowling Green State University
302 West Hall
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403
419.372.8349
419.372.0202 FAX
www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/

**school of
communication
studies**

Hainline honored for giving back

"It's great to be recognized for my efforts and contributions to the university," David Hainline, recipient of the 2006 Accomplished Graduate Award, said. "It reinforces how great the school is."

A 1983 graduate, Hainline credits the university with his success. "They set me up for my career," Hainline said. "They taught me how to speak to people. They taught me how to work in the public. They made it easy for me to be successful."

After graduation, Hainline worked for 16 years in broadcast. He currently serves as the president of Capitol Services, Inc., an event planning company based in Washington, D.C. that he started with his wife, Jill.

Ewart Skinner, chair of the department, recommended Hainline for the award. "I nominated him because of his interest and commitment to helping develop and grow the telecommunications department and because of his commitment to the students," Skinner said. "He tries to help students."

Hainline has committed his resources to the university. Besides helping in telecommunications, he frequently guest lectures in the business, tourism and recreation, and entrepreneur programs. He also gives in the form of scholarships and internship opportunities.

He recently increased the amount of the scholarship that bears his name. The scholarship is available to students from communications, tourism, and entrepreneurship.

"He's provided both the university and the students with a lot of connections that we wouldn't otherwise have," Skinner said.

Hainline also offers the opportunity for one student to work for him at Capitol Services as an intern. The student receives free housing, pay for their work and an opportunity to work in the nation's capital.

"While classrooms and textbooks are clearly important, nothing is better than real life experience,"

Marcia Latta, director of alumni and development, said.

Kim Swinehart, a 2006 graduate, has been an intern at CSI for seven months.

She originally turned down the internship because she had accepted another offer in Florida. When she found that she was unhappy with the situation there, she contacted Hainline, who accepted her into the program a second time.

Swinehart said she is grateful. "This internship gives you plenty of responsibilities, a chance to live on Capitol Hill at no cost, and still earn a paycheck every two weeks," she said. "I don't just copy papers all day long. I have a lot of individual responsibilities that David trusts me to do. I'm getting great experience."

Hainline credits members of the faculty with his continued involvement with the university. "I have formed good relationships with Marcia Latta and Ewart Skinner," he said. "They stay in touch with me and see how I'm doing. They really want to see the university continue to grow. They've graciously asked for my involvement, and I'm happy to be involved."

This involvement will include a new responsibility for Hainline, a position on the university's alumni board beginning in May.

The university alumni board is comprised of 22 alumni from all over the country who work to promote programs and services.

These programs include scholarships, internships, placement of graduates and recruitment of new students.

"David is ideal for the alumni board," Latta said. "He has a lot of energy and thinks outside the box. He's great at tossing out ideas, gathering responses and is passionate about the development of the university."

Hainline will also continue to work toward the development of a board for the department of telecommunications that will help bring both alumni and industry figures into the department.

The hope is that these people will be able to advise the department on how to continually develop their programs so that their students are getting the best education possible.

"The students and the university are both great," Hainline said. "I like being able to give back to the university who gave so much to me and I like being able to help other students succeed. I'm glad I can help because watching the university continue to grow and the students become successful is the real reward."

by Chelsie Firestone, '09



photo by Marketing & Communications

Dean of College of Arts & Sciences Donald G. Nieman, David Hainline and University President Sidney A. Ribeau following the presentation of the Accomplished Graduate Award.



photo by Lyndsay Berry, '07

In the Hayes Hall computer lab, Dr. Louisa Ha teaches her TCOM 360 media research class about content analysis of viral web videos.

Ha makes success happen

Louisa Ha is influencing people immediately around her and a world away.

Ha has been recognized for her outstanding achievement as associate professor by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

AEJMC presented Ha with the Barry Sherman Teaching Award in Media Management and Economics, which recognizes excellence and innovation in the teaching of media management and economics.

Ha, who said she is very honored by this award, proudly displays the plaque on the wall in her office. She said that through teaching she can provide her students with knowledge to help them make a difference in the world.

Matt Krueger, a former student, said that her knowledge of mass media and telecommunications provided him with a greater appreciation for the subject and made it easy to get up and go to class everyday.

Ha's success extends from her teaching to her research. She recently published a book titled "Webcasting Worldwide: Business Models of an Emerging Global Medium." The book deals with webcasting and specifically with using media for video streaming.

Ha had to coordinate the cooperation of 27 different authors across the globe. "The writing was not that difficult," Ha said. "It was getting the international cooperation that took work."

Ha has again reached out across the world for her latest project. Acting as the principal investigator with two others, she is working on a project funded by a grant through the United Kingdom's

Emerald Research Fund.

The \$11,637 grant will provide Nigerian farmers with a Broadband Satellite Internet connection to help aid them in farming. Through this Internet connection, Ha said that farmers will have the means to break down institutional barriers and advance their knowledge in farming.

The farmers will be able to look up information on the Internet and share information with other farmers in Nigeria through a discussion board.

To balance all of these things, Ha said, "You have to know your life goal." She said her two goals in life are teaching students and doing research. "Media impacts everyone's life," she said. "Most knowledge that people have comes from the mass media, so to help contribute to that can impact society."

It is clear that Ha's efforts, with students, her book and the Nigerian farmers, will surely be felt for years to come.

by Jeremy Metzger, '07

Mascaro wins award

The 22nd annual Covert Award in Mass Communication History went to associate professor Thomas A. Mascaro.

Mascaro won the award for "Flaws in the Benjamin Report: The Internal Investigation into CBS Reports' Documentary 'The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception,'" published in Journalism History in Summer 2005.

"There is no greater honor than to be recognized by one's peers," Mascaro said. "And to have my work selected as the best journalism writing of the year was a genuine surprise and special thrill."

The award, presented by the History Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, goes to the best mass communication history article or chapter in an edited collection published the previous year.

by Breyana Lowe, '07

Yun passes review

Assistant professor Gi Woong Yun has successfully completed his third year review.

The department initiated a program in 1998 that evaluates professors who are pursuing tenure. Every three years probationary professors are evaluated by their peers and the department head.

"I am happy to say that I have had successful feedback from my department and look forward to teaching in the coming years," Yun said. "When I see students gaining knowledge I feel great because it is a subject that I have specialized in and its part of my job."

Besides conducting research and teaching new media courses, Yun supervises the School of Communication Studies Web sites, participates in the Emerging Media Research group and assists in the Media Research Lab.

During his spare time, he writes and enjoys spending time with the latest addition to his family, Tony, who was born last year.

by Laurie Evans, '08

MOVING UP

On March 23 the Board of Trustees promoted Dr. Louisa Ha to full professor.

Changes add versatility to set

New updates in the television studio of West Hall give students new capabilities to learn outside the classroom.

Donations from BG24 News and the School of Communication Studies totaled approximately \$500.

Jim Barnes, the technology support coordinator and broadcast engineer, is very excited about the capabilities the new updates have created for students.

He spent much of the summer updating the studio and said the biggest change is the new mobility of the studio.

Everything on the set can now be changed to create a new look in

a matter of minutes. New cords and plugs, which can easily be moved around and plugged into various locations around the set, have made this possible.

Also, all the risers that were previously located under the news desk were removed to make changing the set even simpler. Students now have the possibility to create multiple sets without interfering with the current BG24 News shows.

The new updates in the studio give students endless possibilities, including the chance to create talk shows, sports shows, political overview shows, and any other show that interests students.

If someone takes the initiative to create original shows, it can now be done.

Other changes included enclosing three rear cabinets and racks to keep cool air flowing to the equipment. This is for protection from heat to keep the equipment in prime condition.

This also serves as a sound barrier to keep background noise at a minimum in the master control room.

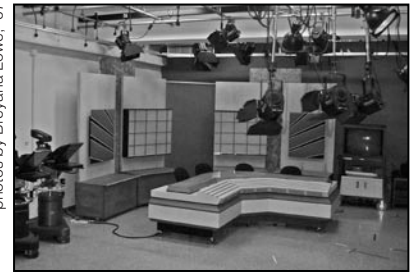
Replacement VCRs were installed and WBGU-TV donated three monitors.

A bulletin board for head-sets and cables was also installed to help with organization.

by Lynnea Hinton, '08



photos by Breyana Lowe, '07



ON AIR.

Kelsey Brugler, Katie Warchol and Ralph Elliot relax during a commercial break of BG24 News, the campus TV news station.

MULTI-FUNCTIONAL.

Updates to the studio allow for multiple set changes without interfering with BG24 News.

Chamber of Commerce teams with WBGU-FM

Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce has paired up with Bowling Green State University.

The Chamber of Commerce will utilize WBGU-FM 88.1 to broadcast a morning show.

The radio show airs during the week and will provide music for the morning commute as well as updates on the news and weather.

Elaine Skoog, executive director of the chamber said the main purpose is to create a community partnership with Bowling Green, Wood County and the university.

Skoog hopes it will bring a



broader sense of the community to the university as well as the members of the community which surround the campus. "The show will help provide and facilitate the link for the community," she said.

Former Fostoria WFOB-FM disc jockey Dave Horger will be the voice of the show. He is an employee of the Chamber of Commerce.

"I hope to bring the community together with the university and accomplish the perspective of providing a service to the community," Horger said.

Dave Moody, adviser to the radio station, will oversee this project.

"There will be several opportunities for students to get involved with news writing and on-air reporting," he said. "The partnership will allow the station to continue serving the public interests of the BGSU community as well as the city of Bowling Green.

by Marissa Kinkaid, '09

Students gain real-world film experience

With the help of BGSU instructor and professional cinematographer Jose Cardenas, students are getting the opportunity to translate a musical piece into film.

When Philip Markowicz, a Holocaust concentration camp survivor from Toledo, decided to capture his experience in personal memoirs, university music composition professor Burton Beerman was inspired to translate these memoirs into a musical adaptation called "Tikvah."

"Tikvah," or hope, is a musical piece performed nationwide. The piece consists of music and dance that attempt to convey the message of universal survival and hope, Tikvah's central message.

Cardenas and several university students are working to make it more than just a musical piece. They're capturing it on film.

"Each musical movement is based on a chapter of Philip's memoir," Cardenas said.

Cardenas is the adviser for the film and hopes to take Beerman's music and create an art documentary by juxtaposing images and footage of Beerman explaining the process of turning memoirs into music. The plan is that Markowicz will discuss his time in the concentration camps with music playing in the background.

In order to get the project started, Cardenas contacted his Kodak representative in Chicago who donated 30 roles of film, totaling nearly \$6,000.

Then Cardenas sent out fliers looking for student interest in the developing project.

More than enough students volunteered to be a part of the crew, he said. They began discussing the project in September, proposed it in December and had their first shoot in February.

Roughly 20 students are working on the film, their majors ranging from telecommunications to theater production.

Emily Berens, film production



photo by Ashley Lumm '08

In West Hall, Tim Booker works at editing the Holocaust film project. Kodak helped make the project possible by donating nearly \$6,000 worth of film.

major and telecommunications minor, holds an organizational job and helps with scheduling, keeping track of the amount of film being used and coordinating crew schedules.

"It's cool to see people from different majors coming together to work as one," Berens said.

Cardenas made the decision not to make the project an internship or class because not only would the piece take a longer period of time, he wanted to attract students who are passionate and dedicated to the art of filmmaking.

"I wanted people to disregard the grades and really see the important message and artistic expression of the subject matter," he said.

In March, the crew shot footage that was used during the opening credits.

"Photos of things like concentration camps and uniforms will be used," Cardenas said.

The crew also started the interviewing process by shooting footage of Beerman's interview.

"The students are getting a lot of practical, real-world filmmaking experience," Cardenas said.

Assistant producer Max Eberle said working with Cardenas has been one of the highlights of the project.

"Working with Jose is great. He's a really great teacher," Eberle said. "With Jose every project is about giving support and never letting us miss an opportunity to learn."

Cardenas' casual and hands-on production teaching methods are a favorite of many of his students.

"We're able to really relate to Jose," Berens said.

Cardenas said he believes that students enjoy his teaching style because he understands their busy schedules. He said he thrives off the enthusiasm of his students.

"That's one of the best things for me is seeing how excited the students are," Cardenas said.

This expensive project allows the students to use professional equipment used on major motion pictures.

"There has to be programs outside of the classroom for students to learn and physically go through the methods," Cardenas said.

And Cardenas is able to make the detailed process of filmmaking just a little easier through his expertise and willingness to accept volunteers.

story by Ryan MacBride

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Students work in L.A.

For the past five years, the department of telecommunications has offered its students a unique internship opportunity—to work at E! Entertainment in Los Angeles.

The program was started in 2002 by the committee of Jeff Shore, a 1975 alumnus and current vice president of production at E!; Ewart Skinner, department chair; Peter Shields, undergraduate coordinator; and Louisa Ha, E! internship coordinator.

Students from any university can apply for an internship with E!, but Lori Liggett, the TCOM internship coordinator, said Bowling Green students do not go through the national selection process that other students face. Instead, Liggett said, students go through a local selection committee and are expected to put aside professor-student relationships during the completely professional process.

For the first step in the two-phase process, students submit a resume, cover letter and letters of recommendations. These are reviewed by the selection committee. Students who pass this phase then interview with all three committee members.

Brigid Gurry, a TCOM junior, went through the process this semester and

said she felt that it is a hard process to get chosen.

Gurry said the deadlines are strict and the expectations are high.

Jenny Hall, a former intern at E!, said about 30 people show up to the internship meeting, and many do not make it.

Hall advises future internship seekers to take the resume, cover letter and interview very seriously. “The [committee] takes this very seriously and will not let you go if

you can not maintain professionalism and high work ethic skills,” she said.

Once at E!, the BGSU students should feel right at home. BGSU sends more students than any other university. Last summer 10 students went.

Andrew Schneider, a former E! intern, got a job at E! following graduation. “I used the help of BG alum out there and in turn am helping others now,” he said.

The strength and uniqueness of the BGSU program is a great learning and growing experience for the students.

Liggett said she would like to develop other programs with other media companies.

New opportunities would provide the students of this department and others with a wider variety of options to improve their education in the media industry.

by Jackie Thompson, '09

Internships

Honors and Awards

Joe Black Memorial Scholarship
Kate Murry

David S. & Jill M. Hainline Scholarship

Molly Keane
Derek Turton
Kandra Flowers

SCS Fund for Excellence
Katherine Wolph

TCOM Outstanding Media Talent Award

Dara Greene

J. Douglas Beaudry Memorial Scholarship

Julie Pretzlaff

Outstanding Student Award

Freshman: Jasmine Richardson
Sophomore: Mark Eres
Junior: Yeun Su Park
Senior: Shandrea Edwards
and Katherine Wolph

Talent Scholarship

WFAL: Andrew Mayer
WBGU: Giovanni Fillari

Students film ‘Hamlet’ recreation

Last summer students from the film and telecommunications departments worked together to film the story “Hamlet.”

The project was part of a three-week summer course taught by instructor Jose Cardenas and his friend Bill Pivetta. Approximately, 20 students participated in the class.

“The workshop gave the students hands-on experience and was the most worthwhile class in college,” senior Justin Russell said.

The film debuted April 25 in the student union theater.

Ewart Skinner, who was the executive producer, said the debut was a great success.

In addition to filming the play, students from the class helped to make a behind-the-scenes documentary.

The documentary consisted of behind-the-scenes shots and interviews with the students who worked on the production.

The documentary, which was shot, produced and edited by students, plays in West Hall on the television monitors in the first floor hallway.

by Lindsay Powers, '07

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Alumni Profile: Sauers' Story

She had originally planned to balance work and family, but said “as soon as I saw my daughter, I changed my mind.”

Now with a 2-year old and an 11-month old to keep her busy, Sauers does not see herself returning to the

broadcast business.

As time has gone on, though, there have been sides of her former career that relate to her new role as a mother. “You always have to expect the unexpected,” she said.

by Caitlin Callahan, '09

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